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No. 178

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
November 17, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ANN M. KUSTER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

### JUST SAY NO TO EARMARKS

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

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, the announcement of MIKE GARCIA's election makes it official: The American people have entrusted Republicans with the House majority.

They do so at a time of unprecedented fiscal peril for our country: 40-year high inflation, economic recession, and an approaching debt crisis, all driven by the most reckless spend-

ing in our Nation's history. History is screaming this warning at us: nations that bankrupt themselves aren't around very long.

Republicans must reclaim the mantle of fiscal integrity and fiscal responsibility, and we should start by renouncing the tawdry, corrupt, and irresponsible practice of congressional earmarks, in which individual Congressmen direct spending to pet projects in their districts or grants to favored supporters, bypassing merit-driven competition.

I have proposed to the House Republican Conference a rule forbidding congressional earmarks and expect a vote on it when we return after Thanksgiving.

Earmark supporters argue that the power of the purse rests with Congress; therefore, its elected Members, and not unelected bureaucrats, should make these decisions.

Well, no, not exactly. Representatives are supposed to be biased toward their districts; that is why Congress is designed to act collectively. Ever since Magna Carta, it has been a settled principle of good governance that the power to appropriate funds should be separated from the power to spend them.

This is at the heart of the constitutional separation of powers: Congress appropriates funds but cannot spend them; and the President spends funds but cannot appropriate them. This is the single most important protection we have against political corruption and pork barrel spending. Earmarks undermine this principle, and it is no coincidence that most of the congressional scandals over the years have involved earmarks.

A local company produces a product the Pentagon neither needs nor wants. So what to do? Well, it simply ingratiate itself with the local Congressman and has him tell the Pentagon what it needs and who will provide it.

Then it rewards him lavishly at election time and repeats.

Worthy projects, in open competitive bidding, do not need earmarks; they rise or fall on their merits. And if there is such a thing as a "good" earmark, the price to be paid is all the bad ones. That is a high price indeed.

Just the last omnibus spending bill in March included nearly 5,000 congressional earmarks totaling \$9 billion for some of the most egregious examples of waste in the Federal budget: feral swine management in Arkansas, a national atomic testing museum in Las Vegas, a sheep experiment station in Idaho.

Now, Members can and should advocate for their districts, and make the case for projects they deem worthy of the money that Congress has appropriated. The problem with earmarks is blurring these two rules and having Members both advocate and decide.

Now, many say they don't trust this President and his deputies to administer these funds appropriately and evenhandedly, and I agree. But if you don't trust the President to administer the funds that we appropriate, then don't give him the money, period.

We hear that earmarks simply assure that local governments get a fair break. No, what they actually do is turn the Federal budget into a grab bag for local pork spending by the most powerful Members in Congress; and they undermine the central tenet of federalism: that local projects should be financed by local communities and Federal spending reserved for the Nation's general welfare.

When a local government proposes an earmark, what is it saying? It is saying the project is so low on its priority list it doesn't dare spend its own taxpayers' money. But it is perfectly happy to have taxpayers in other communities foot the bill.

The result is a long list of dubious projects that rob St. Petersburg to pay

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

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



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St. Paul for projects that St. Petersburg doesn't benefit from, and St. Paul doesn't deem worthy enough to spend its own money on.

Finally, it is said that earmarks can "grease" legislation by buying off the votes of individual Members. Add a few local projects for that Member, and suddenly a bill he would never vote for on its merits becomes a local imperative overriding his sound judgment. But explain to me, how is that a good thing?

Our new majority needs to make a dramatic, concrete, and credible statement that business as usual in Washington is over. Is there a more powerful statement we can make than to swear off this wasteful and corrupting practice of congressional earmarking?

#### AMERICA, WE HAVE LIFT OFF

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

Mr. SOTO. America, we have lift off. In a surge of fire, thunder, and smoke, Artemis I lit the early morning sky and was launched into the cosmos. At 9 million pounds of thrust, Artemis I is the most powerful rocket ever launched from the Earth. I was honored to see this historic flight firsthand early yesterday morning.

Now, after 50 years, America takes its first major step toward going back to the Moon; and we are bringing our many international partners with us, including the EU, Japan, Canada, and other allies.

In Central Florida, we locals beam with pride that Artemis launched from the storied 39B pad from Cape Canaveral.

This first mission was a long time in the making. The Orion spacecraft began to be developed during the Constellation program from 2005–2010.

In 2017, I was proud to vote formally to establish the Artemis program. Over the next 5 years, America got to work, including every State. Many Central Floridians helped build or assemble the Orion capsule, the Space Launch System, the crawler transporter, and other components.

During that 5-year period, NASA and SpaceX also kept busy on another key project, launching the Crew Dragon spacecraft. On May 30, 2020, I saw, firsthand, Astronauts Bob and Doug launch in the Spacecraft Endeavour and dock at the International Space Station. This was the first crewed launch from American soil in 9 years.

Since then, we have seen multiple SpaceX and Blue Origin crewed flights. Travel in low Earth orbit to and from ISS is now a regular occurrence in Central Florida.

With these flights well in hand, NASA turned its efforts toward deep space exploration once again. As the most powerful rocket ever to fly from the Earth, we knew the first Artemis launch would never be easy. But America never gives up.

It turned out that, after two scrubbed launches, the third time was the charm. As I stand here this morning, the Orion spacecraft just had its next burn to set it on a course for a lunar flyby. The closest approach to the Moon will be on November 21, before entering a distant retrograde orbit around the moon on November 25. It will roughly travel 1.3 million miles, farther than any other crew-designed spacecraft that has ever traveled.

It is a test flight, of course, so we will push Orion's capabilities to the maximum to ensure it is safe for future astronauts. Then Orion will return to the Earth in about 25½ days. After that, NASA will construct extensive evaluations of the returning Orion capsule.

From there, the future of crewed lunar spaceflight will begin to accelerate. In 2024, *Artemis II* will be the first crewed launch around the Moon in a new craft. In 2025, *Artemis III* crew will have the first woman and next man land on the Moon. And in 2027, *Artemis IV* will dock with the Lunar Gateway Space Station and begin our permanent presence on the Moon.

We will seek to discover water, learn from the harsh lunar environment, and advance new technologies. By the 2030s, these experiences and innovations will help us prepare to go to Mars and beyond.

For today, let us take a moment to appreciate and thank the tremendous accomplishments of Administrator Bill Nelson and the amazing people at NASA. Yesterday was a critical milestone in our country's space history. This is a first major step for America to go back to the Moon, and then on to Mars and beyond.

#### CONGRATULATING JASON MAREE

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Jason Maree of Northern Cambria, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Maree had his Pass in Review for the United States Navy, an important step in passing basic training and becoming a sailor.

To his family and those who know him well, Jason is a driven and dedicated person. When he graduated from Northern Cambria High School this spring, he knew military service was the best avenue for his life.

Coming from a family where his mother is retired from the Army, and his grandfather served in the Marine Corps, Jason naturally felt a call to serve after high school.

Prior to serving in the United States Navy, Jason was an active member of his community and served on the Northern Cambria Volunteer Recreation Board.

We are thankful, both as a community, and as a Nation, for Jason Maree

and for all those who are serving in our military.

Congratulations on becoming a sailor in the United States Navy, Jason.

#### CONGRATULATING AMY SHIELDS

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amy Shields of the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, or AHUG, on being named to the Pennsylvania top 100 in agriculture list.

The hardwood forest products industry represents a major part of Pennsylvania's economy. Pennsylvania's Allegheny Plateau region alone produces 80 percent of the cherry hardwood supply of the entire world.

This is a critical ingredient for producing furniture and home goods for customers at home and abroad. This industry is fortunate to have their interests represented by Amy Shields, who is the current Executive Director of AHUG and the voice of the timber industry in Pennsylvania.

Ms. Shields is a longtime veteran of the timber industry and has been a tireless advocate for business across 14 counties in Northern Pennsylvania.

Because of her efforts, loggers, sawmills, and hardwood manufacturers can continue to provide the highest-quality forest products to the world.

Congratulations, Amy, on this great accomplishment.

#### CONGRATULATING THE PENNSYLVANIA 4-H DAIRY JUDGING TEAM

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pennsylvania 4-H Dairy Judging Team on their top honors at the 100th National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at the World Dairy Expo.

In October, the Pennsylvania team traveled to Madison, Wisconsin, to compete in the dairy cattle judging contest. The Pennsylvania team was made up of four members, with Ellie Curtis of Warren County representing the Pennsylvania 15th Congressional District.

Their hard work paid off. Ellie Curtis placed fourth overall with the Ayrshires. As a team, Pennsylvania was first for overall placing for Jerseys. They ranked second in oral reasons, Brown Swiss and Guernseys, third for Ayrshires, and fifth for Holsteins.

As a result of their victory, the team has qualified to represent the United States this summer at the International Dairy Judging Contest in Glasgow, Scotland.

Congratulations to Ellie and the entire Pennsylvania 4-H Dairy Judging Team.

#### CONGRATULATING THE INDIANA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Indiana County Conservation District on their 75th anniversary celebration.

Since 1947, the Indiana County Conservation District, or ICCD, has been protecting the natural resources of Indiana County and working to improve

the quality of life for current and future generations.

The ICCD and its dedicated employees and volunteers use education, technical assistance, and partnerships with local businesses to work toward a prosperous sustainable future.

Today, the ICCD implements a wide variety of projects dealing with agricultural land preservation, environmental education, and wildlife management. All these efforts have helped to teach the importance of conservation to residents of all ages in Indiana County.

The ICCD formally celebrated their 75th anniversary on October 7 with an open house at their headquarters in Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Indiana County Conservation District on 75 years of protecting the environment and ensuring that Indiana County continues to be a great place to live.

□ 1015

#### HONORING TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

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

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Transgender Awareness Week.

Each and every day, our trans friends and neighbors fight to make their voices heard, to demand their basic human rights, and to live free from increasing dehumanizing and hateful attacks. Their spirit and fight deserve to be celebrated this week and every week.

Madam Speaker, we stand with the trans community and join their fight to live openly and authentically without fear of discrimination. We also must not ignore the horrific violence targeting the trans community.

Sunday marks Transgender Day of Remembrance as we honor the at least 32 transgender or gender-nonconforming Americans who have been killed this year and commit to doing all in our power to end this bigoted violence.

As co-chair of the LGBTQ+ Equality Caucus' Transgender Equality Task Force, I will never stop working to uplift the voices and visibility of trans Americans and shine the light on injustices this community faces.

To my friends in the trans community, I want to let you know that you are seen, you are heard, and you have allies here in Congress.

#### REOPEN THE CAPITOL

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, today, I am here to talk about reopening the very building in which we stand, the United States Capitol.

It has been 2½ years since Speaker PELOSI closed the people's House and told Americans it was part of our united effort to stop COVID-19. Over the last year, we have seen a sharp decline in hospitalizations and deaths from COVID. In fact, just 2 months ago, President Biden even declared the pandemic was over. Yet, certain protocols remain from the height of the pandemic.

Today, when constituents come to visit my office, they need to be personally escorted around by staff. They have to be a small group. They can't go to the House gallery to watch votes take place, and my staff is only allowed to give a tour once a week.

If the Speaker is really trying to prevent the spread of COVID, why is she forcing people to gather in large crowds around security checkpoints?

This is the people's House, yet we continue to deny access to the people, the very people who elected us to serve them, the very people whose taxes fund our operations.

Because of these regulations, I have had to turn several of my constituents away. Not only do these regulations make it difficult to welcome every group into my office, but it also affects the function of all House offices.

I have multiple visitors a day, and each time they come in, I have to send one of my staffers to find that visitor in a crowd of people, wait in a long security line, and then escort them through the House office buildings. It is inefficient and takes staff away from the valuable work they should be doing on behalf of the people of Arkansas.

To top it all off, none of this makes any sense. Why does one of my staffers need to escort someone who has already been cleared by security into the building? How does this protect against COVID-19? What is so dangerous about allowing visitors the ability to watch their government function? How can we claim to be a transparent government when we prohibit access to their elected officials?

It is far past time to truly open up the Capitol to the people and restore its operation to prepandemic times. We cannot afford to keep distance between the American people and their elected Representatives.

These regulations prevent constituents from freely visiting their Representatives and hinder productivity in our offices, and none of it makes us any safer.

The people are an important part of the legislative process. In fact, they are the reason for it. Madam Speaker, they should be welcomed here.

#### INVESTING IN ZERO-EMISSION SHIPPING TECHNOLOGIES

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, it was an honor to join Speaker PELOSI

with the congressional delegation to Egypt to the United Nations' annual climate conference, COP27.

Our bottom-line message to world leaders: America is all in to fight the climate crisis. We stand with our global partners to reduce emissions, go green, and meet our goals under the Paris climate agreement.

Shipping emissions is one of the largest emitters of greenhouse gases in the world. Congress has acted with the Inflation Reduction Act. Record climate investments are included in the IRA to accelerate our transition to a clean energy future. That includes a \$3 billion investment from my bill, the Climate Smart Ports Act, to reduce emissions from ports across the country.

As someone who represents the Port of Los Angeles, I know firsthand the work we must do to go zero emissions and commit with other countries to reduce shipping emissions through the Green Shipping Challenge.

To get there at the speed and scale necessary, it is critical that Congress invest in zero-emission shipping technologies and provide the EPA with the resources to regulate emissions from ships.

Working together, we can exceed our 2030 emissions reduction target and take collective action to save our planet.

#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month. During this month, we honor the millions of Americans living with Alzheimer's, including my mom, along with selfless family members and caregivers.

The nearly 6 million people with Alzheimer's are our sisters, our brothers, our parents, our grandparents, our neighbors, and our fellow Americans.

This epidemic will only continue to grow. In the next 30 years, the number of Americans with Alzheimer's is expected to reach nearly 14 million.

Fortunately, we are at an inflection point in scientific progress where life-changing treatments may become available, but they also need to be affordable, and we need to continue to invest in research.

That is why I am introducing a bill this month to improve access to new, innovative Alzheimer's treatments that become available. I will continue to work with CMS to ensure all drugs receive fair and accurate consideration for Medicare coverage.

Our fight against this heartbreaking disease is nowhere near done.

#### SUPPORTING NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVERS MONTH

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Family Caregivers Month. Today, more than one in five Americans provide care to someone with health or functional needs.

Caregivers are the backbone of our families and communities. They are

our coworkers, siblings, parents, grandparents, and neighbors.

Their service and sacrifice for our families and country are essential and immeasurable work, but their contributions are often overlooked and undervalued.

Caregiving requires time, money, resources, and patience. It can take a toll on a caregiver's physical and mental health.

As a caregiver for my own mom, I want every family caregiver to know that you are not alone, that we are in this with you. Your efforts do not go unnoticed. You deserve to feel celebrated.

We must do more to ensure that you have the support that you need. You have a champion in Congress who will fight for higher wages and better benefits for you.

We must continue to invest in programs like IHSS and WPCS so that our elders can stay home and have the dignity to be in their homes in their later years and be taken care of.

Thank you again to all the caregivers out there for everything you do.

#### HONORING LEWIS SMITH

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

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend, Staff Sergeant Lewis Smith, affectionately known as Slugger and also very affectionately known as the Mayor of Washington Mills, who recently passed away at the age of 99.

Lew was born in Washington Mills, New York, in 1922 and graduated from Sauquoit Valley Central School in 1940.

After the terrible attacks on Pearl Harbor, Lew immediately signed up to fight for our country in the United States Air Force, with what at the time was known as the 13th Army Air Corps 307th Bombardment Group in the South Pacific.

A member of the Greatest Generation, Lew honorably served our country in World War II, completing 50 combat missions in the South Pacific with, as I said, the 13th Army Air Corps 307th Bombardment Group.

He wrote a wonderful book chronicling his experience in the war, which I highly recommend to everyone who is interested in finding out what it was really like to just be an average member of the Air Force, enlisting and learning and growing and sacrificing.

After the war, Lew came home to Washington Mills and married the love of his life, Jane, on May 5, 1945, after moving to Denver to complete Lew's military service.

The couple moved back to Washington Mills, where they would live together for 76 years until Jane's passing in 2021.

Upon moving back to Washington Mills, Lew worked as a welder for Utica Structural Steel before taking over his father-in-law's service stations with his two sons. Later, Lew would take on positions as a maintenance man for the town of New Hartford highway and police departments.

On top of his service as a mechanic, Lew also served our community as one of the founding members of the Willowvale Fire Company Inc., serving since 1950, and as the leader of the Clonan Post 1000 American Legion.

Lew was a wonderful person, a dear friend, and a tremendous community servant. I thank him and his family for their friendship and for the lifetime of service and commitment to our community by the entire family.

He was truly a special gem in our community like no other person. Probably my greatest inspiration, other than my own father, Lew was a person of great integrity, great honesty, who gave wonderful, sage advice to everyone he met. He was also one of the kindest people and one of the most caring, giving people I have met in my life.

I thank him and his family and his wonderful wife, Jane, for all the wonderful times and, actually, great experiences I had and their support of our community and all those people who serve in the fire service and police service and serve our Nation in uniform.

He truly embodied our Greatest Generation, and he is sorely missed by our community.

#### HONORING EDWARD BRADLEY

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Edward Bradley of Chadwicks, New York, who passed away earlier this week.

Edward was a lifelong resident of the Utica area and dedicated his life to serving our community and his family. He worked for several companies in the area, including James Donovan Roofing and Mohawk Containers, where he worked for 40 years. Incidentally, James Donovan was one of our New York State senators from our region.

On top of his work, Edward was also a 50-year member of the Willowvale Fire Company, where he served previously as president and vice president. He also served as a member of the Oneida County Fire Police and the State director of the New York State Fire Police Association, and he was honored by the Willowvale Fire Company with the very prestigious Ironman Award.

Edward was also a member of the Utica Elks Lodge and was nominated by the United Way of the Mohawk Valley for the 100 Heroes of the Mohawk Valley, recognizing his tremendous and honorable, dedicated service to our community.

Edward, thank you for your lifetime of service, and may your memory continue to be a blessing to all of us and the new generations of people that come after us.

We will never forget your commitment to our region, and your family remains in our thoughts and prayers. Your department is in great hands. They learned from truly the best.

□ 1030

#### NATIONAL SURVIVORS OF HOMICIDE VICTIMS AWARENESS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I rise today during National Survivors of Homicide Victims Awareness Month, a time when the pain and grief of loss should be honored with action, to read the words and the plea of a heartbroken mother and a Pennsylvania 5 constituent, Molly Collington, who lost her son, Sam, to gun violence a year ago on November 28, 2021.

By all accounts, Sam Collington was a remarkable young man who left an outsized impact on our community.

His mother, Molly, shared her story with me earlier this fall when I met with her and her colleagues at Delaware County's Moms Demand Action chapter. I was deeply moved by her advocacy in the face of unimaginable loss and grief, and I am sharing her words with her permission now.

"My name is Molly Collington. I am Sam Collington's brokenhearted mother.

"Sam was the best son any mother could ever ask for. He was kind, smart, reliable, and without a doubt, one of the funniest people to ever walk this Earth.

"Sam was murdered on November 28, 2021. The day began with Sam loading up his father's car with clean laundry, some leftover turkey, and supplies to carry him through the rest of the semester.

"He was returning to his apartment at Temple University after the Thanksgiving weekend. He planned to drop the items off at his apartment, then return home to watch HBO with me, sleep in his own bed, and then take the train back to school Monday morning. That did not happen.

"Because on his street, near his apartment, was a career criminal with an illegal gun waiting to steal the car of the next person that drove down the street. The next person was my Eagle Scout son, Sam. Sam was shot four times and died less than 30 minutes later at Temple Hospital.

"Sam was so knowledgeable about our country and all its history. He knew every single President and could talk for hours about politics. So it was no surprise when he told his father and I that he wanted to study political science at Temple University after high school. His fervor for politics and government started very young. He proudly served as his high school's president for his junior and senior year.

"During his time at Temple, he served as the president of the Political Science Society, never missing an opportunity to make each day count.

"He planned to attend law school and study constitutional law. He was an activist.

"He campaigned for local politicians and interned at city hall where he worked with elections. He was responsible for getting hundreds of people

registered to vote, on and off campus. He was a poll watcher.

“He even went on a ‘Bernie Journey’ where he rode with fellow Temple students on a schoolbus to North and South Carolina to campaign for his favorite politician, BERNIE SANDERS.

“Sam truly believed in the ‘not me, us’ mantra, which is why he was so outspoken in his love of politics and striving for a better world.

“Sam had a larger-than-life personality. As one of his professors pointed out: ‘It is impossible to be involved in the Political Science Department and not know Sam Collington.’

“He became known on campus as ‘Poly-Sci Sam.’

“To lose a child is the greatest pain any parent can ever experience. Every day, my heart breaks all over again. To lose a child like Sam, knowing that he was destined for something big, is absolutely soul-crushing. How his father, sister, and I are still standing seems impossible to believe. He made us better people just by knowing him. We are destroyed without him, his cheerfulness, his wit, and his intelligence.

“One of the hardest parts is knowing my son’s murder was preventable. Our children should be able to go to school safely. We should not have to worry about making sure they know where the closest exits are at the movie theaters, supermarkets, concerts, and churches.

“I implore our elected officials to do more to keep guns out of the wrong hands.

“We must do better. We have to do better. We are failing our children.

“They say time heals all wounds, but I can tell you without any doubt whatsoever, not this one.”

#### CRISIS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, there is no denying that the crisis at our southern border was caused by President Biden and his administration’s open-border policies.

Since President Biden took office, more than 3.8 million illegal immigrants have been apprehended at our southern border. Meanwhile, the commissioner of Customs and Border Protection was falling asleep during meetings while this crisis continued on his watch.

This is exactly why, around 2 weeks ago, I joined 15 of my fellow House Republicans, led by Congressman HICE, in calling on CBP Commissioner Magnus to resign. Thankfully, he did, and now our country and its national security are better off.

Already, before Republicans even officially take the majority, we are holding the Biden administration accountable.

I promise that come January 3, when the new Congress is sworn in, you can

expect more accountability where that came from.

#### PRESIDENT BIDEN’S STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS HANDOUT

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, the Congressional Budget Office has confirmed what most Tennesseans already knew. President Biden’s plan to give a hand-out to millions of college-educated Americans will be paid for with even more deficit spending than anticipated, around \$400 billion in deficit spending to be exact.

This is just as shocking: The President thinks it is acceptable and legal to spend this kind of money without congressional approval. But it is neither.

We hear \$10,000 per borrower thrown around a lot, but the CBO says 24 million people would receive \$20,000 in debt forgiveness under the plan. That is basically a 2022 Hyundai Elantra or a Kia Soul or a brand-new Nissan Sentra.

I ask my Democrat colleagues: How are you okay with giving away the equivalent of a new car to 24 million people and asking those without student debt to foot the bill, asking Tennessee plumbers to foot the bill for Harvard-educated lawyers, asking America’s blue-collar workers to give a subsidy to some of the best-educated people and best-paid people in this country?

This administration must reverse course on this wrong-headed, regressive policy.

#### CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE RESTRAINED

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the need for us to prohibit the physical restraining of young children as a form of discipline in schools.

Shockingly, in the 2017 through 2018 school year, nearly 71,000 elementary school-aged children were physically restrained. Even worse, 80 percent of the restrained children were kids with disabilities, some younger than 5 years old, even though they only make up 13 percent of the student population.

In Texas, 91 percent of all reported restraints are experienced by children with disabilities. Regrettably, children who are Latino and Black are at much higher risk of being restrained.

Since 2020, nearly 20 fatalities have occurred because of poor restraining techniques and children’s bodies simply being too small to endure this form of discipline. This is simply heart-breaking and is totally unacceptable.

It doesn’t appear to be slowing down. Just this month, Moesha Baker, a mother from the Houston Independent School District, received a letter from her 4-year-old son’s elementary school and was told that he had been restrained at school. Ms. Baker learned 2 days after the incident that this restraining had been unjustified and that

the teacher was on administrative leave.

This is a very deeply troubling case. Fortunately, her son was not physically hurt, but think of the emotional scars that he must endure. This is, again, totally unacceptable.

Many times children are hurt, like a 10-year-old student from a charter school in Waco, Texas, who sadly was restrained to the point that he actually had a broken arm in four places when he was restrained last month. The child had a learning disability.

Madam Speaker, put yourself in the shoes of these families. One minute, you are hugging your child, saying goodbye, they are off to school. The next minute, you get a call that your child has been restrained, put in handcuffs or zip-tied as a form of discipline. This is flat wrong, it is inhumane, and it must stop.

Madam Speaker, today, I will be introducing my resolution called the No Kids in Cuffs Resolution to encourage local and State governments to prohibit this practice.

Young children who are restrained are more likely to experience short-term and long-term problems in sleep, learning, relationships, and trust. In fact, being restrained is so traumatic that it even impedes a child’s development. Many of them go on to struggle with suicidal thoughts and are forced to live with post-traumatic anxiety. All of this on top of the physical pain that they may experience.

While the children clearly must be the first we protect, sometimes teachers, administrators, and officers are also at risk of developing trauma from just simply witnessing a child being restrained to the degree that their little arm is broken in four places. It is hard to endure, it is hard to witness, and this trauma must end.

Let’s make sure no other parent must endure what Ms. Baker and thousands of others families must go through. Let’s begin the conversation of prohibiting the physical restraining of children. Let’s put children over restraints. Let’s put books over cuffs.

That is why I am introducing today, Madam Speaker, the No Kids in Cuffs Resolution, and I ask all my colleagues to help me. We must end this practice. Children should focus on their books and their learning, not on cuffs and trauma.

#### HONORING JOANNA ROWE

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Madam Speaker, today, I come to the floor to honor a member of my team who has devoted the past 18 years to serving the constituents of North Carolina’s 10th Congressional District, serving it with integrity and honor, especially for veterans and servicemembers.

It is my true honor today to pay tribute to my friend and my lead veterans

and military caseworker, Joanna Rowe, who is retiring at the end of the year. Joanna has been with me since the beginning of my service here in the House in the beginning of 2005. Since day one, anyone who encountered Joanna instantly knew her passion for our veterans.

We had veterans line up just to go sit down and talk to Joanna and have a conversation with her because of her warm spirit and what a wonderful person she is, and everyone understood that very quickly.

The numbers tell that story about her passion for our veterans. During her service, Joanna has handled just shy of 6,000 veterans' cases and 362 Active-Duty military cases. She has helped 106 veterans obtain medals they were due for their service. She played an important role in helping establish the VA community-based outpatient clinics in Hickory and in Forest City, North Carolina, and was a key resource to county veterans service officers in 17 different counties during her service.

Susan Hall, the veterans service officer in Rutherford County, said of Joanna: "Joanna's commitment to serving the veterans of our community is exemplary. I will miss her greatly. The Congressman, as well as the people of Rutherford County and the great State of North Carolina have been blessed with the service of Joanna Rowe."

Joanna will be missed and will be missed by so many, not just the veterans, but her coworkers who love her dearly. And not just her coworkers, but me. Being able to work with her and to call her a friend and to learn from her has meant a great deal to me and to my wife Julia, as well as my kids.

So we want to thank her for her service. I thank her for her loving spirit and the strength of her faith.

It seems like just yesterday that she and I and her husband, Freddy, sat down for lunch in the fall of 2003 to talk about politics. I learned a lot during that first election to Congress from Joanna, and I thank her for her service and thank her for her friendship.

Joanna, we know you won't be a stranger. Thanks so much. We love you.

#### CELEBRATING MINNESOTA WINS

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

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I want to start out by thanking my community for reelecting me to serve Minnesota's Fifth Congressional District.

Our State continues to have the highest voter turnout in the Nation. It is one of the easiest States to vote in and should be a model for States across the country.

In my district, we increased our voter share by 10 percentage points from 2020, and we got more votes than any other House candidate in Minnesota.

Beyond that, Minnesotans voted to flip the Minnesota Senate, creating a

Democratic trifecta for the first time in nearly a decade.

We also voted for incredible new leaders throughout our State that have many firsts behind their names.

Bobby Joe Champion will be the first Black president of the Minnesota Senate.

Zaynab Mohamed will be the first African-born Somali woman and Gen Z member to be elected to the Minnesota Senate.

Along with Zaynab, Clare Oumou Verbeten and Erin Maye Quade will be among the first Black women elected to the Minnesota Senate.

Samantha Sencer-Mura will be the first Japanese-American member of the Minnesota House.

Leigh Finke will be the first trans member of the Minnesota House.

Mary Moriarty will be the first openly gay woman elected to be the Hennepin County attorney.

□ 1045

Representation matters. We know none of these candidates ran to be the "first." They ran to make a difference for their communities.

When I was first elected to the Minnesota House, I was the first and only Somali-American legislator. Now there will be 11 Somali-American legislators across the country. It is often said, you can't be what you can't see. I am incredibly proud that we, along with so many others, have been able to inspire countless people to run for office. So now many more people will finally see themselves reflected in various places and positions of power.

I also want to take a moment to honor two of my mentors, Representative Jim Davnie and Senator Patricia Torres Ray, who are retiring from the Minnesota State House and Senate. I thank them for representing our communities so well over the years. I can't wait to see the work they continue to do to make sure our State thrives.

As we get ready to welcome in new leaders throughout our State, this is our time to deliver meaningful changes for Minnesotans. Now is the time to deliver affordable childcare, lower healthcare costs, invest in K-12 and higher education, combat the climate crisis, and legalize marijuana.

Minnesota nice is leading with compassion and getting things done. Let's get to work.

#### INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY ON MYANMAR

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the situation in Burma.

It has been my honor this year to be a member of the International Parliamentary Inquiry on Myanmar. Our group of lawmakers representing Africa, Asia, Europe, and North America released our final report earlier this month, which I will submit as an extension of my remarks.

The tragedy of the Burmese military coup is immense, but the resilience of the Burmese people and their move-

ment for democracy is deeply inspiring. The United States must recognize the National Unity Government as the legitimate government of Burma and never give legitimacy to the coup leaders.

But we should also be clear that the National Unity Government must include Rohingya representation to be legitimate. The international community has not done nearly enough to support the democratic aspirations of the Burmese people. We must lead by example while we still have time.

#### OUR BODIES, OUR CHOICES

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

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, when the Supreme Court voted to overturn Roe v. Wade, I was totally outraged. We knew that that day was coming, and as horrific as it was and is, we were ready. But I was not alone in that outrage.

Madam Speaker, over the past few weeks, the American people took their outrage, and they turned it into action. From Kentucky to California, red States to blue, our constituents made their voices heard, and their message is clear.

Americans trust people, not politicians, to make their own decisions about their health and their lives, including about abortion. Americans will use their vote to strike down attacks on reproductive rights time and time again and, yes, support reproductive freedom. Madam Speaker, it is time to turn our constituents' demands into congressional action.

To my Republican colleagues who try to claim their extremism as public opinion, we saw that the majority of American people are not buying it. I am determined to ensure that their voices are heard, to fight for all of our rights to make our own decisions over our bodies. I won't stop, and none of my colleagues here will stop, until the right to abortion is available and to keep politicians from interfering in our personal decisions about our bodies. We are going to keep fighting that this is available to everyone regardless of race, ZIP Code, or income. It is our bodies, and it is our choices.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE FUELING WILDFIRES

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the House amendment to S. 3902, the FIRE Act. I am proud to support this bill and thank my good friends and fellow Californians, Senator PADILLA and Congresswoman LOFGREN, for their leadership, and Chairman DEFAZIO and the Speaker for bringing it to the floor.

Communities across the world are feeling the impact of climate change, fueling wildfires and harming fragile ecosystems and communities.

I was privileged to be in Egypt last week for COP27, and it was very apparent and clear, and the voices were heard that we have got to address these

critical issues with regard to the climate crisis now.

I have directly witnessed the devastating effects of wildfires on homes and livelihoods in my community, which is why I am proud to support this bill and urge my colleagues to vote “yes” with me.

Current wildfires are growing larger and hotter, requiring urgent and robust action from the Federal Government. The FIRE Act allows FEMA to predeploy assets during high-risk times, improves relocation assistance for public infrastructure affected by fires, and ensures equity of assistance for Tribal communities and governments.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this amended bill.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF BRANDON TSAI

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

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Officer Brandon Tsai. He was a brave member of the Grand Prairie Police Department, and he died in the line of duty this past week.

Officer Tsai bravely protected the people of north Texas and the city of Grand Prairie since January of this year, after serving 5 years with the Los Angeles Police Department.

The Grand Prairie Police Department described Officer Tsai as a loving friend, a trusted colleague, and outstanding officer whose passion provided service to the public.

I join the entire north Texas community and all of his brothers and sisters in blue in all of the metroplex departments in keeping Officer Brandon Tsai's family, friends, and all of his colleagues at the city of Grand Prairie in our thoughts and prayers during this time.

#### RECONCILIATION AND RESTORATION

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise this morning to engage in a limited, but hopefully important, discussion about America's history and to encourage my colleagues for collaboration. It is in reference to H.R. 40, the Commission to Study Slavery and Develop Reparation Proposals.

I stand on the perspective of how important it is for us to engage in dialogue. We are hearing across America that Americans are frightened about the discussion of our differences.

This land was first held by the indigenous people, Native Americans. Every other group came to America, whether or not you are of European heritage, Hispanic heritage, Asian-Pacific, Southeast Asian, or whether you are African heritage. As a descendant of

enslaved Africans, we are the only group that came as slaves to this country and held in bondage for over 200 years.

You have not seen African Americans refuse their patriotism, refuse to serve. We have served in every war since the Revolutionary War.

You have never seen African Americans refuse to shed blood for the freedom of this country or to wear the uniform.

You have not seen us shy away from serving as firefighters and law enforcement, teachers, businesspersons, social justice leaders, such as Dr. King, John Lewis, and, yes, Malcolm X.

You have not seen us, as women—Rosa Parks, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Coretta Scott King—stand away from the fight. We have embraced freedom, justice, and equality.

You did not see us attack this most solid and somber institution, sacred, on January 6, 2021. We were not the masses that were trying to undermine democracy. In fact, in this last election, I stood on the premise of defending democracy, and I take no back seat to my love of this Nation.

And so I ask my colleagues, why do you in any way doubt the value and importance of H.R. 40? The purpose is to acknowledge the fundamental injustice and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery.

It was based on the premise of racism. There was, in fact, no compensation, no life insurance, no salaries. Slaves were born, lived, and died in slavery, never seeing freedom. They worked from sunup and beyond, and they worked until they fell dead in the fields.

They built this Nation. They built the United States Capitol. They built the White House. They, in fact, created an economic engine by making cotton king, and they created an economic engine by this transatlantic slave trade.

The traders decided to stop trading spices and gold and to use the human beings that they marched for 300 miles to weaken the slaves so they would not have a fight before getting on those ships. Many dropped into the watery grave before they got on. Many died in the dark passage.

But yet, here we are today.

And so this is not pointing the finger. This is not accusatory. This is, in fact, a reconciliation. I insist that we establish this commission, and we must establish it by a vote or establish it by executive order.

Reverend Mark Thompson, a political activist for social justice, said: If we were granted H.R. 40 by executive order, it would be America once and for all saying Black lives actually do matter and this Nation must be repaired. It is restoration and repair, but it stands on the basis of facts. There is no doubt that we have been impacted, that DNA in the trajectory of slavery to today.

For example, COVID, Black African Americans got COVID at a rate nearly 1½ times higher than that of White people, were hospitalized at a rate nearly 4 times higher, and 3 times more likely to die. COVID hit us very desperately.

Interestingly, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans could have cut COVID-19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large. Reparations are curative, they are not punishment. The analysis continued to look at data throughout the Nation.

And so as we move in this lame duck session, it is important that we come together for reconciliation, restoration, and provide the Commission to Study Slavery and to Develop Reparation Proposals.

I thank my colleagues for their support, and I believe together we make America strong, America free, America just, and America equal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have authored H.R. 40, legislation that establishes a commission to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans. Congress must pass this bill to begin the process toward reconciliation with the Black community. I have also called upon President Biden to create the H.R. 40 Commission by Executive Order.

The purpose of H.R. 40 is to acknowledge the fundamental injustice and inhumanity of slavery in the U.S. and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans. The Commission is also charged to make recommendations to Congress on appropriate remedies.

Now—more than ever—the timing is ripe for the enactment of H.R. 40. We have a President in the White House who has expressed his undeniable support and we urge President Biden to institute this executive order.

My Democratic colleagues in the 117th Congress and I have made historic strides in advancing H.R. 40 since it was first introduced in 1989 by the late Michigan Congressman Rep John Conyers. H.R. 40 garnered more support over the past 33 years; it has approximately 200 co-sponsors, including 25 U.S. senators. Also, it is supported by over 300 organizations and allies, including the National Conference of Mayors.

One of my top priorities for this lame duck session of Congress in November and December, regardless of who controls Congress, is to have H.R. 40 pass the House of Representatives because. This will send a message of broad support to President Biden and strengthen our hand in urging him to create the Commission to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals through Executive Order.

Reparations are overdue. Our entire country needs reparations, to allow us to move forward as an untied society.

The concept of reparations is a well-established principle of international law, defined as the act or process of repairing or restoring.

It is payment for an injury; redress for a wrong done. In the context of Black people in

North America, the concept of reparations essentially constitutes four elements:

- 1) the formal acknowledgment of an historical wrong;
- 2) the recognition that there is a continuing injury;
- 3) the commitment to redress by the federal government which sanctioned the enslavement and subsequent discrimination; and
- 4) the actual compensation in whatever form or forms that are agreed upon.

The reparations movement does not focus on payments to individuals. The harms under discussion from the legacy of slavery and racial discrimination are seen in well-documented racial disparities in access to education, health care, housing, insurance, employment and other social goods.

Reparations settlements can be created in as many forms as necessary to equitably address the many forms of injury sustained from chattel slavery and its continuing vestiges.

Now—more than ever—the facts and circumstances facing our nation demonstrate the importance of H.R. 40 and the necessity of placing our nation on the path to reparative justice.

Reverend Mark Thompson, a political activist for social justice remarked “If we were granted H.R. 40 by executive order, it would be America once and for all saying Black lives actually do matter, and this nation must be repaired.” I along with many others share in the same sentiment.

The impact of the pandemic changed the nature of the conversation. COVID has devastated the African American community.

According to the latest estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Black people get COVID–19 at a rate nearly one and a half times higher than that of white people, are hospitalized at a rate nearly four times higher, and are three times as likely to die from the disease.

Interestingly, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans could have cut COVID–19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large.

Their analysis, based on Louisiana data, determined that if reparations payments had been made before the COVID–19 pandemic, narrowing the wealth gap, COVID transmission rates in the state’s overall population could have been reduced by anywhere from 31 percent to 68 percent.

In 2019, we have also seen hundreds of thousands peacefully take to the streets in support of Black Lives and accountability for law enforcement. Many of those protesters carried signs in support of H.R. 40 and made the important link between policing and the movement for reparative justice.

Tragically, we have also witnessed insurrectionist attack this institution, brandishing symbols of division and intolerance, that echo back to the darkest periods of our nation’s history. Clearly, we require a reckoning to restore national balance and unity.

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and in the process, began one of mankind’s most inhumane practices: human bondage and slavery.

For two centuries, human beings—full of hopes and fears, dreams and concerns, ambition and anguish—were transported onto ships like chattel, and the lives of many forever changed.

The reverberations from this horrific series of acts—a transatlantic slave trade that touched the shores of a colony that came to be known as America, and later a democratic republic known as the United States of America—are unknown and worthy of exploration.

Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865.

American Slavery is our country’s original sin and its existence at the birth of our nation is a permanent scar on our country’s founding documents, and on the venerated authors of those documents, and it is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for our country and the document to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths a person.

The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued just a few decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose at lunch counters and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil War.

The mythology built around the Civil War has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain datum that permits us to examine how a subset of Africans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

We know that in almost every segment of society—education, healthcare, jobs and wealth—the inequities that persist in America are more acutely and disproportionately felt in Black America.

This historic discrimination continues: African-Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships including but not limited to having nearly 1,000,000 black people incarcerated; an unemployment rate more than twice the current white unemployment rate; and an average of less than 1/16 of the wealth of white families, a disparity which has worsened, not improved over time.

H.R. 40 follows the successful model of the reparations campaign for Japanese-Americans interned during WWII. The campaign began with a 1980 congressional bill establishing a commission to investigate the internment, evaluate and consider the amount and form reparations would take, and make recommendations to the Congress for remedy. Based on the Commission’s findings, President Reagan signed into law the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

In short, H.R. 40 is not about direct payments to individuals. The legislation creates the framework for a national discussion on the enduring legacy of slavery, and the complex web of discriminatory conduct sanctioned by the Federal government well into the 20th century, to begin the necessary process of atonement and recovery.

Assessing the quantifiable amount owed to Black citizens due to generational racism and injustice should be left in a commission’s hands.

H.R. 40 seeks to establish a national commission to examine the lasting economic effects of slavery, Jim Crow segregation, and racially discriminatory federal policies on income, wealth, educational, health, and employment outcomes; to pursue truth and promote racial healing; and to study reparations.

The committee should comprise of appointed members (seen in section 4) and pioneers in the field of reparatory justice.

I also support President Eiden in creating a reparations committee through executive action.

Given the political limitations of moving legislation in the Senate, an executive order is the only practical method for establishing an H.R. 40 commission.

Black household wealth is less than one fifth of the national average.

The median black household had a net worth of just \$17,600 in 2016. Yet in that same year, the median white household held \$171,000 in wealth while the national household median was \$97,300.

The black unemployment rate is 6.6 percent more than double the national unemployment rate.

Approximately 31 percent of black children live in poverty, compared to 11 percent of white children. The national average is 18 percent, which suggests that the percentage of black children living in poverty is more than 150 percent of the national average.

In the healthcare domain, the disparities suffered by African Americans is also troubling.

Over 20 percent of African Americans do not have health insurance, compared to a national average between 8.8 percent and 9.1 percent.

One in four African American women are uninsured.

Compared to the national average, African American adults are 20 percent more likely to suffer from asthma and three times more likely to die from it.

Black adults are 72 percent more likely to suffer from diabetes than average.

Black women are four times more likely to die from pregnancy related causes, such as embolisms, and pregnancy-related hypertension, than any other racial group.

In our nation, among children aged 19–35 months, black children were vaccinated at rates lower than white children: 68 percent versus 78 percent, respectively.

Education has often been called the key to unlocking social mobility.

African American students are less likely than white students to have access to college-ready courses.

In fact, in 2011–12, only 57 percent of black students have access to a full range of math and science courses necessary for college readiness, compared to 81 percent of Asian American students and 71 percent of white students.

Black students spend less time in the classroom due to discipline, which further hinders their access to a quality education.

Black students are nearly two times as likely to be suspended without educational services as white students.

Black students are also 3.8 times as likely to receive one or more out-of-school suspensions as white students.



In addition, black children represent 19 percent of the nation's preschool population, yet 47 percent of those receiving more than one out-of-school suspension.

In comparison, white students represent 41 percent of pre-school enrollment but only 28 percent of those receiving more than one out-of-school suspension.

Even more troubling, black students are 2.3 times as likely to receive a referral to law enforcement or be subject to a school-related arrest as white students.

School districts with the most students of color, on average, receive 15 percent less per student in state and local funding than the whitest districts.

And, of course, we cannot consider the disparities between black and white in America without considering the intersection of African Americans and the Criminal Justice system.

There are more Black men in bondage today who are incarcerated or under correctional control, than there were black men who were enslaved in the 1800s.

The United States locks up African American males at a rate 5.8 times higher than the most openly racist country in the world ever did:

South Africa under apartheid (1993), African American males: 851 per 100,000.

United States (2006), African American males: 4,789 per 100,000.

Incarceration is not an equal opportunity punishment. For example, incarceration rates in the United States by race were:

African Americans: 2,468 per 100,000.

Latinos: 1,038 per 100,000.

Whites: 409 per 100,000.

African American offenders receive sentences that are 10 percent longer than white offenders for the same crimes and are 21 percent more likely to receive mandatory-minimum sentences than white defendants according to the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

Looking at males aged 25–29 and by race, you can see what is going on even clearer:

For White males ages 25–29: 1,685 per 100,000.

For Latino males ages 25–29: 3,912 per 100,000.

For African American males ages 25–29: 11,695 per 100,000. (That's 11 percent of Black men in their late 20s.)

Looking at males aged 25–29 and by race, you can see what is going on even clearer:

For White males ages 25–29: 1,685 per 100,000.

For Latino males ages 25–29: 3,912 per 100,000.

For African American males ages 25–29: 11,695 per 100,000. (That's 11 percent of Black men in their late 20s.)

And African Americans are more likely to be victims of crimes.

Black children die from firearm homicides at a rate 10 times higher than their white counterparts.

Overall, one in 50 murders is ruled justified—but when the killer is white and the victim is a black man, the figure climbs to one in six.

A handgun homicide is nine times more likely to be found justified when the killer is white and the victim is a black man.

Handgun killings with a white shooter and a black male victim exhibit an even more dramatic bias: one in four is found justified.

But then again, we knew these inequities existed because for many Black Americans, these disparities are just a part of daily life.

Examined in the aggregate, they represent a stunning chasm between the destinies of White America and that of Black America.

This is why, in 1989, my predecessor as the most senior African American on this august Judiciary Committee, the honorable John Conyers, a past Chairman of this Committee introduced H.R. 40, legislation that would establish a commission to study and develop proposals attendant to reparations.

Though many thought it a lost cause, John Conyers believed that a day would come when our nation would need to account for the brutal mistreatment of African-Americans during chattel slavery, Jim Crow segregation and the enduring structural racism endemic to our society.

I would like to take this moment to personally thank the estimable John Conyers for his work on this legislation for the last thirty years.

With the rise and normalization of white supremacist expression during the Trump administration, the discussion of H.R. 40 and the concept of restorative justice have gained more urgency, garnering the attention of mainstream commentator, and illustrating the need for a national reckoning.

H.R. 40 is intended to create the framework for a national discussion on the enduring impact of slavery and its complex legacy to begin that necessary process of atonement.

The designation of this legislation as H.R. 40 is intended to memorialize the promise made by General William T. Sherman, in his 1865 Special Field Order No. 15, to redistribute 400,000 acres of formerly Confederate owned coastal land in South Carolina and Florida, subdivided into 40 acre plots.

In addition to the more well-known land redistribution, the Order also established autonomous governance for the region and provided for protection by military authorities of the settlements.

Though Southern sympathizer and former slaveholder President Andrew Johnson would later overturn the Order, this plan represented the first systematic form of Freedmen reparations.

Since its introduction, H.R. 40 has acted to spur some governmental acknowledgement of the sin of slavery, but most often the response has taken the form of an apology.

However, even the well intentioned commitments to examine the historical and modern day implications of slavery by the Clinton administration fell short of the mark and failed to inspire substantive public discourse.

For many, it was not until The Atlantic published Ta-Nehisi Coates' *The Case for Reparations* that the mainstream public began to reckon with, or even consider, the concept of reparations.

Though the Federal government has been slow to engage the issue of reparations, individuals, corporations and other public institutions have engaged the discussion out of both necessity and conscience.

In 1994, a group of California plaintiffs brought suit against the Federal government and by 2002, nine lawsuits were filed around the country by the Restitution Study Group.

Though litigation has yielded only mixed success in court, a serious foundation was laid for alternative forms of restitution.

For example, in 2005, J.P. Morgan & Company tried to make amends for its role in the slave trade with an apology and a \$5 million, five-year scholarship fund for Black undergraduates in Louisiana.

In 2008, the Episcopal Church apologized for perpetuating American slavery through its interpretation of the Bible and certain diocese have implemented restitution programs.

In 2003, Brown University created the Committee on Slavery and Justice to assess the University's role in slavery and determine a response.

Similarly, in 2016, Georgetown University apologized for its historical links to slavery and said it would give an admissions edge to descendants of slaves whose sale in the 18th century helped pay off the U.S. school's debts.

In 2017, my alma mater Yale University announced that it would rename Calhoun College—named for John C. Calhoun—would be changed to honor Grace Murray Hopper, a trailblazing computer scientist who also served as rear admiral in the United States Navy.

The University's president, Peter Salovey, indicated that removing Calhoun's name was consistent with its values because Calhoun had a legacy of a white supremacist and a national leader who passionately promoted slavery as a positive good.

And, in April of this year, students at Georgetown University voted in favor of paying reparations to the descendants of enslaved people who were sold by the university in order to satisfy its debts.

In 1838, in a practice likely far wider spread than is likely accounted for, Georgetown Jesuits sold 272 slaves who worked on plantations.

When the results of the Georgetown poll were announced, the numbers were overwhelming: 2/3 of students indicated that payments should be funded to descendants of these slaves and would be paid for by a fee that would apply to all undergraduate students.

While the vote was nonbinding, it nonetheless represents the first time the student body of a university has voted to implement a mandatory fee to account for reparations.

These are only a few examples of how private institution have begun reckoning with their past records.

I expect that a growing number of institutions will be forced to examine their histories of discrimination, if for no other reason than increasing public scrutiny will force their history to light.

Since my reintroduction of H.R. 40 at the beginning of this Congress; both the legislation and concept of reparations have become the focus of national debate.

For many, it is apparent that the success of the Obama administration has unleashed a backlash of racism and intolerance that is an echo of America's dark past which has yet to be exorcised from the national consciousness.

Commentators have turned to H.R. 40 as a response to formally begin the process of analyzing, confronting and atoning for these dark chapters of American history.

Even conservative voices, like that of New York Times columnist David Brooks, are starting to give the reparations cause the hearing it deserves, observing that "Reparations are a drastic policy and hard to execute, but the very act of talking and designing them heals a wound and opens a new story."

Similarly, a majority of the Democratic presidential contenders have turned to H.R.40 as a tool for reconciliation, with 17 cosponsoring or claiming they would sign the bill into law if elected.

Though critics have argued that the idea of reparations is unworkable politically or financially, their focus on money misses the point of the H.R. 40 commission's mandate.

The goal of these historical investigations 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 better place by helping the truly disadvantaged.

Consequently, the reparations movement does not focus on payments to individuals, but to remedies that can be created in as many forms necessary to equitably address the many kinds of injuries sustained from chattel slavery and its continuing 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.

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, and left the nation vulnerable to a range of problems that continue to yield division, racial disparities and injustice.

Reparations are ultimately about respect and reconciliation—and the hope that one day, all Americans can walk together toward a more just future.

We owe it to those who were ripped from their homes those many years ago an ocean away; we owe it to the millions of Americans—yes they were Americans—who were born into bondage, knew a life of servitude, and died anonymous deaths, as prisoners of this system.

We owe it to the millions of descendants of these slaves, for they are the heirs to a society of inequities and indignities that naturally filled the vacuum after slavery was formally abolished 154 years ago.

Let us also do with the spirit of reconciliation and understanding that this bill represents.

Finally, if we truly want to build better, brighter future, we can't do it on a rotten foundation. Therefore, for the house that is America, we must repair the damage caused by the original crime that separates us. A house divided against itself cannot stand.

The H.R. 40 Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans must be created by executive order. Today we call on President Biden to right this historical wrong and take a monumental step towards reparative justice.

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#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 59 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

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#### PRAYER

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

Today, O God, we lay before You our petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving. We request that You bestow upon us the joy of Your presence among us, that when we look upon the faces of those who labor in these Halls, known and unknown, elected or employed, we may see Your image.

We pray for the health and welfare of this illustrious body, that as the scenery changes and the actors move on, around, or off the stage, You will uphold each one. Guide them in the roles You have called them to fulfill and grant them wisdom to discern the way You would have them go.

Lord, may our prayers serve as an intercession for those who do not have enough courage or strength to speak their own needs, for those who haven't enough faith to trust what lies ahead, and for those who do not know how to receive the mercy You offer us.

Then accept our offerings of thanksgiving to You for the bounty You lay before us—the gift to labor, to serve, and to contribute our energies wherever You call us, but especially here in this, our Nation's Capital.

May our words be good and pleasing to You as we pray them in Your most holy name.

Amen.

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#### THE JOURNAL

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

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

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#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

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

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#### CELEBRATING PASSAGE OF THE SPEAK OUT ACT

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

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the passage of the Speak Out Act.

As the co-chair of the Bipartisan Task Force to End Sexual Violence, I have seen how perpetrators of workplace sexual assault and harassment hide behind nondisclosure agreements to sweep their heinous conduct under the rug.

Let's remember that the vast majority of assault and harassment in the workplace goes unreported, and most perpetrators are never held accountable. It takes tremendous courage for survivors to come forward.

I am so proud that under the leadership of Speaker NANCY PELOSI, this House overwhelmingly passed the Speak Out Act yesterday, and we have sent this commonsense, bipartisan bill to the President's desk.

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#### RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize November as National Career Development Month.

As co-chair of the bipartisan House Career and Technical Education Caucus, I was proud to introduce the National Career Development Month resolution last week with my CTE Caucus co-chair and good friend, Congressman JIM LANGEVIN.

National Career Development Month raises awareness of future career opportunities and development programs for all individuals. A highly skilled workforce is a business's number one asset and provides a competitive edge.

National Career Development Month also is a time to recognize the professionals who guide learners to become leaders of tomorrow.

Throughout the month, schools and businesses will have the chance to showcase different career paths that align with various interests and skills. These opportunities will better prepare students as they begin to enter the workforce.

As we continue through National Career Development Month, I encourage employers, students, and workers of all ages to take advantage of career development, putting them in the driver's seat of their careers.

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#### TURNING TRANSGENDER AWARENESS INTO ACTION

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Transgender Awareness Week.

Trans Americans made history this year by running and winning in more elections than ever before. Breakthrough representations in media have

led to historic numbers of transgender and nonbinary characters on screen. In many ways, transgender Americans are more visible than ever.

At the same time, the trans community has been forced to withstand severe attacks from laws that would strip fundamental rights to dehumanizing vitriol deployed by elected officials and public figures. These attacks treat trans people as threats to society rather than neighbors, parents, children, friends, and loved ones.

There are more than 2 million people in the United States that identify as transgender or nonbinary. Trans Americans exist in all walks of life all across the country. This transgender week, I call on my colleagues to turn awareness into action.

To the trans community, you have allies in Congress. Let it be known that there has been no greater friend of trans people in this country or LGBTQ people than Speaker NANCY PELOSI.

We will not cease the fight to protect and advocate for our transgender siblings, not just this week but all year long.

#### RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT JOHN GARDNER

(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. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to recognize the 2022 Army Congressional Fellow, Master Sergeant John Gardner, for his service to the Second District of South Carolina.

His yearlong service with the office is ending, and John will be missed. Not only has he been an indispensable coordinator and contributor to legislative goals, including the National Defense Authorization Act, but also a valued team player.

Including a combat tour on the front line as an infantry medic in Iraq, John has held many leadership assignments throughout his 20-year decorated career in the Army, including most recently in the Defense Attache Office of the American Embassy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

John hails from Houston, Texas. He has a master's degree from Colorado State and holds two graduate degrees. His next assignment is in the Pentagon, where John will be a valued participant in peace through strength.

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

Godspeed, Speaker NANCY PELOSI.

#### EXPANDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the urgent need

to tackle the affordable housing crisis. The cost of housing is the single biggest challenge facing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Last week, I hosted an affordable housing conference in Attleboro with my friend and colleague Juana Matias, the HUD regional administrator for New England. We spoke with housing officials and developers across the district about the programs and funding available for affordable housing development. I reiterated my commitment to policies from zoning reform to LIHTC expansion to increased production of affordable housing.

Expanding affordable housing is a multigovernment effort that needs support on the Federal, State, and local levels. As the next Congress approaches, we must recommit ourselves to making housing more affordable for working families.

#### HONORING CHRISTINA SCHAUER

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

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Christina Schauer, a veteran and nurse from Dubuque, Iowa, whose courage and dedication to serving others are unmatched.

Christina served our country overseas as a combat medic in Iraq. Our veterans face immense challenges when returning home, and unfortunately, our women veterans are often afraid to speak up about their experiences. They may feel invisible or that their service wasn't worthy. As a result, they may be less likely to seek the care that they have earned.

Christina is working to right this wrong by sharing her own story. She has championed women veteran visibility, empowering her sisters in sacrifice to talk more about their service and seek the healthcare and the benefits they deserve.

So, Christina, thank you for your service and for your commitment to empower women veterans. You are an inspiration to all of us.

#### HONORING KAREN SUTTON

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my friend, Karen Sutton, who recently passed away after a long, hard fight with cancer.

Karen spent much of her life in Springfield and was a valued member of our community, always volunteering and attending events all the way up to a few weeks before she passed.

After a long and successful career in data processing, Karen retired from the Illinois Department of Health in 2002.

Karen spent much of her time in the bowling alley, playing in multiple leagues and eventually becoming the league secretary.

Karen also enjoyed traveling to national Mustang shows, where she won many awards. These shows, put on by the Mustang Club of America, allowed Karen to connect with the community of drivers from all over the Nation, whom she greatly valued. She was also praised for her hard work in helping the judging secretaries during these fun yet competitive events.

I am grateful to have known Karen and her husband, Carroll, for many years, and I am thankful for all of her work to make our community a better place to live.

Karen is survived by her husband, Carroll; daughter, Julie; and son, Brent. My condolences to the entire Sutton family during this difficult time.

Karen, may you rest in peace.

#### HONORING MISSISSIPPI FARM BUREAU ON ITS 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100-year anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation.

The Mississippi Farm Bureau is the largest agriculture organization in the State and represents the social and economic interests of farmers, ranchers, and rural communities.

Its statewide grassroots structure allows it to be an effective organization, representing and promoting 17 commodities in Mississippi.

The organization is a valuable resource on issues of importance to our farm families, and it works with Federal and State lawmakers to advocate for these priorities.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Mississippi Farm Bureau on important agriculture issues in the future.

May God bless our farmers, and may God continue to bless the Mississippi Farm Bureau.

□ 1215

#### CALIFORNIA GOING DOWN IN FLAMES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, as I watch my home State of California go down in flames, literally, as we watch how we are running out of electricity, we are running out of water, our store shelves are having less and less food varieties available, our farmers being pushed out of business, our farmworkers being pushed out of business, as we see all of these things happen with mandates coming down the pike, requiring more and more electricity has to be renewable, what is the answer in California?

Let's tear down some hydroelectric dams in my district and Mr. BENTZ' district; let's tear them down.

We are going to lose green power. We are doing it over the objections of the people who live there, who have objected by over 70 percent to removal of these dams, all for an unproven environmental benefit.

So enjoy even less electricity. Enjoy even less food grown in my district and Mr. BENTZ' district. Enjoy even more of the crisis that is facing us in rural California, rural America, and on our store shelves and in our electrical wires due to even more unfounded environmental rules being forced upon us to tear down perfectly good hydroelectric dams. Thanks one hell of a lot.

#### RECOGNIZING RETAIL SOLUTIONS GROUP

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Randy Whittington, Gary Foster, Angela Rogers, and Joey Haney of the Retail Solutions Group in Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

I was proud to join them recently at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their fourth, and largest, warehouse.

In the last few years, Retail Solutions Group has grown from fewer than eight employees to now over 200. This is a magnificent accomplishment.

Madam Speaker, North Carolina remains a hub for entrepreneurship and innovation, thanks to people such as Randy, Gary, Angela, and Joey.

Congratulations to Retail Solutions Group on this new and exciting chapter. I look forward to hearing more about the strides you will make in the days and months ahead.

#### AMERICA NEEDS A NEW COURSE

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, as we here in the House and our country come near the close of 2022, the United States has gone through the worst year on our record for illegal border crossings.

Meanwhile, we have a Homeland Security Secretary who tells us regularly that the border is secure. Just this last month, over 230,000 illegals have crossed that we know of.

Along with this, gasoline prices are over \$4 a gallon again, and the cost of Thanksgiving for most families will be over 20 percent what it was last year.

This has been a troubling year. America needs a new course. This House needs a new course, a new direction, and new priorities that strengthen America and Americans.

#### SPEAKER PELOSI'S FUTURE PLANS

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

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, as we gather here, we stand on sacred ground, the Chamber of the United States House of Representatives, the heart of American democracy.

I will never forget the first time I saw the Capitol. It was on a cold January day, when I was 6 years old. My father, Thomas D'Alesandro, Jr., was about to be sworn in for his fifth term in Congress representing our beloved hometown of Baltimore.

I was riding in the car with my brothers. They were thrilled and jumping up and down and saying to me: "Nancy, look, there's the Capitol." And every time I would say: "I don't see any capitals. Is it a capital A, a capital B, or a capital C?"

Finally, I saw it, a stunning white building with a magnificent dome. I believed then, as I believe today, this is the most beautiful building in the world because of what it represents. The Capitol is a temple of our democracy, of our Constitution, of our highest ideals.

On that day, I stood with my father on this floor as he took the sacred oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

All of us who have served in this House have taken the hallowed oath of office. It is the oath that stitches us together in a long and storied heritage. Colleagues who served before us are all our colleagues: colleagues like Abraham Lincoln, Daniel Webster, Shirley Chisholm, Patsy Mink, and our beloved John Lewis.

Personally, it binds me as a colleague to my father, a proud New Deal Congressman and one of the earliest Italian Americans to serve in Congress.

This is an oath we are duty-bound to keep, and it links us with the highest aspirations of the ages.

In this room, our colleagues across history have abolished slavery; granted women the right to vote; established Social Security and Medicare; offered a hand to the weak, care to the sick, education to the young, and hope to the many.

Indeed, it is here, under the gaze of our patriarch George Washington in the people's House that we have done the people's work.

My colleagues, I stand before you as Speaker of the House, as a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a devout Catholic, a proud Democrat, and a patriotic American, a citizen of the greatest republic in the history of the world, which President Lincoln called the last, best hope of Earth.

Indeed, in the words attributed to another of our colleagues, the legendary Daniel Webster: "Hold on, my friends, to the Constitution of your country and the government established under it. . . ."

"Miracles do not cluster. That which has happened but once in 6,000 years cannot be expected to happen often."

Indeed, American democracy is majestic, but it is fragile. Many of us here

have witnessed its fragility firsthand; tragically, in this Chamber. So democracy must be forever defended from forces that wish it harm.

Last week, the American people spoke, and their voices were raised in defense of liberty, of the rule of law, and of democracy itself.

With these elections, the people stood in the breach and repelled the assault on democracy. They resoundingly rejected violence and insurrection and in doing so, "gave proof through the night that our flag was still there."

Now, we owe to the American people our very best to deliver on their faith, to forever reach for the more perfect union, the glorious horizon that our Founders promised.

The questions before us in this Congress and this moment are urgent; questions about the ideals that this House is charged by the Constitution to preserve and protect: ". . . establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity."

Our posterity, our children. Babies born today will live into the next century, and our decisions will determine their future for generations to come.

While we will have our disagreements on policy, we must remain fully committed to our shared, fundamental mission: To hold strong to our most treasured democratic ideals, to cherish the spark of divinity in each and every one of us, and to always put our country first.

In their infinite wisdom, our Founders gave us their guidance: "e pluribus unum", "out of many, one."

They could not have imagined how large our country would become or how different we would be from one another, but they knew we had to be united as one.

We the people: One country, one destiny.

It has been with great pride that, in my 35 years in the House, I have seen this body grow more reflective of our great Nation, our beautiful Nation.

When I came to the Congress in 1987, there were 12 Democratic women. Now, there are over 90 and we want more.

The new members of our Democratic Caucus will be about 75 percent women, people of color, and LGBTQ. We have brought more voices to the decision-making table. When I entered leadership in 2002, there were eight of us. Today, there are 17 members of leadership.

When I first came to the floor at 6 years old, never would I have thought that some day I would go from homemaker to House Speaker. In fact, I never intended to run for public office.

Mommy and Daddy taught us through their example that public service is a noble calling and that we all have a responsibility to help others. In our family, my brother, Tommy, then became mayor of Baltimore also.

It has been my privilege to play a part in forging extraordinary progress

for the American people. I have enjoyed working with three Presidents, achieving historic investments in clean energy with President George Bush; transformative healthcare reform with President Barack Obama; and forging the future, from infrastructure to healthcare to climate action with President Joe Biden.

Now, we must move boldly into the future, grounded by the principles that have propelled us this far and open to fresh possibilities for the future.

Scripture teaches us that: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under Heaven.”

My friends, no matter what title my colleagues have bestowed upon me—Speaker, Leader, Whip—there is no greater official honor for me than to stand on this floor and to speak for the people of San Francisco.

This I will continue to do as a Member of the House, speaking for the people of San Francisco, serving the great State of California, and defending our Constitution.

With great confidence in our caucus, I will not seek reelection to Democratic leadership in the next Congress.

For me, the hour has come for a new generation to lead the Democratic Caucus that I so deeply respect, and I am grateful that so many are ready and willing to shoulder this awesome responsibility.

Madam Speaker, standing here today, I am endlessly grateful for all of life’s blessings.

For my Democratic colleagues, whose courage and commitment—with the support of your families—have made many of these accomplishments possible. That could not have been done without you.

For my dear husband, Paul, who has been my beloved partner in life and my pillar of support, thank you. We are all grateful for all of the prayers and well-wishes as he continues his recovery. Thank you so much.

For our darling children: Nancy Corrine, Christine, Jacqueline, Paul, and Alexandra; and our grandchildren: Alexandra and Madeleine; Liam, Sean and Ryan; Paul and Thomas; Bella and Octavio, they are the joys of our lives of whom we are so very, very proud, and they are a comfort to us at this time.

And for my brilliant, dedicated, and patriotic staff under the leadership of Terri McCullough, working together, the finest group of public servants the House has ever known, thank you all so much.

And, again, for those who have sent me here, for the people of San Francisco, for entrusting me with the high honor of being their voice in Congress.

In this continued work, I will strive to honor the call of the patron saint of our city, Saint Francis: “Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.”

In this House, we begin each day with a prayer and a pledge to the flag. And every day I am in awe of the majestic miracle that is American democracy.

As we participate in the hallmark of our Republic—the peaceful, orderly transition from one Congress to the next—let us consider the words of, again, President Lincoln, spoken during one of America’s darkest hours.

He called upon us to come together, to “swell the chorus of the Union when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.”

That, again, is the task at hand.

A new day is dawning on the horizon, and I look forward and always forward to the unfolding story of our Nation; a story of light and love, of patriotism and progress, of many becoming one, and always an unfinished mission to make the dreams of today the reality of tomorrow.

Thank you all. May God bless you and your families, and may God continue to bless our veterans and the United States of America. Thank you all so much.

□ 1245

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS). 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.

#### FEMA IMPROVEMENT, REFORM, AND EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3092) to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3092

*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 “FEMA Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency Act of 2022” or the “FIRE Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

- (1) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Agency;
- (2) the term “Agency” means the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- (3) the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

- (A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and
- (B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

- (4) the term “emergency” means an emergency declared or determined to exist by the President under section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191);

(5) the terms “Indian tribal government”, “local government”, and “State” have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122); and

(6) the term “major disaster” means a major disaster declared by the President under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170).

#### SEC. 3. REPORT ON RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit a report regarding the use of relocation assistance under sections 203, 404, and 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133, 5170c, 5172) for wildfire risk to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Any information on relocation projects that have been carried out due to fire risks or denied by the Agency, including the number and value of projects either carried out or denied.

(2) A discussion of the possible benefits or disadvantages of providing relocation assistance that may reduce, but not eliminate, the risk of loss due to wildfires.

(3) A discussion of how the Agency may optimize relocation assistance when entire States or geographic areas are considered subject to a fire risk.

(4) An analysis of whether other mitigation measures are more cost-effective than relocation assistance when the applicant is applying to move from a high-risk to a medium-risk or low-risk area with respect to wildfires.

(5) An analysis of the need for the Federal Government to produce wildfire maps that identify high-risk, moderate-risk, and low-risk wildfire zones.

(6) An analysis of whether other mitigation measures promote greater resilience to wildfires when compared to relocation or, if additional data is required in order to carry out such an analysis, a discussion of the additional data required.

(7) A discussion of the ability of States, local governments, and Indian tribal governments to demonstrate fire risk, and whether the level of this ability impacts the ability of States, local governments, or Indian tribal governments to access relocation assistance, including an assessment of existing fire mapping products and capabilities and recommendations on redressing any gaps in the ability of the Agency to assist States, local governments, and Indian tribal governments in demonstrating fire risk.

(8) An evaluation of—

(A) the scope of the data available to the Agency regarding historical wildfire losses;

(B) how such data is utilized in benefit-cost analysis determinations by the Agency;

(C) what additional data, if any, may be pertinent to such determinations; and

(D) what, if any, alternative methods may be relevant to the determination of cost effectiveness.

(9) A discussion of the extent to which the decision process for relocation assistance appropriately considers the change in future risks for wildfires due to a changing climate.

(10) An analysis of whether statutes and regulations regarding relocation assistance by the Agency present barriers for States, local governments, or Indian tribal governments trying to access funding to reduce wildfire risk.

(11) An analysis of—

(A) how, if at all, the Agency has modified policies and procedures to determine the eligibility of proposed relocation or mitigation projects with respect to wildfires;

(B) the cost effectiveness of such projects, in light of the increasing losses and obligations for wildfires in recent years; and

(C) the effectiveness of any modifications described in subparagraph (A).

(12) An analysis of how, if at all, recent changes in the availability of fire insurance has resulted in modifications of policy or procedure with respect to determining the cost efficacy of relocation assistance for wildfires.

(13) An analysis of how to define repetitive loss and repetitively damaged properties in the context of wildfires.

(14) Other related issues that the Administrator determines appropriate.

#### SEC. 4. RED FLAG WARNINGS AND PREDISASTER ACTIONS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in coordination with the National Weather Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shall—

(1) conduct a study of, develop recommendations for, and initiate a process for the use of forecasts and data, including information that supports the Red Flag Warnings of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and similar weather alert and notification methods, to establish—

(A) plans and actions, consistent with law, that can be implemented prior to a wildfire event, including pre-impact disaster declarations and surge operations, that can limit the impact, duration, or severity of the fire; and

(B) mechanisms to increase interagency collaboration to expedite the delivery of disaster assistance; and

(2) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a comprehensive report regarding the study described in paragraph (1), including any recommendations of the Administrator, and the activities of the Administrator to carry out paragraph (1).

#### SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE FOR WILDFIRE DAMAGE.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress regarding—

(1) the application for assistance and consistency of assistance provided by the Agency in response to wildfires; and

(2) the kinds of damage that result from wildfires.

#### SEC. 6. GAO REPORT ON GAPS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that examines—

(1) gaps in the policies of the Agency related to wildfires, when compared to other hazards;

(2) disparities in regulations and guidance issued by the Administrator, including any oversight of the programs of the Agency, when addressing impacts of wildfires and other hazards;

(3) ways to shorten the period of time between the initiating of and the distribution of assistance, reimbursements, and grants;

(4) the effectiveness of the programs of the Agency in addressing wildfire hazards;

(5) ways to improve the ability of the Agency to assist States, local governments, and Indian tribal governments to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against wildfire hazards;

(6) revising the application process for assistance relating to wildfires to more effec-

tively assess uninsured and underinsured losses and serious needs; and

(7) ways to improve the disaster assistance programs of agencies other than the Agency.

#### SEC. 7. CRISIS COUNSELING EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 416 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5183) is amended—

(1) by striking “The President” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) TRAINING.—Each State, local agency, or private mental health organization providing professional counseling services described in subsection (a) shall ensure that, any individual providing professional counseling services to victims of a major disaster as authorized under subsection (a), including individuals working for nonprofit partners and recovery organizations, is appropriately trained to address impacts from major disasters in communities, and to individuals, with socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.”.

(b) RULE OF APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 8. CASE MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 426 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5189d) is amended—

(1) by striking “The President” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) TRAINING.—Each State, local government agency, or qualified private organization providing professional counseling services described in subsection (a) shall ensure that any individual providing case management services to victims of a major disaster as authorized under subsection (a), including individuals working for nonprofit partners and recovery organizations, is appropriately trained to address impacts from major disasters in communities, and to individuals, with socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds.”.

(b) RULE OF APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 9. STUDY AND PLAN FOR DISASTER HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall—

(1) conduct a study and develop a plan, consistent with law, under which the Agency will address providing housing assistance to survivors of major disasters or emergencies when presented with challenges such as—

(A) the presence of multiple families within a single household; and

(B) the near loss of a community, with the majority of homes destroyed in that community, including as a result of a wildfire, earthquake, or other event causing a major disaster; and

(2) make recommendations for legislative changes needed to address—

(A) the presence of multiple families within a single household; and

(B) the near loss of a community, with the majority of homes destroyed in that community, including as a result of a wildfire, earthquake, or other event causing a major disaster.

(b) COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.—The Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that provides a detailed discussion of the plans developed under subsection (a)(1) and the recommenda-

tions of the Administrator under subsection (a)(2).

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after submission of the report and recommendations under subsection (b), the Administrator shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress on the findings and any recommendations made pursuant to this section.

#### SEC. 10. REIMBURSEMENT.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall brief the appropriate committees of Congress regarding the extent to which the Agency is using housing solutions proposed by a State or local government to reduce the time or cost required to implement housing solutions after a major disaster.

#### SEC. 11. PERMIT APPLICATIONS FOR TRIBAL UPGRADES TO EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 614(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c(a)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “and Indian tribal governments” after “grants to States”; and

(2) by striking “State and local” and inserting “State, local, and Tribal”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3092, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Louisiana?

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 3092, the FIRE Act. This legislation led by Representative LOFGREN in the House and Senator PADILLA in the Senate is designed to ensure FEMA’s preparedness and response efforts address the unique nature of wildfires.

The bulk of FEMA’s programs are designed to serve the victims of disasters caused by floods and hurricanes. However, climate change has made the threat of wildfire in communities grow each year. FEMA must serve all disaster survivors equally and adapt their programs to meet the challenges of wildfires.

This legislation encourages FEMA to predeploy assets during times of high risk of fire, evaluates public assistance eligibility post-fire, addresses equity of assistance for Tribal communities, and requires trainings for crisis counselors and caseworkers to ensure that they are equipped to meet the needs of economically disadvantaged survivors.

I support this effort and ask my colleagues to do the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, S. 3092, the FIRE Act, makes changes to increase congressional oversight, garner further insight into FEMA's process for wildfire disasters, and enacts reforms related to disaster assistance.

Specifically, this bill directs FEMA to report to Congress on cost-effective housing solutions and challenges or inconsistencies in the application of assistance in the wake of wildfires.

The FIRE Act also takes the first steps to improve the use of forecasts and weather alerts, such as red flag warnings, within the disaster declaration process so FEMA can be better prepared earlier to provide wildfire assistance.

Lastly, this bill engages the GAO to investigate gaps in FEMA's current wildfire policies and recommend ways to streamline the distribution of assistance to our constituents and the State and local governments facing these fires head-on.

I am glad to be able to work with Senator PADILLA and my colleague, ZOE LOFGREN, on this as California has suffered so much, as has the West, with wildfire, including a million-acre fire in my own district last year and repeated wildfires that have affected so many and displaced so many.

I will add that working with FEMA has worked well, but we do need to continue to improve the process as FEMA has primarily, up until the advent of such large fires, dealt mostly with hurricanes and floods of that nature. We have all had to adapt until we can actually get better forest management and other tools that will help us prevent fire, and so, engaging FEMA, we appreciate them, and we want to work to have an even better process.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), the author of this outstanding piece of legislation.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, it is no secret that our country is facing increasingly devastating disasters, including wildfires.

In my own home district, the SCU Lightning Complex fires of 2020 burned nearly 400,000 acres over 46 days across five counties, destroying more than 2,000 structures and damaging others. That was the fourth-largest wildfire recorded in California's modern history.

As chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I hear about fires like this almost year-round from my colleagues, but it is not just a Western United States problem. Fire risk areas are growing exponentially to threaten new districts and new States every year.

And fires don't rage only in Democratic districts. This calamity knows no political divide.

As wildfires continue to worsen, our government has not acted with enough urgency. It is clear that Congress needs to pass legislation to better prevent and respond to wildfires.

Last month, I joined State and local officials to specifically discuss this policy and operational gaps, and the systems that we have in place obviously don't work as well as they should.

FEMA's current statutory authorities and operational practices limit our ability to prepare for and recover from wildfires. That is why all the California firefighters, chiefs, and leaders I met with support the FEMA Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency Act, or FIRE Act.

We know that wildfires present a unique and increasing danger, and we also know that policies written with hurricanes, floods, and tornadoes in mind don't always translate well.

The FIRE Act would direct FEMA to create a process that uses the red flag warnings we are all too familiar with to take predisaster measures and predeploy resources to take disaster-specific damages into account during recovery and the like.

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It is commonsense legislation, and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

I would like also to thank the co-leads on this bill—Congressmen THOMPSON, HUFFMAN, and PANETTA—for recognizing the importance of this legislation and for their hard work, as well as Senator PADILLA for his leadership in the Senate on this bill.

I thank Speaker PELOSI and Majority Leader HOYER for their efforts to bring this to the floor. I would also like to recognize Ranking Member GRAVES and, of course, Congressman LAMALFA for working with us on reaching agreement on something that I think will be able to pass the Senate.

This is a good bill. It will improve our response, and I hope we get overwhelming support here today.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

The FIRE Act does increase oversight related to wildfire assistance and requires FEMA to report information to Congress so we can continue working—in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, on the floor, and across the aisle—to improve and streamline the disaster assistance process.

Again, we appreciate FEMA's efforts on all disasters around the country. We are just looking for a way to streamline and become even more efficient with that.

Madam Speaker, I urge support. I appreciate my colleagues—Ms. LOFGREN, my colleague from Louisiana, and Senator PADILLA—for the effort here today in building up to this.

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, in closing, it is time that

communities impacted by wildfires receive the same quality of assistance as communities impacted by hurricanes and floods. S. 3092 addresses the threat of fire head-on and will make communities safer.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this good legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the House amendment to S. 3092, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Improvement, Reform and Efficiency Act of 2021.

This legislation addresses the federal government's approach to wildfires by setting a standard for implementing proactive plans of action for responding to wildfires, and by requiring reports on the effectiveness of FEMA programs.

These plans must include studies on providing housing assistance to survivors of major disasters to resolve challenges, such as the lack of proof of ownership, and to contract the National Academy of Sciences to study potential solutions to address the availability and affordability of insurance for disasters.

As the consequences of climate change become our new reality, it is our responsibility to be prepared in accordance with those changes.

Climate change exacerbates wildfires and vice versa, like a vicious cycle that can't be extinguished.

According to a report from the United Nations Environment Programme, the number of wildfires worldwide is projected to grow 50 percent by the year 2100.

The UN Environment Programme experts also reported that governments are not prepared for this shift.

This is no longer a matter of prevention, but rather a matter of preparation for what is ahead of us and for generations to come.

Across the nation, wildfires have disproportionately affected low-income families and people of color.

Disaster insurance for those in rural areas, low-income neighborhoods, and immigrant communities are often inaccessible, even though they are most at risk.

Native Americans are six times more vulnerable to the impacts of wildfires than their white counterparts due in part to the fact that they were forced to settle in fire-prone areas.

The FIRE Act would assess the need for the federal government to produce maps that identify wildfire zones.

This bill would also allow Indigenous tribal governments to apply for grants to better equip emergency operations centers.

Disaster prevention insurance has increasingly become inaccessible, especially to low-income families.

Disaster insurance is often beyond the reach of family budgets that are burdened with the skyrocketing prices of rent and food.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, tens of thousands of families were displaced after their homes were destroyed.

According to community advocates, about 50 percent of those households impacted by Harvey were low-income households and many of those damaged homes were in Black and Latino neighborhoods.

I worked tirelessly alongside the Houston Housing authority to reverse a FEMA decision

to not provide any fundings for the 428 Program, which would repair public low-income housing damaged by the Hurricane.

In cases of disaster, S. 3092 would require initiation of a process to determine the possible benefits or disadvantages of providing relocation assistance, addressing the growing housing issue for victims of disasters.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Maria that wreaked havoc on Puerto Rico, 92 percent of homes were damaged and 98 percent of those homes applied for FEMA's housing assistance.

According to the American Bar Association, 40 percent of those in need of housing assistance were denied due to a lack of ownership documentation stemming from generational inheritance of homes without government recordkeeping.

The FIRE Act would also develop a plan to address housing assistance for those who may lack ownership documentation in case of a disaster.

The effects of climate change are no longer a "what if," but our new reality.

Since these large-scale disasters will be inflicting damage with increasing frequency, we must be prepared for them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3092, 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.

#### DISASTER SURVIVORS FAIRNESS ACT OF 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8416) to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8416

*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 "Disaster Survivors Fairness 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. Information sharing for Federal agencies.
- Sec. 3. Universal application for individual assistance.
- Sec. 4. Repair and rebuilding.
- Sec. 5. Direct assistance.
- Sec. 6. State-managed housing pilot authority.
- Sec. 7. Management costs.
- Sec. 8. Individual assistance post-disaster housing study.
- Sec. 9. Funding for online guides for post-disaster assistance.
- Sec. 10. Individual assistance dashboard.
- Sec. 11. FEMA reports.
- Sec. 12. Sheltering of emergency response personnel.

Sec. 13. GAO report on preliminary damage assessments.

Sec. 14. Applicability.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided, the terms used in this Act have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

#### SEC. 2. INFORMATION SHARING FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall establish and maintain a web-based interagency electronic information sharing system, to be known as "DisasterAssistance.gov", to—

(A) facilitate the administration of the universal application for direct Federal disaster assistance established under section 3;

(B) carry out the purposes of disaster assistance programs swiftly, efficiently, equitably, and in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and the privacy and data protections provided under this section; and

(C) support the detection, prevention, and investigation of waste, fraud, abuse, inequitable allocation of resources, or discrimination in the administration of disaster assistance programs.

(2) AUTHORITIES OF ADMINISTRATOR.—In establishing and maintaining the electronic information sharing system under this subsection, the Administrator may collect and maintain disaster assistance information received from a disaster assistance agency, a block grant recipient, or an applicant for a disaster assistance program and share such information with any other disaster assistance agency or block grant recipient using such electronic information sharing system.

(b) DATA SECURITY.—The Administrator may facilitate the collection of disaster assistance information into the electronic information sharing system established under this section only after the following requirements have been met:

(1) The Administrator certifies that the electronic information sharing system substantially complies with the data security standards and best practices established pursuant to subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and any other applicable Federal information security policy.

(2) The Secretary of Homeland Security publishes a privacy impact assessment for the electronic information sharing system, in accordance with section 222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 142).

(3) The Administrator, after consulting with disaster assistance agencies, publishes standard rules of behavior for disaster assistance agencies, block grant recipients, and personnel granted access to disaster assistance information to protect such information from improper disclosure.

(c) COLLECTION AND SHARING OF ADDITIONAL RECORDS AND INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may authorize the collection, maintenance, sharing, and use of additional disaster assistance information by publishing a notice on DisasterAssistance.gov that includes a detailed description of—

(A) the specific amendments to the collection, maintenance, and sharing of disaster assistance information authorized;

(B) why each such amendment to how disaster assistance information is collected, maintained, or shared is necessary to carry out the purposes of a disaster assistance program and consistent with the fair information practice principles; and

(C) the disaster assistance agencies and block grant recipients that will be granted access to the additional information to carry

out the purposes of any disaster assistance program.

(2) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The publication of a notice under paragraph (1) of a revision to the DisasterAssistance.gov system of records prior to any new collection, or uses, of Privacy Act categories of records, to carry out the purposes of a disaster assistance program with regard to a disaster declared by the President under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 5191), shall be deemed to satisfy the notice and publication requirements of section 552a(e)(4) of title 5, United States Code, for the entire period of performance for any assistance provided under a disaster assistance program.

(3) WAIVER OF INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the declaration of a major disaster or emergency pursuant to sections 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 5191), the President may direct the Administrator to waive the requirements of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, with respect to voluntary collection of information for the duration of such major disaster or emergency.

(B) TRANSPARENCY.—Upon exercising the waiver authority under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall—

(i) promptly post on a website of the Federal Emergency Management Agency a brief justification for such waiver, the anticipated period of time such waiver will be in effect, and the disaster assistance offices within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to which such waiver shall apply; and

(ii) update the information relating to such waiver, as applicable.

(4) GAO REVIEW OF WAIVER OF INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall issue a report describing the benefits and potential risks associated with authorizing the waiver of the information collection requirements described in paragraph (3).

(B) CONTENTS.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include an assessment of the extent to which a waiver described in paragraph (3) would—

(i) affect the paperwork burden for individuals, small businesses, State, local and tribal governments, and other persons;

(ii) affect the consistent application of Federal laws relating to—

(I) privacy and confidentiality;

(II) security of information; and

(III) access to information; and

(iii) encourage or deter a State or other entity from participating in the voluntary collection of information for the duration of a major disaster or emergency.

(d) USE BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may permit a Federal agency other than a disaster assistance agency listed in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of subsection (f)(3) to use the electronic information sharing system established under this section for the purpose of facilitating disaster-related assistance if such agency enters into an agreement containing the terms described in paragraph (2).

(2) AGENCY AGREEMENT.—An agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall contain the following terms:

(A) The Federal agency shall—

(i) collect, share, maintain, and use disaster assistance information in compliance with this section and any policies of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and any information protection and use policies of such Federal agency; and



(ii) train any personnel granted access to disaster assistance information on the rules of behavior established by the Administrator under subsection (b)(3).

(B) In the event of any unauthorized disclosure of disaster assistance information, the Federal agency shall—

(i) notify the Administrator within 24 hours of discovering any such unauthorized disclosure;

(ii) cooperate fully with the Administrator in the investigation and remediation of any such disclosure;

(iii) cooperate fully in the prosecution of a person responsible for such disclosure; and

(iv) assume the responsibility for any compensation, civil liability, or other remediation measures, whether awarded by a judgment of a court or agreed as a compromise of any potential claims by or on behalf of an applicant, including by obtaining credit monitoring and remediation services, for an improper disclosure that is—

(I) caused, directly or indirectly, by the acts or omissions of officers, employees, and contractors of the agency; or

(II) from any electronic system of records that is created or maintained by the agency pursuant to section 552a(e) of title 5, United States Code.

(3) PUBLICATION OF AGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Administrator shall publish an agency agreement entered into under this subsection on the same website as the electronic information sharing system established under this section.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The sharing and use of disaster assistance information that is subject to the requirements of section 552a of title 5, United States Code, by disaster assistance agencies and block grant recipients shall not—

(1) be construed as a matching program for purposes of section 552a(a)(8) of such title; or

(2) be subject to the remaining computer matching provisions of section 552a of such title.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPLICANT.—The term “applicant” means—

(A) a person who applies for disaster assistance from a disaster assistance program; and

(B) a person on whose behalf a person described in subparagraph (A) has applied for disaster assistance.

(2) BLOCK GRANT RECIPIENT.—The term “block grant recipient” means a State, local government, or Indian Tribe that receives assistance through the disaster assistance program described in paragraph (5)(B)(i).

(3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGENCY.—The term “disaster assistance agency” means—

(A) the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(B) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(C) the Small Business Administration;

(D) the Department of Agriculture;

(E) any other Federal agency that the Administrator permits to use the electronic information sharing system under subsection (d).

(4) DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION.—The term “disaster assistance information” includes any personal, demographic, biographical, geographical, financial information, or other information that a disaster assistance agency or block grant recipient is authorized to collect, maintain, share, or use to process an application for disaster assistance or otherwise carry out a disaster assistance program.

(5) DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The term “disaster assistance program” means—

(A) any program that provides assistance to individuals and households under title IV or title V of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster

Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.); and

(B) any other assistance program carried out by a disaster assistance agency that provides assistance to an individual, household, or organization related to a major disaster or emergency declared under sections 401 or 501 of such Act, including—

(i) assistance for activities related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation that are authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.);

(ii) any loan that is authorized under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)); and

(iii) the distribution of food benefit allotments as authorized under section 412 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5179) and section 5(h) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(h)).

### SEC. 3. UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) UNIVERSAL APPLICATION.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall develop and establish a universal application for direct Federal disaster assistance for individuals in areas impacted by emergencies or disasters.

(b) CONSULTATION AND SUPPORT.—

(1) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall consult with the following:

(A) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(B) The Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(C) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(D) The Secretary of Agriculture.

(2) SUPPORT.—The entities described in paragraph (1) shall provide prompt support to the Administrator.

(c) SURVEY.—The application established under subsection (a) shall include a voluntary survey to collect the demographic data of an applicant.

(d) GAO ASSESSMENT ON IDENTITY THEFT AND DISASTER FRAUD IN DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct an assessment of improper and potentially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for individuals made to victims of major disasters declared in 2020 and 2021, including through identity theft; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that describes—

(A) the prevalence of improper and potentially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for individuals made to registrants who used invalid information to apply for disaster assistance, including through identity theft;

(B) the number of disaster victims whose claims for Federal disaster assistance for individuals were denied due to another individual filing a fraudulent application using their personal identifying information;

(C) the adequacy of existing fraud prevention protocols in place on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s online application for Federal disaster assistance for individuals; and

(D) recommendations for improving the identity verification protocols in place for Federal disaster assistance for individuals.

### SEC. 4. REPAIR AND REBUILDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(b)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “rendered uninhabitable” and inserting “damaged by a major disaster”; and

(2) by striking “uninhabitable, as a result of damage caused by a major disaster” and inserting “damaged by a major disaster”.

(b) HAZARD MITIGATION.—Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

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

“(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial assistance to individuals and households, whose primary residence, utilities, or residential infrastructure are damaged by a major disaster, for cost-effective hazard mitigation measures that reduce threats to life and property, or future damage to such residence, utilities, or infrastructure in future disasters.

“(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided under this paragraph shall not be required to show that the assistance can be met through other means, except insurance proceeds.”; and

(2) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “, financial assistance for hazard mitigation under subsection (c)(5)(A),” after “subsection (c)(1)(A)(i)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—The maximum financial assistance any individual or household may receive under subsection (c)(5) shall be equivalent to the amount set forth in paragraph (1) with respect to a single major disaster.”.

### SEC. 5. DIRECT ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(c) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)) is further amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) REPAIRS.—

“(A) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR REPAIRS.—The President may provide financial assistance for the repair of owner-occupied private residences, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) damaged by a major disaster, or with respect to individuals with disabilities, rendered inaccessible by a major disaster.

“(B) DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR REPAIRS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide direct assistance to individuals and households who are unable to make use of financial assistance under subparagraph (A) and when there is a lack of available resources, for—

“(I) the repair of owner-occupied private residences, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) damaged by a major disaster, or with respect to individuals with disabilities, rendered inaccessible by a disaster; and

“(II) eligible hazard mitigation measures that reduce the likelihood and future damage to such residences, utilities, and infrastructure.

“(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—A recipient of assistance under this subparagraph shall not be eligible for assistance under paragraph (1), unless otherwise determined by the Administrator.

“(C) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided under this paragraph shall not be required to show that the assistance can be met through other means, except insurance proceeds.”.

(b) STATE- OR INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT-ADMINISTERED ASSISTANCE AND OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE.—Section 408(f) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking “subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(4), and (e)” each place it appears and inserting

“paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(B), and (4) of subsection (c) and subsection (e)”;

(2) in paragraph (3)(A) by striking “subsection (c)(1)(B), (c)(4), or (e)” and inserting “paragraph (1)(B), (2)(B), or (4) of subsection (c) or subsection (e)”.

**SEC. 6. STATE-MANAGED HOUSING PILOT AUTHORITY.**

Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f)(3)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (F);  
(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (G), (H), (I), and (J) as subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), and (I), respectively; and  
(C) in subparagraph (I), as so redesignated—

(i) in clause (ii) by striking “Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the” and inserting “The”; and  
(ii) in clause (iii) by striking—

(I) “2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph or” and  
(II) “, whichever occurs sooner”;

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”; and  
(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—In the case of assistance provided under subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(2)(B), and (c)(4), the Federal share shall be not less than 75 percent.”.

**SEC. 7. MANAGEMENT COSTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 324(b)(2) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165(b)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE.—A grantee under section 408(f) may be reimbursed not more than 12 percent of the total award amount under each such section.

“(D) CRISIS COUNSELING ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—A grantee and subgrantee, cumulatively, may be reimbursed not more than 15 percent of the total amount of the grant award under either section 416 or 426.”.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 408(f)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

(1) by striking “(A) GRANT TO STATE.—” and all that follows through “subsection (g),” and inserting “Subject to subsection (g),” ; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (B).

**SEC. 8. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE POST-DISASTER HOUSING STUDY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall—

(1) conduct a study and develop a plan under which the Agency will address the challenges associated with providing housing assistance to survivors of major disasters or emergencies pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), including circumstances in which—

(A) the presence of multiple families within a single household; and

(B) the near loss of a community, with the majority of homes destroyed in such community, with discrete assessments on flood, wildfire, and earthquake events; and

(2) make recommendations for legislative changes needed to address the challenges described in paragraph (1).

(b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Administrator shall consult with other relevant Federal agencies and stakeholders.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion of the activities carried out under sub-

section (a), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report containing the study and recommendations required under subsection (a).

**SEC. 9. FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR POST-DISASTER ASSISTANCE.**

(a) USE OF SERVICES OF OTHER AGENCIES.—Section 201(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) post-disaster assistance.”.

(b) FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSISTANCE.—Section 201 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may enter into a cooperative agreement to provide funding to a State agency established under subsection (c) to establish and operate a website to provide information relating to post-disaster recovery funding and resources to a community or an individual impacted by a major disaster or emergency.

“(2) MANAGEMENT.—A website created under this subsection shall be—

“(A) managed by the State agency; and

“(B) suitable for the residents of the State of the State agency.

“(3) CONTENT.—The Administrator may enter into a cooperative agreement to establish a website under this subsection only to provide 1 or more of the following:

“(A) A list of Federal, State, and local sources of post-disaster recovery funding or assistance that may be available to a community after a major disaster or emergency.

“(B) A list of Federal, State, and local sources of post-disaster recovery funding or assistance that may be available to an individual impacted by a major disaster or emergency.

“(C) A technical guide that lists and explains the costs and benefits of alternatives available to a community to mitigate the impacts of a major disaster or emergency and prepare for sequential hazards such as flooding after a wildfire.

“(4) COOPERATION.—A State agency that enters into a cooperative agreement under this subsection shall cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in developing a website under this subsection.

“(5) UPDATES.—A State agency that receives funding to establish a website under this subsection shall update the website not less than once every 6 months.”.

**SEC. 10. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.**

Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“**SEC. 431. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after a declaration by the President that a major disaster exists under section 401, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall publish on a website of the Agency an interactive web tool displaying the following information with respect to such disaster:

“(1) The number of applications for assistance under section 408, including a descrip-

tion of the number of applications for assistance related to housing under such section and the number of applications for assistance to address other needs under section 408(e).

“(2) The number of applications for such assistance that are approved.

“(3) The number of applications for such assistance that are denied.

“(4) A ranked list of the reasons for the denial of such applications, including the number of applications for each reason for denial.

“(5) If available, the dollar amount of assistance provided pursuant to section 408 to applicants who are—

“(A) property owners with a household annual income—

“(i) above the national median household income; and

“(ii) below the national median household income; and

“(B) renters with a household annual income—

“(i) above the national median household income; and

“(ii) below the national median household income.

“(6) The estimated percentage of residential property that was destroyed as a result of the major disaster, if available.

“(b) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall ensure that none of the information published under subsection (a) contains the personally identifiable information of an applicant.”.

**SEC. 11. FEMA REPORTS.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report with respect to fiscal year 2016 through the most recent fiscal year ending before the date of enactment of this Act, and an annual report for any fiscal year beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act, describing—

(1) the average amount of individual assistance and individual and household assistance provided under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) to, and the rate of denial of individual assistance and individual and household assistance provided under such section for—

(A) all individuals;

(B) households;

(C) individuals and households with an annual income under 75 percent of the national median household income;

(D) individuals with an annual income over 125 percent of the national median household income; and

(E) individuals with an annual income between 75 percent and 125 percent of the national median household income; and

(2) an explanation for any factors causing an increase in the rate of denial of the assistance described in paragraph (1), if applicable.

**SEC. 12. SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL.**

Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For any major disaster for which the President has authorized emergency protective measures for an area within the jurisdiction of a State, tribal, or local government, the Administrator may reimburse the State, tribal, or local government for costs relating to sheltering emergency response personnel, including individuals

that are a part of the same predisaster household as such personnel, in exclusive-use congregate or non-congregate settings if the Governor of the State or chief executive of the tribal or local government determines that the damage or disruption to such area is of such a magnitude as to disrupt the provision of emergency protective measures within such area.

“(2) LIMITATION OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may only reimburse a State, tribal, or local government for the costs of sheltering emergency response personnel under paragraph (1) for such a period of time as the Administrator determines reasonable based in the individual characteristics of and impacts to the affected area, including the extent of damage, the availability of alternative housing options, the availability of utilities, and disruptions to transportation infrastructure.

“(B) MAXIMUM DURATION OF REIMBURSEMENT.—The period of reimbursement under subparagraph (A) may not exceed the 6-month period beginning on the date on which the incident period ends.

“(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘emergency response personnel’ means—

“(A) employees or contracted employees providing law enforcement, fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical, emergency management, or emergency communications services; and

“(B) elected officials, except members of Congress, responsible for the overseeing or directing emergency response operations or recovery activities.”

**SEC. 13. GAO REPORT ON PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the practices, including the accuracy of such practices, that the Federal Emergency Management Agency uses when conducting preliminary damage assessments for the purposes of providing assistance under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174).

(b) CONTENTS.—The Comptroller General shall include in the study conducted under subsection (a) the following:

(1) A comparison of the process and procedures used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to complete preliminary damage assessments to the process and procedures used by private insurance companies following a major disaster.

(2) A review of training provided to individuals conducting preliminary damage assessments.

(3) A comparison of damage estimates for homes owned by individuals above the national median income to homes owned by individuals at or below the national median income.

**SEC. 14. APPLICABILITY.**

The amendments made by sections 4, 5, 7, 9, and 12 shall only apply to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Louisiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam 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. 8416, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8416. This legislation, introduced by Subcommittee Chair DINA TITUS, significantly improves disaster assistance programs for individuals and families.

It is undeniable that climate change has transformed the nature and severity of natural disasters in the United States. This has caused real and devastating impacts for those who find themselves living in the path of these disasters. Their lives will be upended by the loss of savings, homes, loved ones, and peace of mind.

Survivors turn to their government, especially to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, for support after what may have been the worst day of their lives. We know this by firsthand experience in my home State of Louisiana. In Congress, we must do everything in our power to ensure that Federal Government offers a hand of support that is fair, capable, and compassionate.

This package includes several key provisions to improve disaster assistance programs and survivor outcomes. First, this package will create universal application for direct Federal assistance and enable Federal agencies to share relevant disaster assistance information with each other.

The bureaucracy of the current application and evaluation process can leave survivors so overwhelmed that they give up hope on accessing the aid they are, in fact, entitled to. I have heard this from my own constituents. It is a travesty. It adds insult to injury. That is why I support this substantial step forward to cut red tape, streamline survivors' access to assistance, and reduce the time it takes for our communities to recover.

Second, this legislation gives FEMA new authorities that significantly expand the agency's ability to make disaster damaged homes more resilient. It is common sense to encourage mitigation activities in disaster-prone areas. Homes that were impacted once by a disaster are likely to be impacted again, and those hard-hit households may need extra help to rebuild stronger.

Third, several amendments were made to the Stafford Act which enables FEMA to support innovative post-disaster housing solutions. Natural disasters can exacerbate housing crises already existing in communities much like those which I represent. This bill seeks to help.

For example, it authorizes the agency to provide direct repair assistance to homeowners, which may reduce the amount of time survivors spend in temporary shelters or housing before returning home. It also authorizes FEMA

to reimburse States that implement their own innovative post-disaster housing solutions.

Lastly, this legislation includes a series of reports and studies that may identify existing challenges in the administration of current post-disaster housing programs and propose new solutions.

H.R. 8416 is designed to put survivors first and get them back on their feet after disasters faster. Disasters recognize no boundaries, and we must in turn strengthen and continually improve our disaster preparedness, response, and recovery systems from sea to shining sea.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to support this effort, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS,

Washington, DC, September 23, 2022.

Hon. PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN DEFAZIO: I am writing with respect to H.R. 8416, the “Disaster Survivors Fairness Act of 2022”. Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Small Business regarding the matters in H.R. 8416 that fall within the Committee's jurisdiction.

As a result of your consultation with us on this measure and in order to expeditiously move the bill to the floor, I forego further consideration of H.R. 8416. The Committee on Small Business takes this action with our mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues that fall within our jurisdiction. Further, I request your support for the appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from the Committee on Small Business during any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming our understanding regarding H.R. 8416 and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Committee Report and the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during floor consideration of the measure. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,  
Chairwoman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE,

Washington DC, September 26, 2022.

Hon. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,  
Chairwoman, Committee on Small Business, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN VELÁZQUEZ: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 8416, the Disaster Survivors Fairness Act of 2022. I appreciate your decision to waive formal consideration of the bill.

I agree that the Committee on Small Business has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I further agree that by forgoing formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Small Business is not waiving any jurisdiction over any relevant subject matter. Additionally, if requested I will support the appointment of conferees from the Committee

on Small Business should a House-Senate conference be convened on this legislation. Finally, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report and the Congressional Record when the bill is considered on the floor.

Thank you again, and I look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Committee on Small Business on this important issue.

Sincerely,

PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
*Chair.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
Washington, DC, September 28, 2022.

Hon. PETER DEFAZIO,  
*Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN DEFAZIO: I am writing to acknowledge your letter dated September 28, 2022, regarding the waiver by the Committee on Financial Services of any Rule X jurisdiction claims over the matters contained in H.R. 8416, the "Disaster Survivors Fairness Act of 2022." The Committee on Financial Services confirms our mutual understanding that our Committee does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction.

The Committee on Financial Services further confirms our interest in appointment of outside conferees from the Committee should this bill or similar language be considered in a conference with the Senate.

We request that you ensure that this exchange of letters is included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during Floor consideration of the bill. We look forward to continuing to work with you as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MAXINE WATERS,  
*Chairwoman.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COM-  
MITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE,  
Washington DC, September 28, 2022.

Hon. MAXINE WATERS,  
*Chairwoman, Committee on Financial Services, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN WATERS: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 8416, the Disaster Survivors Fairness Act of 2022. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that by foregoing formal consideration on H.R. 8416, the Committee on Financial Services does not waive any future jurisdictional claims to provisions in this or similar legislation, and that your Committee will be consulted and involved on any matters in your Committee's jurisdiction should this legislation move forward. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving provisions within this legislation on which the Committee on Financial Services has a valid jurisdictional claim.

I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation, and I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 8416.

Sincerely,

PETER A. DEFAZIO,  
*Chair.*

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 8416, Disaster Survivors Fairness Act, makes a series of changes to FEMA's Individuals and Households Programs.

Federal disaster assistance programs will be accessed through a new, universal application that cuts through the bureaucracy and red tape survivors face when seeking disaster assistance.

In my own district, we have had so much suffering from wildfire. The Camp fire destroyed the town of Paradise and displaced so many, as well as the Dixie fire last year. We just lost folks in a community called Klamath River, as well as Beckwourth and Happy Camp. I could name many others.

But, Madam Speaker, when a disaster hits you and when it hits a family, they need solutions, and they need them soon because they are going to live in a hotel or a motel. They are going to live with friends. They are going to live on someone's couch. They are going to have to leave the State. So when we can more immediately get them the assistance they need, it is more humane. It certainly allays a lot of suffering for folks who have already suffered too much already.

So with a streamlined application process we will update an existing website to view that application through [disasterAssistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov), an interagency information-sharing system between FEMA and other Federal agencies involved in disaster recovery. This will serve a dual purpose of increased coordination and reduce waste, fraud and abuse.

The Disaster Survivors Fairness Act also opens up and clarifies FEMA's authority related to home rebuilding and repairs allowing commonsense solutions that prioritize the survivors' needs in returning home and mitigating for future disasters, as my constituents are dealing with in the town of Greenville in northern California. We would like to expedite that process and not have red tape slow down their ability to rebuild and come back home.

So, Madam Speaker, I urge support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS), who is the author of this legislation.

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Disaster Survivors Fairness Act which I introduced to address housing needs for victims in the aftermath of disasters.

In June, my subcommittee held an informal roundtable with stakeholders to identify post-disaster housing needs when it comes to emergency management and what the government can do to be helpful.

It is no surprise that climate change and the related severe weather events are changing the emergency management landscape. Today's disasters cause more damage, they have greater impacts on communities, they are more expensive, and they require more time to recover.

This legislation will cut red tape by providing States more flexibility to pursue the most appropriate post-disaster housing solutions for them, for their locations, for their geography, and for their demography.

It will deliver valuable resources to those in need by expanding eligibility for hazard mitigation assistance. It will provide oversight to ensure assistance is not being prioritized for wealthy homeowners and that everyone will benefit from the program. It will save taxpayer dollars by reducing the need for long-term sheltering that can cost FEMA upwards of \$300,000 per unit. We all remember the pictures of the trailers after Katrina.

So, Madam Speaker, I believe that this is commonsense legislation, it is broadly supported, and I ask my colleagues to vote for it. I thank the chair for yielding me time.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), who is the lead Republican sponsor of this bill.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I want to first thank my friend from Nevada for working with us on this legislation. This is important. I thank my colleague from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) as well as Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN from Puerto Rico. These are all folks, Madam Speaker, who have been through the aftermath of disasters. Of course, the lead sponsor whom we are working on this legislation with is the chair of the Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee.

Just to explain what happens here, in the aftermath of a disaster—and as the gentleman from California noted, this can be a forest fire, it could be a flood, it could be a hurricane, an earthquake, or other types of disasters—you have an alphabet soup of agencies that come in and offer assistance. It could be FEMA, it could be the Small Business Administration, it could be the Department of Agriculture, it could be the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or others.

Madam Speaker, the last thing in the world the victim of a disaster needs is to be revictimized by their own government bureaucracy. Whether your home was destroyed in a forest fire, it was blown away in a hurricane, or it was destroyed in a flood, you need help. You don't need bureaucracy. Yet, each agency has its own process.

This bill brings common sense to that. It relieves the stress of being a disaster victim, and it provides a universal application. You do it one time, the data is shared. You don't have to come in and fill out the same information over and over and over again.

I wish somebody could do this at a doctor's office. Just make a note.

Madam Speaker, this bill goes beyond there though. It also ensures that as taxpayers we are not coming in and

spending money over and over and over again on the same homes. It changes the threshold for assistance to come in and offer hazard mitigation assistance for these homes to make them more resilient and to address vulnerabilities. It ensures that if someone floods or there is a repetitive flood, we don't allow it to continue happening. We bring solutions to the table.

I am embarrassed to admit this, but in the district that I represent, there was a home that had flood insurance claims 42 times—42 times. As ridiculous as it is as a taxpayer to see that happen—can you imagine the homeowner having to go through this over and over and over again?

Thankfully, we have solved that problem in that case, but this bill prevents further similar problems from occurring.

Lastly, Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for working with us on section 12 of this legislation. This clarifies something that we did in the Disaster Response Reform Act of 2018 that ensures if you have a local entity like a sheriff's office or others that brings a housing solution to the table that is at least 50 percent or less the cost of what a similar solution would cost the Federal Government, they can get reimbursed for that.

Said another way, Madam Speaker, this saves the Federal Government 50 percent of the money or more of housing solutions whenever a local agency like a sheriff's office or others bring solutions to the table for their own victims. As my friend from Nevada has said, in some cases we have seen FEMA spending \$250,000 per trailer—\$250,000.

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We have seen local entities come in and bring solutions to the table for \$32,000, turning around and selling the trailers back, and recouping everything but \$7,000.

This is about taxpayers. It is about efficiency. It is about better solutions, more resilient communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this amendment.

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, when a natural disaster strikes across the country, be it a hurricane, a wildfire, or an earthquake, American families are displaced. It is very important that we do our best to streamline whatever assistance has been deemed appropriate in the wake of that disaster.

So when we see a bill that streamlines the disaster recovery process for FEMA, that provides for a universal application for Federal disaster assistance for individuals residing in the areas hit by a natural disaster so that universal application can be used by multiple agencies, it is all beneficial.

When you see a bill that streamlines the ability to provide direct assistance to individuals and households, thereby eliminating some bureaucratic obstacles, and a bill that provides more flexibility to States, I strongly encourage the support of language like that in a legislative endeavor.

Whereas we may not agree with 100 percent of the language that is in a bill, it is our duty to measure the overall benefit for the citizens that we serve, and I rise in support.

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

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

Madam Speaker, whether you have, as a victim, endured a wildfire, flood, hurricane, earthquake, or any other calamity, and the different forms of government are there to assist, in earnest, in good faith, let's get them an easier process to do so.

One-stop shopping is much preferable to folks that have suffered disaster and are displaced, their families spread out, and they are struggling. Via this legislation, I appreciate my colleague from Nevada pushing this forward and recognizing that.

We struggle in my own district with the Camp fire and the Dixie fire and so much devastation there. Two entire towns disappeared with Paradise and Greenville, and another small town, Canyondam. These folks are displaced, and they are looking for answers.

With the programmatic changes that are available in H.R. 8416, it will indeed streamline the application process, via disasters, through the several Federal agencies to help them navigate what we are calling today the alphabet soup of agencies to get a faster recovery. That is what we all want.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I appreciate the efforts my colleagues have been able to bring forward. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, this legislation includes a series of reforms that will streamline Federal assistance and benefit survivors like they have never been benefited before. It is our duty to make disaster assistance fair and accessible to each and every survivor.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this good, bipartisan legislation, and I applaud my colleagues for joining us in working in unison to do what is best for the American people. I completely support this incredible legislation, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, I rise in support of H.R. 8416, the "Disasters of Survivors Fairness Act of 2022."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's mission is to help Americans prepare for, respond, and recover from disasters.

From day one, FEMA has been committed to protecting and serving Americans who have been impacted by disasters.

Unfortunately, though, the toll of disasters is much greater on most Americans than it is on those who are wealthier.

A 2020 FEMA National Advisory Committee report stated that disaster relief programs "provide an additional boost to wealthy homeowners and others with less need, while lower-income individuals and others sink further into poverty after disasters."

It is unfair that any survivor of disasters must suffer because of disparities in FEMA disaster response that have gone unchallenged for far too long.

For example, FEMA records show that low-income homeowners were denied 30 percent of the time compared to higher-income owners, who were denied 13 percent of the time, a 17-point difference.

Unfortunately, these disparities reveal the experience of African American and Hispanic Americans.

Threats posed by natural disasters intensify existing social and racial and ethnic inequities. After a natural disaster, people in disadvantaged communities have worse outcomes due to stresses or exposures to other risks associated with a disaster.

Low-income people and people of color are more likely to live in disaster-prone areas, live in lower-quality housing that is less safe when disasters occur, and have chronic illnesses that make them more vulnerable.

As climate change accelerates and intensifies, the natural disasters that it causes take a steeper toll each year.

Since climate change affects health in a variety of ways, disaster mitigation and response planning must be scoped in advance to ameliorate the consequences, hardships, and inequities.

To ensure that FEMA will lead equitable health interventions during disaster response, we must enable it to provide evidence-based policy, programming, and service delivery designed to protect health and promote health equity during disaster response and recovery.

Our nation is ill-prepared to deal with successive extreme weather events occurring nearly simultaneously, just as in 2017, when Hurricanes Harvey, Jose and Maria hit within days of each other, while wildfires burned in California.

One thing is certain after speaking with the people of Houston who, unfortunately, are all too familiar with these problems: We require a disaster recovery system that is designed to help the people who truly need it.

H.R. 8416 would:

- develop a universal application for federal disaster assistance;
- remove the requirement that households must be rendered uninhabitable;
- authorize the president to provide direct assistance to individuals and households;
- remove the requirement that a household must be rendered uninhabitable;
- allow FEMA to enter agreements with state agencies to provide funding for a website that will have information related to post disaster recovery funding and resources; and save taxpayer dollars by ensuring that FEMA resources are going to those who need the most help.

I have seen the dedication and hard work of FEMA professionals who provide relief to victims of disasters. But the unending string of disasters is stretching the fabric of emergency response systems across the nation. The pain and financial hardship that they cost the American people can be seen in headlines across the country.

We in Congress must do our part to enable FEMA to do more without diminishing the support of communities before, during, and after disasters.

No one was prepared for five days of sub-freezing temperatures, ice- and snow-covered roads, and a failed energy grid throughout the state of Texas.

Texas power providers, Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) and Entergy Corporation, did not provide the needed weatherization of power generating and delivery equipment after being warned in 2011 after a cold snap that the system would fail if these steps were not taken.

The number of additional deaths uses mortality data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to compare the number of deaths from all causes that were reported in Texas during and after the storm with the number of fatalities that are normally reported during ordinary conditions.

That method is known as “excess fatalities” and has been employed during other disasters, like the COVID–19 pandemic, to estimate related death tolls.

In the aftermath of the storm millions of Texans struggled with the effects of the deadly winter storm, people of color and low-income communities who were disproportionately affected by blackouts and burst pipes could now face the hardest journey to recovery, experts said.

Hurricane Harvey hit a thousand square mile of Texas, just as in the past when Ike struck, but the telling sign of Blue Tarp Roofs are only in low-income, black, and brown communities’ years after the storms have passed.

In the past the tools and resources available to FEMA to support disaster response and recovery have been limited to meals, water, trap.

Local, tribal, territorial, and state governments had to make request for aid to be provided.

For more substantial assistance, government contracting, and awards must be put into place, which can take months and in some cases years to get resources to victims.

This is too much time for survivors to have to wait for help.

The historic winter weather exacerbated pre-existing disparities like poor infrastructure and lack of resources in marginalized communities. Black and Latino communities who were disproportionately hit by COVID–19 now must struggle to recover from one of the worst weather events to ever hit Texas.

The nine-county Houston metro area impacted by Hurricane Harvey covers 9,444 square miles, an area larger than five states. Including New Hampshire, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

Hurricane Harvey dropped 21 trillion gallons of rainfall on Texas and Louisiana, most of it on the Houston Metroplex.

At its peak on September 1, 2017, one-third of Houston was underwater.

Hurricane Harvey is the largest housing disaster to strike the U.S. in our nation’s history.

Hurricane Harvey damaged 203,000 homes, of which 12,700 were destroyed.

These are not simply numbers, these are families. Son and daughters, mothers and fathers, friends, mentors, and caretakers, all who are deserving of ample disaster response and recover efforts.

There was no way to pre-prepare for Hurricanes Harvey, Katrina, Ian, or any of the other major disaster event.

What we can do is learn as much as possible and apply those lessons to future disaster response and recovery efforts.

When there is a catastrophic event, like Hurricane Harvey, there are important and valuable lessons that can help us to meet future challenges.

My constituents in Houston understand that our capacity to deal with hurricanes directly reflects our ability to respond to a terrorist attack in Texas or New York, an earthquake in California, or a nationwide pandemic.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that COVID–19 was a pandemic, which had by that date reached at least 114 countries, sickening over 100,000 people, and killing more than 4,000.

It is the duty of Congress to make sure that FEMA is prepared to meet any challenge while bringing equity to the response made during disasters.

The work of the FEMA Office of Disaster Recovery and the Office of Disaster Recovery are critical when disaster strikes and for this reason, they should be a permanent part of the agency.

This is one of the reasons, I introduced the FEMA Modernization Act (H.R. 3060) in the 116th Congress.

H.R. 3060:

makes permanent the FEMA Office of Disaster Response and the FEMA Office of Disaster Recovery;

creates an ombudsman for each office to assist survivors and victims’;

establishes a new National Disaster Medical Triage Capacity and an Incident Medical Recovery Management Team to set best practices for Advanced Trauma Life Support capabilities, enable medical evaluations, and assess health impacts that result from disasters;

creates an office of ombudsman to work within the agency to create equity and access; provides for accurate reporting on deaths and missing persons; and

reports data on effective casework management for the provision of survivor benefits and services.

All survivors of disaster deserve a fair chance at obtaining disaster recovery and relief. We owe it to those who were ripped from their homes and left with nothing.

This bill provides the program support that is needed, since there is nowhere in the United States immune from disaster.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8416, 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. 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.

#### VACATING DEMAND FOR THE YEAS AND NAYS ON S. 533, GUIDANCE CLARITY ACT OF 2021

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 533) to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, and for other purposes, be vacated, to the end that the motion be considered as withdrawn.

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

There was no objection.

#### MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES AND PASS CERTAIN BILLS

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 1464, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bills: H.R. 4275, H.R. 5502, H.R. 5721, H.R. 6290, H.R. 7277, H.R. 7299, and H.R. 8416.

The Clerk read the title of the bills.

The text of the bills are as follows:

ENSURING PHONE AND INTERNET ACCESS THROUGH LIFELINE AND AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM ACT OF 2022

H.R. 4275

*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 “Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act of 2022”.*

#### SEC. 2. REPORTS ON ENROLLMENT IN CERTAIN PROGRAMS.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT ON ENROLLMENT IN LIFELINE AND AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAMS THROUGH QUALIFYING PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 2 calendar years after the calendar year during which the first report is submitted under this subsection, the Commission shall submit to Congress a report on—

(1) enrollment in the Lifeline program by individuals participating in each of the Lifeline qualifying programs, broken out by each of the Lifeline qualifying programs, to the extent the Commission holds or has access to the necessary data relating to such enrollment; and

(2) enrollment in the Affordable Connectivity Program by individuals participating in each of the Affordable Connectivity Program qualifying programs, broken out by each of the Affordable Connectivity Program qualifying programs, to the extent the Commission holds or has access to the necessary data relating to such enrollment.

(b) GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON EFFORTS TO PROMOTE ENROLLMENT IN LIFELINE AND AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress identifying outreach and publicity efforts to promote participation and enrollment in the Lifeline program and, separately, the Affordable Connectivity Program.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM QUALIFYING PROGRAM.—The term “Affordable

Connectivity Program qualifying program” means the programs set forth in paragraphs (1), (3), (4), and (6) of section 54.1800(j) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

(2) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) **LIFELINE QUALIFYING PROGRAM.**—The term “Lifeline qualifying program” means the programs set forth in subsections (a)(2) and (b) of section 54.409 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

INTEGRITY, NOTIFICATION, AND FAIRNESS IN ONLINE RETAIL MARKETPLACES FOR CONSUMERS ACT

H.R. 5502

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 “Integrity, Notification, and Fairness in Online Retail Marketplaces for Consumers Act” or the “INFORM Consumers Act”.

### SEC. 2. COLLECTION, VERIFICATION, AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION BY ONLINE MARKETPLACES TO INFORM CONSUMERS.

(a) **COLLECTION AND VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION.**—

(1) **COLLECTION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An online marketplace shall require any high-volume third party seller on such online marketplace’s platform to provide, not later than 10 days after qualifying as a high-volume third party seller on the platform, the following information to the online marketplace:

(i) **BANK ACCOUNT.**—

(I) **IN GENERAL.**—A bank account number, or, if such seller does not have a bank account, the name of the payee for payments issued by the online marketplace to such seller.

(II) **PROVISION OF INFORMATION.**—The bank account or payee information required under subclause (I) may be provided by the seller in the following ways:

(aa) To the online marketplace.

(bb) To a payment processor or other third party contracted by the online marketplace to maintain such information, provided that the online marketplace ensures that it can obtain such information within 3 business days from such payment processor or other third party.

(ii) **CONTACT INFORMATION.**—Contact information for such seller as follows:

(I) With respect to a high-volume third party seller that is an individual, the individual’s name.

(II) With respect to a high-volume third party seller that is not an individual, one of the following forms of contact information:

(aa) A copy of a valid government-issued identification for an individual acting on behalf of such seller that includes the individual’s name.

(bb) A copy of a valid government-issued record or tax document that includes the business name and physical address of such seller.

(iii) **TAX ID.**—A business tax identification number, or, if such seller does not have a business tax identification number, a taxpayer identification number.

(iv) **WORKING EMAIL AND PHONE NUMBER.**—A current working email address and phone number for such seller.

(B) **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE; ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.**—An online marketplace shall—

(i) periodically, but not less than annually, notify any high-volume third party seller on such online marketplace’s platform of the requirement to keep any information collected under subparagraph (A) current; and

(ii) require any high-volume third party seller on such online marketplace’s platform

to, not later than 10 days after receiving the notice under clause (i), electronically certify that—

(I) the seller has provided any changes to such information to the online marketplace, if any such changes have occurred; or

(II) there have been no changes to such seller’s information.

(C) **SUSPENSION.**—In the event that a high-volume third party seller does not provide the information or certification required under this paragraph, the online marketplace shall, after providing the seller with written or electronic notice and an opportunity to provide such information or certification not later than 10 days after the issuance of such notice, suspend any future sales activity of such seller until such seller provides such information or certification.

(2) **VERIFICATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An online marketplace shall—

(i) verify the information collected under paragraph (1)(A) not later than 10 days after such collection; and

(ii) verify any change to such information not later than 10 days after being notified of such change by a high-volume third party seller under paragraph (1)(B).

(B) **PRESUMPTION OF VERIFICATION.**—In the case of a high-volume third party seller that provides a copy of a valid government-issued tax document, any information contained in such document shall be presumed to be verified as of the date of issuance of such document.

(3) **DATA USE LIMITATION.**—Data collected solely to comply with the requirements of this section may not be used for any other purpose unless required by law.

(4) **DATA SECURITY REQUIREMENT.**—An online marketplace shall implement and maintain reasonable security procedures and practices, including administrative, physical, and technical safeguards, appropriate to the nature of the data and the purposes for which the data will be used, to protect the data collected to comply with the requirements of this section from unauthorized use, disclosure, access, destruction, or modification.

(b) **DISCLOSURE REQUIRED.**—

(1) **REQUIREMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An online marketplace shall—

(i) require any high-volume third party seller with an aggregate total of \$20,000 or more in annual gross revenues on such online marketplace, and that uses such online marketplace’s platform, to provide the information described in subparagraph (B) to the online marketplace; and

(ii) disclose the information described in subparagraph (B) to consumers in a clear and conspicuous manner—

(I) on the product listing page (including via hyperlink); or

(II) in the order confirmation message or other document or communication made to the consumer after the purchase is finalized and in the consumer’s account transaction history.

(B) **INFORMATION DESCRIBED.**—The information described in this subparagraph is the following:

(i) Subject to paragraph (2), the identity of the high-volume third party seller, including—

(I) the full name of the seller, which may include the seller name or seller’s company name, or the name by which the seller or company operates on the online marketplace;

(II) the physical address of the seller; and

(III) contact information for the seller, to allow for the direct, unhindered communication with high-volume third party sellers by users of the online marketplace, including—

(aa) a current working phone number;

(bb) a current working email address; or

(cc) other means of direct electronic messaging (which may be provided to such seller by the online marketplace), provided that the requirements of this item shall not prevent an online marketplace from monitoring communications between high-volume third party sellers and users of the online marketplace for fraud, abuse, or spam.

(ii) Whether the high-volume third party seller used a different seller to supply the consumer product to the consumer upon purchase, and, upon the request of an authenticated purchaser, the information described in clause (i) relating to any such seller that supplied the consumer product to the purchaser, if such seller is different than the high-volume third party seller listed on the product listing prior to purchase.

(2) **EXCEPTION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B), upon the request of a high-volume third party seller, an online marketplace may provide for partial disclosure of the identity information required under paragraph (1)(B)(i) in the following situations:

(i) If such seller certifies to the online marketplace that the seller does not have a business address and only has a residential street address, or has a combined business and residential address, the online marketplace may—

(I) disclose only the country and, if applicable, the State in which such seller resides; and

(II) inform consumers that there is no business address available for the seller and that consumer inquiries should be submitted to the seller by phone, email, or other means of electronic messaging provided to such seller by the online marketplace.

(ii) If such seller certifies to the online marketplace that the seller is a business that has a physical address for product returns, the online marketplace may disclose the seller’s physical address for product returns.

(iii) If such seller certifies to the online marketplace that the seller does not have a phone number other than a personal phone number, the online marketplace shall inform consumers that there is no phone number available for the seller and that consumer inquiries should be submitted to the seller’s email address or other means of electronic messaging provided to such seller by the online marketplace.

(B) **LIMITATION ON EXCEPTION.**—If an online marketplace becomes aware that a high-volume third party seller has made a false representation to the online marketplace in order to justify the provision of a partial disclosure under subparagraph (A) or that a high-volume third party seller who has requested and received a provision for a partial disclosure under subparagraph (A) has not provided responsive answers within a reasonable time frame to consumer inquiries submitted to the seller by phone, email, or other means of electronic messaging provided to such seller by the online marketplace, the online marketplace shall, after providing the seller with written or electronic notice and an opportunity to respond not later than 10 days after the issuance of such notice, suspend any future sales activity of such seller unless such seller consents to the disclosure of the identity information required under paragraph (1)(B)(i).

(3) **REPORTING MECHANISM.**—An online marketplace shall disclose to consumers in a clear and conspicuous manner on the product listing of any high-volume third party seller a reporting mechanism that allows for electronic and telephonic reporting of suspicious marketplace activity to the online marketplace.

(4) COMPLIANCE.—If a high-volume third party seller does not comply with the requirements to provide and disclose information under this subsection, the online marketplace shall, after providing the seller with written or electronic notice and an opportunity to provide or disclose such information not later than 10 days after the issuance of such notice, suspend any future sales activity of such seller until the seller complies with such requirements.

(C) ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.—

(1) UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of subsection (a) or (b) by an online marketplace shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(2) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall enforce subsections (a) and (b) in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this section.

(B) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Any person that violates subsection (a) or (b) shall be subject to the penalties, and entitled to the privileges and immunities, provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) REGULATIONS.—The Commission may promulgate regulations under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, with respect to the collection, verification, or disclosure of information under this section, provided that such regulations are limited to what is necessary to collect, verify, and disclose such information.

(4) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

(d) ENFORCEMENT BY STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the attorney general of a State has reason to believe that any online marketplace has violated or is violating this section or a regulation promulgated under this section that affects one or more residents of that State, the attorney general of the State may bring a civil action in any appropriate district court of the United States, to—

(A) enjoin further such violation by the defendant;

(B) enforce compliance with this section or such regulation;

(C) obtain civil penalties in the amount provided for under subsection (c);

(D) obtain other remedies permitted under State law; and

(E) obtain damages, restitution, or other compensation on behalf of residents of the State.

(2) NOTICE.—The attorney general of a State shall provide prior written notice of any action under paragraph (1) to the Commission and provide the Commission with a copy of the complaint in the action, except in any case in which such prior notice is not feasible, in which case the attorney general shall serve such notice immediately upon instituting such action.

(3) INTERVENTION BY THE COMMISSION.—Upon receiving notice under paragraph (2), the Commission shall have the right—

(A) to intervene in the action;

(B) upon so intervening, to be heard on all matters arising therein; and

(C) to file petitions for appeal.

(4) LIMITATION ON STATE ACTION WHILE FEDERAL ACTION IS PENDING.—If the Commission has instituted a civil action for violation of

this section or a regulation promulgated under this section, no State attorney general, or official or agency of a State, may bring a separate action under paragraph (1) during the pendency of that action against any defendant named in the complaint of the Commission for any violation of this section or a regulation promulgated under this section that is alleged in the complaint. A State attorney general, or official or agency of a State, may join a civil action for a violation of this section or regulation promulgated under this section filed by the Commission.

(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of bringing a civil action under paragraph (1), nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent the chief law enforcement officer, or official or agency of a State, from exercising the powers conferred on such chief law enforcement officer, or official or agency of a State, by the laws of the State to conduct investigations, administer oaths or affirmations, or compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary and other evidence.

(6) ACTIONS BY OTHER STATE OFFICIALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to civil actions brought by attorneys general under paragraph (1), any other officer of a State who is authorized by the State to do so, except for any private person on behalf of the State attorney general, may bring a civil action under paragraph (1), subject to the same requirements and limitations that apply under this subsection to civil actions brought by attorneys general.

(B) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit an authorized official of a State from initiating or continuing any proceeding in a court of the State for a violation of any civil or criminal law of the State.

(e) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this section, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of this section and the application of such provision to other persons not similarly situated or to other circumstances shall not be affected by the invalidation.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) CONSUMER PRODUCT.—The term “consumer product” has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Magnuson-Moss Warranty—Federal Trade Commission Improvement Act (15 U.S.C. 2301) and section 700.1 of title 16, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) HIGH-VOLUME THIRD PARTY SELLER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “high-volume third party seller” means a participant on an online marketplace’s platform who is a third party seller and, in any continuous 12-month period during the previous 24 months, has entered into 200 or more discrete sales or transactions of new or unused consumer products and an aggregate total of \$5,000 or more in gross revenues.

(B) CLARIFICATION.—For purposes of calculating the number of discrete sales or transactions or the aggregate gross revenues under subparagraph (A), an online marketplace shall only be required to count sales or transactions made through the online marketplace and for which payment was processed by the online marketplace, either directly or through its payment processor.

(4) ONLINE MARKETPLACE.—The term “online marketplace” means any person or entity that operates a consumer-directed electronically based or accessed platform that—

(A) includes features that allow for, facilitate, or enable third party sellers to engage in the sale, purchase, payment, storage, shipping, or delivery of a consumer product in the United States;

(B) is used by one or more third party sellers for such purposes; and

(C) has a contractual or similar relationship with consumers governing their use of the platform to purchase consumer products.

(5) SELLER.—The term “seller” means a person who sells, offers to sell, or contracts to sell a consumer product through an online marketplace’s platform.

(6) THIRD PARTY SELLER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “third party seller” means any seller, independent of an online marketplace, who sells, offers to sell, or contracts to sell a consumer product in the United States through such online marketplace’s platform.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “third party seller” does not include, with respect to an online marketplace—

(i) a seller who operates the online marketplace’s platform; or

(ii) a business entity that has—

(I) made available to the general public the entity’s name, business address, and working contact information;

(II) an ongoing contractual relationship with the online marketplace to provide the online marketplace with the manufacture, distribution, wholesaling, or fulfillment of shipments of consumer products; and

(III) provided to the online marketplace identifying information, as described in subsection (a), that has been verified in accordance with that subsection.

(7) VERIFY.—The term “verify” means to confirm information provided to an online marketplace pursuant to this section, which may include the use of one or more methods that enable the online marketplace to reliably determine that any information and documents provided are valid, corresponding to the seller or an individual acting on the seller’s behalf, not misappropriated, and not falsified.

(g) RELATIONSHIP TO STATE LAWS.—No State or political subdivision of a State, or territory of the United States, may establish or continue in effect any law, regulation, rule, requirement, or standard that conflicts with the requirements of this section.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

VA INFRASTRUCTURE POWERS EXCEPTIONAL  
RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

H.R. 5721

*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 “VA Infrastructure Powers Exceptional Research Act of 2021” or the “VIPER Act of 2021”.

**SEC. 2. INAPPLICABILITY OF PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 1 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§ 120. Inapplicability of Paperwork Reduction Act**

“Subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’) shall not apply to research activities of the Department, including activities under subchapter V of chapter 73.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“120. Inapplicability of Paperwork Reduction Act.”

**SEC. 3. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.**

(a) OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Chapter 73 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:



“SUBCHAPTER V—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

“§ 7381. Office of Research and Development

“(a) OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—There is in the Veterans Health Administration an Office of Research and Development (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(b) PURPOSES.—The function of the Office is to serve veterans through a full spectrum of research (including pre-clinical, clinical, and health systems science), technology transfer, and application.

“(c) CHIEF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER.—The head of the Office is the Chief Research and Development Officer.

“(d) ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL.—The Office shall be organized in such manner, and its personnel shall perform such duties and have such titles, as the Secretary may prescribe.

“§ 7382. Research personnel

“(a) WAIVER OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL PERSONNEL ACT MOBILITY PROGRAM LIMITS.—The Secretary may waive the limit on the period and number of assignments required under section 3372(a) of title 5 with respect to an individual who performs research for the Department under the mobility program under subchapter VI of chapter 33 of such title (commonly referred to as the ‘Intergovernmental Personnel Act Mobility Program’).

“(b) OUTSIDE EARNED INCOME FOR RESEARCH FOR THE DEPARTMENT.—(1) Compensation from a nonprofit corporation established under subchapter IV of this chapter, or a university affiliated with the Department, may be paid, without regard to section 209 of title 18, to an employee described in paragraph (2), for research conducted pursuant to section 7303 of this title if—

“(A) the research has been approved in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Under Secretary for Health;

“(B) the employee conducts research under the supervision of personnel of the Department; and

“(C) the Secretary agreed to the terms of such compensation in writing.

“(2) An employee described in this subsection is an employee who has an appointment within the Department, whether with or without compensation, and without regard to the source of such compensation.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SUBCHAPTER V—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

“7381. Office of Research and Development.

“7382. Research personnel.”

SEC. 4. EXPANSION OF HIRING AUTHORITIES FOR CERTAIN CLASSES OF RESEARCH OCCUPATIONS.

Section 7401(3) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by inserting “statisticians, economists, informaticists, data scientists, and” after “blind rehabilitation outpatient specialists.”

MANUFACTURING.GOV ACT H.R. 6290

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 “Manufacturing.gov Act”.

SEC. 2. MANUFACTURING.GOV HUB.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Commerce.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordination with the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Com-

merce, shall modify the manufacturing.gov website by establishing a section of the website to be known as the “manufacturing.gov hub”.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The manufacturing.gov hub established under subsection (b) shall—

(1) serve as the primary hub for information relating to every Federal manufacturing program, including the programs identified in the report of the Government Accountability Office entitled “U.S. Manufacturing” (GAO 17-240), published on March 28, 2017;

(2) provide the contact information of relevant program offices carrying out the Federal manufacturing programs described in paragraph (1);

(3) provide an avenue for public input and feedback relating to—

(A) the functionality of the website of the Department of Commerce;

(B) the Federal manufacturing programs described in paragraph (1); and

(C) any other manufacturing-related challenges experienced by manufacturers in the United States;

(4) establish web pages within the hub that shall focus on—

(A) technology and research and development;

(B) trade;

(C) workforce development and training;

(D) industrial commons and supply chains; and

(E) small and medium manufacturers; and

(5) use machine learning to—

(A) identify frequently asked questions; and

(B) disseminate to the public answers to the questions identified under subparagraph (A).

(d) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this section.

IMPROVING OVERSIGHT OF VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE PROVIDERS ACT OF 2022 H.R. 7277

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Improving Oversight of Veterans Community Care Providers Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. IDENTIFICATION OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS THAT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN VETERANS COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAM.

(a) PLAN.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, acting through the Under Secretary for Health, shall carry out a plan to improve the methods by which the Secretary identifies health care providers that are not eligible to participate in the Veterans Community Care Program.

(2) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The plan under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Modifying the standard operating procedures of the Office of Community Care of the Veterans Health Administration regarding the exclusion of health care providers from participating in the Veterans Community Care Program to require the automated continuous matching of health care providers in the Provider Profile Management System of the Veterans Health Administration, or such successor system, with covered data systems using multiple unique identifiers, including taxpayer identification number, national provider identifier, Social Security number, and date of birth.

(B) A fraud risk analysis conducted by the Office of Community Care regarding the exclusion of health care providers from participating in the Veterans Community Care Program that includes—

(i) an assessment of the likelihood and impact of inherent fraud risks relating to the self-certification of State licenses and addresses provided by health care providers;

(ii) a determination of the fraud risk tolerance; and

(iii) an examination of the suitability of existing fraud controls.

(C) Any other matters the Under Secretary determines will improve the oversight of health care providers participating in the Veterans Community Care Program.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the Secretary has implemented the plan under subsection (a).

(c) REPORTS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report that—

(A) describes the progress the Under Secretary has made in carrying out the plan under subsection (a); and

(B) includes recommendations for legislative action to further improve the methods by which the Secretary identifies health care providers that are not eligible to participate in the Veterans Community Care Program.

(2) UPDATE.—Not later than two years after the date on which the Secretary submits the report under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate an update to the report.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “covered data systems” means the following:

(A) The List of Excluded Individuals/Entities of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(B) The System for Award Management Exclusions list described in part 9 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, and part 180 of title 2 of such Code, or successor regulations.

(C) The monthly deactivation file of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

(D) The National Practitioner Data Bank established pursuant to the Health Care Quality Improvement Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11101 et seq.).

(2) The term “Veterans Community Care Program” means the program established under section 1703 of title 38, United States Code.

STRENGTHENING VA CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2022 H.R. 7299

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 “Strengthening VA Cybersecurity Act of 2022” or the “SVAC Act of 2022”.

SEC. 2. INDEPENDENT CYBERSECURITY ASSESSMENT OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to provide to the Secretary an independent cybersecurity assessment of—

(A) five high-impact information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

(B) the effectiveness of the information security program and information security management system of the Department.

(2) DETAILED ANALYSIS.—The independent cybersecurity assessment provided under paragraph (1) shall include a detailed analysis of the ability of the Department—

(A) to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the information, information systems, and devices of the Department; and

(B) to protect against—

(i) advanced persistent cybersecurity threats;

(ii) ransomware;

(iii) denial of service attacks;

(iv) insider threats;

(v) threats from foreign actors, including state sponsored criminals and other foreign based criminals;

(vi) phishing;

(vii) credential theft;

(viii) cybersecurity attacks that target the supply chain of the Department;

(ix) threats due to remote access and telework activity; and

(x) other cyber threats.

(3) TYPES OF SYSTEMS.—The independent cybersecurity assessment provided under paragraph (1) shall cover on-premises, remote, cloud-based, and mobile information systems and devices used by, or in support of, Department activities.

(4) SHADOW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The independent cybersecurity assessment provided under paragraph (1) shall include an evaluation of the use of information technology systems, devices, and services by employees and contractors of the Department who do so without the heads of the elements of the Department that are responsible for information technology at the Department knowing or approving of such use.

(5) METHODOLOGY.—In conducting the cybersecurity assessment to be provided under paragraph (1), the federally funded research and development center shall take into account industry best practices and the current state-of-the-art in cybersecurity evaluation and review.

(b) PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date on which an independent assessment is provided to the Secretary by a federally funded research and development center pursuant to an agreement entered into under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a plan to address the findings of the federally funded research and development center set forth in such assessment.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan submitted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Improvements to the security controls of the information systems of the Department assessed under subsection (a) to—

(i) achieve the goals specified in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2) of such subsection; and

(ii) protect against the threats specified in subparagraph (B) of such paragraph.

(B) Improvements to the information security program and information security management system of the Department to achieve such goals and protect against such threats.

(C) A cost estimate for implementing the plan.

(D) A timeline for implementing the plan.

(E) Such other elements as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES EVALUATION AND REVIEW.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the submission of the plan under subsection (b)(1), the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) commence an evaluation and review of—

(A) the independent cybersecurity assessment provided under subsection (a); and

(B) the response of the Department to such assessment; and

(2) provide to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a briefing on the results of the evaluation and review, including any recommendations made to the Secretary regarding the matters covered by the briefing.

#### DISASTER SURVIVORS FAIRNESS ACT OF 2022

H.R. 8416

*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 “Disaster Survivors Fairness 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. Information sharing for Federal agencies.

Sec. 3. Universal application for individual assistance.

Sec. 4. Repair and rebuilding.

Sec. 5. Direct assistance.

Sec. 6. State-managed housing pilot authority.

Sec. 7. Management costs.

Sec. 8. Individual assistance post-disaster housing study.

Sec. 9. Funding for online guides for post-disaster assistance.

Sec. 10. Individual assistance dashboard.

Sec. 11. FEMA reports.

Sec. 12. Sheltering of emergency response personnel.

Sec. 13. GAO report on preliminary damage assessments.

Sec. 14. Applicability.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided, the terms used in this Act have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

#### SEC. 2. INFORMATION SHARING FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SHARING SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall establish and maintain a web-based interagency electronic information sharing system, to be known as “DisasterAssistance.gov”, to—

(A) facilitate the administration of the universal application for direct Federal disaster assistance established under section 3;

(B) carry out the purposes of disaster assistance programs swiftly, efficiently, equitably, and in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and the privacy and data protections provided under this section; and

(C) support the detection, prevention, and investigation of waste, fraud, abuse, inequitable allocation of resources, or discrimination in the administration of disaster assistance programs.

(2) AUTHORITIES OF ADMINISTRATOR.—In establishing and maintaining the electronic information sharing system under this subsection, the Administrator may collect and maintain disaster assistance information received from a disaster assistance agency, a block grant recipient, or an applicant for a disaster assistance program and share such information with any other disaster assistance agency or block grant recipient using such electronic information sharing system.

(b) DATA SECURITY.—The Administrator may facilitate the collection of disaster assistance information into the electronic information sharing system established under this section only after the following requirements have been met:

(1) The Administrator certifies that the electronic information sharing system substantially complies with the data security standards and best practices established pursuant to subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and any other applicable Federal information security policy.

(2) The Secretary of Homeland Security publishes a privacy impact assessment for the electronic information sharing system, in accordance with section 222 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 142).

(3) The Administrator, after consulting with disaster assistance agencies, publishes standard rules of behavior for disaster assistance agencies, block grant recipients, and personnel granted access to disaster assistance information to protect such information from improper disclosure.

(c) COLLECTION AND SHARING OF ADDITIONAL RECORDS AND INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may authorize the collection, maintenance, sharing, and use of additional disaster assistance information by publishing a notice on DisasterAssistance.gov that includes a detailed description of—

(A) the specific amendments to the collection, maintenance, and sharing of disaster assistance information authorized;

(B) why each such amendment to how disaster assistance information is collected, maintained, or shared is necessary to carry out the purposes of a disaster assistance program and consistent with the fair information practice principles; and

(C) the disaster assistance agencies and block grant recipients that will be granted access to the additional information to carry out the purposes of any disaster assistance program.

(2) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The publication of a notice under paragraph (1) of a revision to the DisasterAssistance.gov system of records prior to any new collection, or uses, of Privacy Act categories of records, to carry out the purposes of a disaster assistance program with regard to a disaster declared by the President under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 5191), shall be deemed to satisfy the notice and publication requirements of section 552a(e)(4) of title 5, United States Code, for the entire period of performance for any assistance provided under a disaster assistance program.

(3) WAIVER OF INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the declaration of a major disaster or emergency pursuant to sections 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 5191), the President may direct the Administrator to waive the requirements of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, with respect to voluntary collection of information for the duration of such major disaster or emergency.

(B) TRANSPARENCY.—Upon exercising the waiver authority under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall—

(i) promptly post on a website of the Federal Emergency Management Agency a brief justification for such waiver, the anticipated period of time such waiver will be in effect, and the disaster assistance offices within the Federal Emergency Management Agency to which such waiver shall apply; and

(ii) update the information relating to such waiver, as applicable.

(4) GAO REVIEW OF WAIVER OF INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall issue a report describing the benefits

and potential risks associated with authorizing the waiver of the information collection requirements described in paragraph (3).

(B) CONTENTS.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include an assessment of the extent to which a waiver described in paragraph (3) would—

(i) affect the paperwork burden for individuals, small businesses, State, local and tribal governments, and other persons;

(ii) affect the consistent application of Federal laws relating to—

(I) privacy and confidentiality;

(II) security of information; and

(III) access to information; and

(iii) encourage or deter a State or other entity from participating in the voluntary collection of information for the duration of a major disaster or emergency.

(D) USE BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may permit a Federal agency other than a disaster assistance agency listed in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of subsection (f)(3) to use the electronic information sharing system established under this section for the purpose of facilitating disaster-related assistance if such agency enters into an agreement containing the terms described in paragraph (2).

(2) AGENCY AGREEMENT.—An agreement entered into under paragraph (1) shall contain the following terms:

(A) The Federal agency shall—

(i) collect, share, maintain, and use disaster assistance information in compliance with this section and any policies of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and any information protection and use policies of such Federal agency; and

(ii) train any personnel granted access to disaster assistance information on the rules of behavior established by the Administrator under subsection (b)(3).

(B) In the event of any unauthorized disclosure of disaster assistance information, the Federal agency shall—

(i) notify the Administrator within 24 hours of discovering any such unauthorized disclosure;

(ii) cooperate fully with the Administrator in the investigation and remediation of any such disclosure;

(iii) cooperate fully in the prosecution of a person responsible for such disclosure; and

(iv) assume the responsibility for any compensation, civil liability, or other remediation measures, whether awarded by a judgment of a court or agreed as a compromise of any potential claims by or on behalf of an applicant, including by obtaining credit monitoring and remediation services, for an improper disclosure that is—

(I) caused, directly or indirectly, by the acts or omissions of officers, employees, and contractors of the agency; or

(II) from any electronic system of records that is created or maintained by the agency pursuant to section 552a(e) of title 5, United States Code.

(3) PUBLICATION OF AGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Administrator shall publish an agency agreement entered into under this subsection on the same website as the electronic information sharing system established under this section.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The sharing and use of disaster assistance information that is subject to the requirements of section 552a of title 5, United States Code, by disaster assistance agencies and block grant recipients shall not—

(1) be construed as a matching program for purposes of section 552a(a)(8) of such title; or

(2) be subject to the remaining computer matching provisions of section 552a of such title.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPLICANT.—The term “applicant” means—

(A) a person who applies for disaster assistance from a disaster assistance program; and

(B) a person on whose behalf a person described in subparagraph (A) has applied for disaster assistance.

(2) BLOCK GRANT RECIPIENT.—The term “block grant recipient” means a State, local government, or Indian Tribe that receives assistance through the disaster assistance program described in paragraph (5)(B)(i).

(3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGENCY.—The term “disaster assistance agency” means—

(A) the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(B) the Department of Housing and Urban Development;

(C) the Small Business Administration;

(D) the Department of Agriculture;

(E) any other Federal agency that the Administrator permits to use the electronic information sharing system under subsection (d).

(4) DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION.—The term “disaster assistance information” includes any personal, demographic, biographical, geographical, financial information, or other information that a disaster assistance agency or block grant recipient is authorized to collect, maintain, share, or use to process an application for disaster assistance or otherwise carry out a disaster assistance program.

(5) DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The term “disaster assistance program” means—

(A) any program that provides assistance to individuals and households under title IV or title V of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.); and

(B) any other assistance program carried out by a disaster assistance agency that provides assistance to an individual, household, or organization related to a major disaster or emergency declared under sections 401 or 501 of such Act, including—

(i) assistance for activities related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation that are authorized under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.);

(ii) any loan that is authorized under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)); and

(iii) the distribution of food benefit allotments as authorized under section 412 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5179) and section 5(h) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(h)).

### SEC. 3. UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) UNIVERSAL APPLICATION.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall develop and establish a universal application for direct Federal disaster assistance for individuals in areas impacted by emergencies or disasters.

(b) CONSULTATION AND SUPPORT.—

(1) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall consult with the following:

(A) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(B) The Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(C) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(D) The Secretary of Agriculture.

(2) SUPPORT.—The entities described in paragraph (1) shall provide prompt support to the Administrator.

(c) SURVEY.—The application established under subsection (a) shall include a vol-

untary survey to collect the demographic data of an applicant.

(d) GAO ASSESSMENT ON IDENTITY THEFT AND DISASTER FRAUD IN DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct an assessment of improper and potentially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for individuals made to victims of major disasters declared in 2020 and 2021, including through identity theft; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report that describes—

(A) the prevalence of improper and potentially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for individuals made to registrants who used invalid information to apply for disaster assistance, including through identity theft;

(B) the number of disaster victims whose claims for Federal disaster assistance for individuals were denied due to another individual filing a fraudulent application using their personal identifying information;

(C) the adequacy of existing fraud prevention protocols in place on the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s online application for Federal disaster assistance for individuals; and

(D) recommendations for improving the identity verification protocols in place for Federal disaster assistance for individuals.

### SEC. 4. REPAIR AND REBUILDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(b)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “rendered uninhabitable” and inserting “damaged by a major disaster”; and

(2) by striking “uninhabitable, as a result of damage caused by a major disaster” and inserting “damaged by a major disaster”.

(b) HAZARD MITIGATION.—Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

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

“(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide financial assistance to individuals and households, whose primary residence, utilities, or residential infrastructure are damaged by a major disaster, for cost-effective hazard mitigation measures that reduce threats to life and property, or future damage to such residence, utilities, or infrastructure in future disasters.

“(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided under this paragraph shall not be required to show that the assistance can be met through other means, except insurance proceeds.”; and

(2) in subsection (h)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “, financial assistance for hazard mitigation under subsection (c)(5)(A),” after “subsection (c)(1)(A)(i)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—The maximum financial assistance any individual or household may receive under subsection (c)(5) shall be equivalent to the amount set forth in paragraph (1) with respect to a single major disaster.”.

### SEC. 5. DIRECT ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(c) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)) is further amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) REPAIRS.—

“(A) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR REPAIRS.—The President may provide financial assistance for the repair of owner-occupied private residences, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) damaged by a major disaster, or with respect to individuals with disabilities, rendered inaccessible by a major disaster.

“(B) DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR REPAIRS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The President may provide direct assistance to individuals and households who are unable to make use of financial assistance under subparagraph (A) and when there is a lack of available resources, for—

“(I) the repair of owner-occupied private residences, utilities, and residential infrastructure (such as a private access route) damaged by a major disaster, or with respect to individuals with disabilities, rendered inaccessible by a disaster; and

“(II) eligible hazard mitigation measures that reduce the likelihood and future damage to such residences, utilities, and infrastructure.

“(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—A recipient of assistance under this subparagraph shall not be eligible for assistance under paragraph (1), unless otherwise determined by the Administrator.

“(C) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSISTANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided under this paragraph shall not be required to show that the assistance can be met through other means, except insurance proceeds.”.

(b) STATE- OR INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT-ADMINISTERED ASSISTANCE AND OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE.—Section 408(f) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking “subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(4), and (e)” each place it appears and inserting “paragraphs (1)(B), (2)(B), and (4) of subsection (c) and subsection (e)”;

(2) in paragraph (3)(A) by striking “subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(4), or (e)” and inserting “paragraph (1)(B), (2)(B), or (4) of subsection (c) or subsection (e)”.

#### SEC. 6. STATE-MANAGED HOUSING PILOT AUTHORITY.

Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f)(3)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (F);

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (G), (H), (I), and (J) as subparagraphs (F), (G), (H), and (I), respectively; and

(C) in subparagraph (I), as so redesignated—

(i) in clause (ii) by striking “Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the” and inserting “The”; and

(ii) in clause (iii) by striking—

(I) “2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph or” and

(II) “, whichever occurs sooner”; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1) by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and (3)”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—In the case of assistance provided under subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(2)(B), and (c)(4), the Federal share shall be not less than 75 percent.”.

#### SEC. 7. MANAGEMENT COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 324(b)(2) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165b(b)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE.—A grantee under section 408(f) may be reimbursed not more than 12 percent of the total award amount under each such section.

“(D) CRISIS COUNSELING ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—A

grantee and subgrantee, cumulatively, may be reimbursed not more than 15 percent of the total amount of the grant award under either section 416 or 426.”.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 408(f)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

(1) by striking “(A) GRANT TO STATE.—” and all that follows through “subsection (g),” and inserting “Subject to subsection (g),” ; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (B).

#### SEC. 8. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE POST-DISASTER HOUSING STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall—

(1) conduct a study and develop a plan under which the Agency will address the challenges associated with providing housing assistance to survivors of major disasters or emergencies pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), including circumstances in which—

(A) the presence of multiple families within a single household; and

(B) the near loss of a community, with the majority of homes destroyed in such community, with discrete assessments on flood, wildfire, and earthquake events; and

(2) make recommendations for legislative changes needed to address the challenges described in paragraph (1).

(b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Administrator shall consult with other relevant Federal agencies and stakeholders.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion of the activities carried out under subsection (a), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report containing the study and recommendations required under subsection (a).

#### SEC. 9. FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR POST-DISASTER ASSISTANCE.

(a) USE OF SERVICES OF OTHER AGENCIES.—Section 201(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) post-disaster assistance.”.

(b) FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSISTANCE.—Section 201 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may enter into a cooperative agreement to provide funding to a State agency established under subsection (c) to establish and operate a website to provide information relating to post-disaster recovery funding and resources to a community or an individual impacted by a major disaster or emergency.

“(2) MANAGEMENT.—A website created under this subsection shall be—

“(A) managed by the State agency; and

“(B) suitable for the residents of the State of the State agency.

“(3) CONTENT.—The Administrator may enter into a cooperative agreement to establish a website under this subsection only to provide 1 or more of the following:

“(A) A list of Federal, State, and local sources of post-disaster recovery funding or assistance that may be available to a community after a major disaster or emergency.

“(B) A list of Federal, State, and local sources of post-disaster recovery funding or assistance that may be available to an individual impacted by a major disaster or emergency.

“(C) A technical guide that lists and explains the costs and benefits of alternatives available to a community to mitigate the impacts of a major disaster or emergency and prepare for sequential hazards such as flooding after a wildfire.

“(4) COOPERATION.—A State agency that enters into a cooperative agreement under this subsection shall cooperate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in developing a website under this subsection.

“(5) UPDATES.—A State agency that receives funding to establish a website under this subsection shall update the website not less than once every 6 months.”.

#### SEC. 10. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.

Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “SEC. 431. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after a declaration by the President that a major disaster exists under section 401, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall publish on a website of the Agency an interactive web tool displaying the following information with respect to such disaster:

“(1) The number of applications for assistance under section 408, including a description of the number of applications for assistance related to housing under such section and the number of applications for assistance to address other needs under section 408(e).

“(2) The number of applications for such assistance that are approved.

“(3) The number of applications for such assistance that are denied.

“(4) A ranked list of the reasons for the denial of such applications, including the number of applications for each reason for denial.

“(5) If available, the dollar amount of assistance provided pursuant to section 408 to applicants who are—

“(A) property owners with a household annual income—

“(i) above the national median household income; and

“(ii) below the national median household income; and

“(B) renters with a household annual income—

“(i) above the national median household income; and

“(ii) below the national median household income.

“(6) The estimated percentage of residential property that was destroyed as a result of the major disaster, if available.

“(b) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall ensure that none of the information published under subsection (a) contains the personally identifiable information of an applicant.”.

#### SEC. 11. FEMA REPORTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report with respect to fiscal year 2016 through the most recent fiscal year ending before the date of enactment of this

Act, and an annual report for any fiscal year beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act, describing—

(1) the average amount of individual assistance and individual and household assistance provided under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) to, and the rate of denial of individual assistance and individual and household assistance provided under such section for—

(A) all individuals;  
 (B) households;  
 (C) individuals and households with an annual income under 75 percent of the national median household income;

(D) individuals with an annual income over 125 percent of the national median household income; and

(E) individuals with an annual income between 75 percent and 125 percent of the national median household income; and

(2) an explanation for any factors causing an increase in the rate of denial of the assistance described in paragraph (1), if applicable.

**SEC. 12. SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL.**

Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For any major disaster for which the President has authorized emergency protective measures for an area within the jurisdiction of a State, tribal, or local government, the Administrator may reimburse the State, tribal, or local government for costs relating to sheltering emergency response personnel, including individuals that are a part of the same predisaster household as such personnel, in exclusive-use congregate or non-congregate settings if the Governor of the State or chief executive of the tribal or local government determines that the damage or disruption to such area is of such a magnitude as to disrupt the provision of emergency protective measures within such area.

“(2) LIMITATION OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may only reimburse a State, tribal, or local government for the costs of sheltering emergency response personnel under paragraph (1) for such a period of time as the Administrator determines reasonable based in the individual characteristics of and impacts to the affected area, including the extent of damage, the availability of alternative housing options, the availability of utilities, and disruptions to transportation infrastructure.

“(B) MAXIMUM DURATION OF REIMBURSEMENT.—The period of reimbursement under subparagraph (A) may not exceed the 6-month period beginning on the date on which the incident period ends.

“(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘emergency response personnel’ means—

“(A) employees or contracted employees providing law enforcement, fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical, emergency management, or emergency communications services; and

“(B) elected officials, except members of Congress, responsible for the overseeing or directing emergency response operations or recovery activities.”.

**SEC. 13. GAO REPORT ON PRELIMINARY DAMAGE ASSESSMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on the practices, including the accuracy of such practices, that the Federal Emergency Management Agency uses when conducting preliminary damage assessments for the pur-

poses of providing assistance under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174).

(b) CONTENTS.—The Comptroller General shall include in the study conducted under subsection (a) the following:

(1) A comparison of the process and procedures used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to complete preliminary damage assessments to the process and procedures used by private insurance companies following a major disaster.

(2) A review of training provided to individuals conducting preliminary damage assessments.

(3) A comparison of damage estimates for homes owned by individuals above the national median income to homes owned by individuals at or below the national median income.

**SEC. 14. APPLICABILITY.**

The amendments made by sections 4, 5, 7, 9, and 12 shall only apply to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 2 of House Resolution 1464, the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated to the end that all such motions are considered as withdrawn.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bills.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the en bloc motion to suspend the rules will be followed by 5-minute votes on motions to suspend the rules and pass: S. 3369, S. 4359, H.R. 2250, and H.R. 3630.

This is a 15-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 381, nays 39, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 481]

YEAS—381

Adams	Bost	Castor (FL)
Aderholt	Bordeaux	Castro (TX)
Aguilar	Bowman	Cawthorn
Allen	Boyle, Brendan	Chabot
Allred	F.	Cherfilus-
Amodei	Brady	McCormick
Armstrong	Brown (MD)	Chu
Arrington	Brown (OH)	Cicilline
Auchincloss	Brownley	Clark (MA)
Axne	Buchanan	Cleaver
Bacon	Buchson	Clyburn
Baird	Burchett	Cohen
Balderson	Bush	Cole
Banks	Bustos	Comer
Barr	Butterfield	Connolly
Barragán	Calvert	Conway
Bass	Cammack	Cooper
Beatty	Carbajal	Correa
Bentz	Cárdenas	Costa
Bera	Carey	Courtney
Bergman	Carl	Craig
Beyer	Carson	Crawford
Bice (OK)	Carter (GA)	Crenshaw
Bilirakis	Carter (LA)	Crow
Bishop (GA)	Carter (TX)	Cuellar
Blumenauer	Cartwright	Curtis
Blunt Rochester	Case	David (KS)
Bonamici	Casten	Davis, Danny K.

Davis, Rodney	Kelly (MS)	Pingree
Dean	Kelly (PA)	Pocan
DeFazio	Khanna	Porter
DeGette	Kildee	Pressley
DeLauro	Kilmer	Price (NC)
DelBene	Kim (CA)	Quigley
Demings	Kim (NJ)	Raskin
DeSaulnier	Kind	Reschenthaler
DesJarlais	Kirkpatrick	Rice (NY)
Diaz-Balart	Krishnamoorthi	Rodgers (WA)
Dingell	Kuster	Rogers (AL)
Doggett	Kustoff	Rogers (KY)
Doyle, Michael	LaHood	Ross
F.	LaMalfa	Rouzer
Duncan	Lamb	Roybal-Allard
Dunn	Lamborn	Ruiz
Ellzey	Langevin	Ruppersberger
Emmer	Larsen (WA)	Rush
Escobar	Larson (CT)	Rutherford
Eshoo	Latta	Ryan (NY)
Espallat	LaTurner	Ryan (OH)
Evans	Lawrence	Salazar
Fallon	Lawson (FL)	Sánchez
Feenstra	Lee (CA)	Sarbanes
Finstad	Lee (NV)	Scalise
Fischbach	Leger Fernandez	Scanlon
Fitzgerald	Lesko	Schakowsky
Fitzpatrick	Letlow	Schiff
Fleischmann	Levin (CA)	Schneider
Fletcher	Levin (MI)	Schrader
Flood	Lieu	Schrier
Flores	Lofgren	Schweikert
Foster	Long	Scott (VA)
Fox	Lowenthal	Scott, Austin
Frankel, Lois	Lucas	Scott, David
Franklin, C.	Luetkemeyer	Sempolinski
Scott	Luria	Sessions
Gaetz	Lynch	Sewell
Gallagher	Mace	Sherman
Gallego	Malinowski	Sherrill
Garamendi	Malliotakis	Simpson
Garbarino	Maloney,	Sires
Garcia (CA)	Carolyn B.	Slotkin
Garcia (IL)	Maloney, Sean	Smith (MO)
Garcia (TX)	Mann	Smith (NE)
Gibbs	Manning	Smith (NJ)
Gimenez	Mast	Smith (WA)
Golden	Matsui	Smucker
Gomez	McBath	Soto
Gonzales, Tony	McCarthy	Spanberger
Gonzalez (OH)	McCaul	Spartz
Gonzalez,	McClain	Speier
Vicente	McClintock	Stansbury
Gottheimer	McCollum	Stanton
Granger	McEachin	Stauber
Graves (LA)	McGovern	Steel
Graves (MO)	McKinley	Stefanik
Green, Al (TX)	McNerney	Steil
Griffith	Meeks	Steube
Grijalva	Meijer	Stevens
Grothman	Meng	Stewart
Guest	Meuser	Strickland
Guthrie	Mfume	Suozzi
Harder (CA)	Miller (WV)	Swalwell
Harshbarger	Miller-Meeks	Takano
Hartzler	Moolenaar	Tenney
Hayes	Mooney	Thompson (CA)
Herrell	Moore (UT)	Thompson (MS)
Higgins (LA)	Moore (WI)	Thompson (PA)
Higgins (NY)	Morelle	Tiffany
Hill	Moulton	Timmons
Himes	Mirman	Titus
Hinson	Murphy (FL)	Tlaib
Hollingsworth	Murphy (NC)	Tonko
Horsford	Nadler	Torres (CA)
Houlihan	Napolitano	Torres (NY)
Hoyer	Neal	Trahan
Hudson	Neguse	Trone
Huffman	Nehls	Turner
Huizenga	Newhouse	Underwood
Issa	Newman	Upton
Jackson Lee	Norcross	Valadao
Jacobs (CA)	O'Halleran	Van Duyne
Jacobs (NY)	Oberholte	Vargas
Jayapal	Ocasio-Cortez	Veasey
Jeffries	Omar	Velázquez
Johnson (LA)	Owens	Wagner
Johnson (OH)	Palazzo	Walberg
Johnson (SD)	Pallone	Waltz
Johnson (TX)	Palmer	Wasserman
Jones	Panetta	Schultz
Joyce (OH)	Pappas	Waters
Joyce (PA)	Pascrell	Watson Coleman
Kahele	Payne	Wenstrup
Kaptur	Peltola	Westerman
Katko	Perlmutter	Wexton
Keating	Peters	Wild
Keller	Pfleger	Williams (GA)
Kelly (IL)	Phillips	Williams (TX)

Wilson (FL) Womack Zeldin  
Wilson (SC) Yakym  
Wittman Yarmuth

[Roll No. 482]  
YEAS—359

Sánchez Spartz Turner  
Sarbanes Speier Underwood  
Scalise Upton  
Scanlon Stanton Valadao  
Schakowsky Stauber Van Duyne  
Schiff Steel Vargas  
Schneider Stefanik Veasey  
Schrader Lee (CA) Velázquez  
Lee (NV) Lee (NV)  
Leger Fernandez Leticia  
Estes Letlow  
Evans Levin (CA) Stewart  
Levin (MI) Scott (VA) Strickland  
Scott, Austin Suozzi  
Scott, David Swallow Wasserman  
Sessions Takano Schultz  
Sewell Taylor Waters  
Sherman Thompson (CA) Watson Coleman  
Sherrill Thompson (MS) Westerman  
Simpson Tiffany Wexton  
Sires Timmons Wild  
Slotkin Titus Williams (GA)  
Smith (NE) Tlaib Wilson (FL)  
Smith (NJ) Tonko Wilson (SC)  
Smith (WA) Torres (CA) Womack  
Smucker Torres (NY) Yakym  
Soto Trahan Yarmuth  
Spanberger Trone Zeldin

NAYS—39  
Babin Fulcher Miller (IL)  
Biggs Gohmert Moore (AL)  
Bishop (NC) Good (VA) Norman  
Boebert Gooden (TX) Perry  
Brooks Gosar Posey  
Buck Green (TN) Rice (SC)  
Budd Greene (GA) Rose  
Burgess Harris Rosendale  
Cline Hern Roy  
Cloud Hice (GA) Taylor  
Clyde Loudermilk Van Drew  
Davidson Massie Weber (TX)  
Donalds McHenry Webster (FL)

Adams Dunn LaTurner  
Aderholt Ellze Lawrence  
Aguiar Emmer Lawson (FL)  
Allen Escobar Lee (CA)  
Allred Eshoo Lee (NV)  
Amodei Espaillat Leger Fernandez  
Armstrong Estes Letlow  
Arrington Evans Levin (CA)  
Auchincloss Feenstra Levin (MI)  
Axne Ferguson Lieu  
Bacon Fitzgerald Lofgren  
Baird Fitzpatrick Long  
Balderson Fleischmann Loudermilk  
Banks Fletcher Lowenthal  
Barr Flores Lucas  
Barragán Foster Luria  
Bass Foyx Lynch  
Beatty Frankel, Lois Mace  
Bentz Franklin, C. Malinowski  
Bera Scott Malliotakis  
Bergman Fulcher Maloney,  
Beyer Gaetz Carolyn B.  
Bice (OK) Gallagher Maloney, Sean  
Bilirakis Gallego Manning  
Bishop (GA) Garamendi Massie  
Blumenauer Garbarino Mast  
Blunt Rochester Garcia (CA) Matsui  
Bonamici Garcia (IL) McBeth  
Bost Garcia (TX) McCarthy  
Bourdeaux Golden McCaul  
Bowman Gomez McClintock  
Boyle, Brendan Gonzales, Tony McCollum  
F. Gonzalez (OH) McEachin  
Gonzalez, McGovern  
Vicente McHenry  
Gottheimer McKinley  
Granger McNeerney  
Buchanan Graves (LA) Meeeks  
Bucshon Graves (MO) Meijer  
Budd Green (TN) Meng  
Burchett Green, Al (TX) Meuser  
Burgess Greene (GA) Mfume  
Bush Griffith Miller (WV)  
Bustos Grijalva Miller-Meeks  
Butterfield Grothman Moolenaar  
Calvert Guest Mooney  
Carbajal Guthrie Moore (UT)  
Cárdenas Harder (CA) Moore (WI)  
Carey Hayes Morelle  
Carl Hice (GA) Moulton  
Carson Higgins (NY) Mrvan  
Carter (GA) Hill Murphy (FL)  
Carter (LA) Himes Nadler  
Carter (TX) Hinson Napolitano  
Cartwright Hollingsworth Neal  
Case Horsford Neguse  
Casten Houlihan Newhouse  
Castor (FL) Hoyer Newman  
Castro (TX) Hudson Norcross  
Cherfilus-Huffman O'Halleran  
McCormick Issa Obernolte  
Chu Jackson Lee Ocasio-Cortez  
Cicilline Jacobs (CA) Omar  
Clark (MA) Jacobs (NY) Palazzo  
Clarke (NY) Jayapal Pallone  
Cleaver Jeffries Panetta  
Clyburn Johnson (GA) Pappas  
Clyde Johnson (LA) Pascrell  
Cohen Johnson (OH) Payne  
Cole Johnson (SD) Peltola  
Connolly Johnson (TX) Perlmutter  
Conway Jones Peters  
Cooper Joyce (OH) Phillips  
Correa Kahele Pingree  
Costa Kaptur Pocan  
Courtney Katko Porter  
Craig Keating Posey  
Crenshaw Kelly (IL) Pressley  
Crow Kelly (MS) Price (NC)  
Cuellar Khanna Quigley  
Curtis Kildee Raskin  
Davids (KS) Kilmer Reschenthaler  
Davidson Kim (CA) Rice (NY)  
Davis, Danny K. Kim (NJ) Rodgers (WA)  
Davis, Rodney Kind Rogers (AL)  
Dean Kirkpatrick Rogers (KY)  
DeFazio Krishnamoorthi Rose  
DeGette Kuster Ross  
DeLauro Kustoff Roybal-Allard  
DelBene LaHood Ruiz  
Demings LaMalfa Ruppertsberger  
DesSaulnier Lamb Rush  
DesJarlais Lamborn Rutherford  
Diaz-Balart Langevin Ryan (NY)  
Dingell Larsen (WA) Ryan (OH)  
Doggett Larson (CT) Salazar

NOT VOTING—12  
Cheney Herrera Beutler Kinzinger  
Clarke (NY) Jackson Mullin  
Estes Johnson (GA) Pence  
Ferguson Jordan Welch

□ 1406  
Messrs. VAN DREW and HARRIS changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bills were 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

Aderholt (Guest)	Kind (Beyer)	Napolitano
Bass (Cicilline)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
Brooks (Moore (AL))	(Pallone)	Newman (Correa)
Cawthorn (Gaetz)	Larson (CT)	O'Halleran
Conway (Valadao)	(Cicilline)	(Pappas)
Courtney (Perlmutter)	Lawson (FL)	Palazzo
Cuellar (Correa)	(Wasserman)	(Bilirakis)
DeFazio (Pallone)	Schultz)	Pascrell
Demings (Kelly (IL))	Long	(Pallone)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)	(Fleischmann)	Payne (Pallone)
Green (TN)	Lowenthal	Porter (Neguse)
Higgins (NY)	(Beyer)	Rice (SC)
(Cicilline)	Maloney, Sean P.	(Valadao)
Jacobs (NY)	(Cicilline)	Rush (Beyer)
(Sempolinski)	McBeth (Kelly (IL))	Sires (Pallone)
Johnson (TX)	(Fleischmann)	Stevens (Neguse)
(Pallone)	McEachin	Thompson (CA)
Khanna (Neguse)	(Beyer)	(Correa)
	Meng (Rice (NY))	Timmons (Mace)
	Morelle (Rice (NY))	Waltz (Valadao)
	Murphy (FL)	Wilson (FL)
	(Wasserman)	(Cicilline)
	Schultz)	

MAX CLELAND VA MEDICAL CENTER 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. 3369) to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, as the “Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”, 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 California (Mr. TAKANO) 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 359, nays 62, answered “present” 2, not voting 9, as follows:

Adams Dunn LaTurner  
Aderholt Ellze Lawrence  
Aguiar Emmer Lawson (FL)  
Allen Escobar Lee (CA)  
Allred Eshoo Lee (NV)  
Amodei Espaillat Leger Fernandez  
Armstrong Estes Letlow  
Arrington Evans Levin (CA)  
Auchincloss Feenstra Levin (MI)  
Axne Ferguson Lieu  
Bacon Fitzgerald Lofgren  
Baird Fitzpatrick Long  
Balderson Fleischmann Loudermilk  
Banks Fletcher Lowenthal  
Barr Flores Lucas  
Barragán Foster Luria  
Bass Foyx Lynch  
Beatty Frankel, Lois Mace  
Bentz Franklin, C. Malinowski  
Bera Scott Malliotakis  
Bergman Fulcher Maloney,  
Beyer Gaetz Carolyn B.  
Bice (OK) Gallagher Maloney, Sean  
Bilirakis Gallego Manning  
Bishop (GA) Garamendi Massie  
Blumenauer Garbarino Mast  
Blunt Rochester Garcia (CA) Matsui  
Bonamici Garcia (IL) McBeth  
Bost Garcia (TX) McCarthy  
Bourdeaux Golden McCaul  
Bowman Gomez McClintock  
Boyle, Brendan Gonzales, Tony McCollum  
F. Gonzalez (OH) McEachin  
Gonzalez, McGovern  
Vicente McHenry  
Gottheimer McKinley  
Granger McNeerney  
Buchanan Graves (LA) Meeeks  
Bucshon Graves (MO) Meijer  
Budd Green (TN) Meng  
Burchett Green, Al (TX) Meuser  
Burgess Greene (GA) Mfume  
Bush Griffith Miller (WV)  
Bustos Grijalva Miller-Meeks  
Butterfield Grothman Moolenaar  
Calvert Guest Mooney  
Carbajal Guthrie Moore (UT)  
Cárdenas Harder (CA) Moore (WI)  
Carey Hayes Morelle  
Carl Hice (GA) Moulton  
Carson Higgins (NY) Mrvan  
Carter (GA) Hill Murphy (FL)  
Carter (LA) Himes Nadler  
Carter (TX) Hinson Napolitano  
Cartwright Hollingsworth Neal  
Case Horsford Neguse  
Casten Houlihan Newhouse  
Castor (FL) Hoyer Newman  
Castro (TX) Hudson Norcross  
Cherfilus-Huffman O'Halleran  
McCormick Issa Obernolte  
Chu Jackson Lee Ocasio-Cortez  
Cicilline Jacobs (CA) Omar  
Clark (MA) Jacobs (NY) Palazzo  
Clarke (NY) Jayapal Pallone  
Cleaver Jeffries Panetta  
Clyburn Johnson (GA) Pappas  
Clyde Johnson (LA) Pascrell  
Cohen Johnson (OH) Payne  
Cole Johnson (SD) Peltola  
Connolly Johnson (TX) Perlmutter  
Conway Jones Peters  
Cooper Joyce (OH) Phillips  
Correa Kahele Pingree  
Costa Kaptur Pocan  
Courtney Katko Porter  
Craig Keating Posey  
Crenshaw Kelly (IL) Pressley  
Crow Kelly (MS) Price (NC)  
Cuellar Khanna Quigley  
Curtis Kildee Raskin  
Davids (KS) Kilmer Reschenthaler  
Davidson Kim (CA) Rice (NY)  
Davis, Danny K. Kim (NJ) Rodgers (WA)  
Davis, Rodney Kind Rogers (AL)  
Dean Kirkpatrick Rogers (KY)  
DeFazio Krishnamoorthi Rose  
DeGette Kuster Ross  
DeLauro Kustoff Roybal-Allard  
DelBene LaHood Ruiz  
Demings LaMalfa Ruppertsberger  
DesSaulnier Lamb Rush  
DesJarlais Lamborn Rutherford  
Diaz-Balart Langevin Ryan (NY)  
Dingell Larsen (WA) Ryan (OH)  
Doggett Larson (CT) Salazar

NAYS—62  
Babin Gohmert Murphy (NC)  
Biggs Good (VA) Nehls  
Bishop (NC) Gooden (TX) Norman  
Boebert Gosar Owens  
Brooks Harris Palmer  
Buck Harshbarger Perry  
Cammack Hartzler Pfluger  
Cawthorn Hern Rice (SC)  
Chabot Herrell Rouzer  
Cline Higgins (LA) Sempolinski  
Cloud Jordan Smith (MO)  
Comer Joyce (PA) Steube  
Crowford Keller Tenney  
Donalds Kelly (PA) Thompson (PA)  
Duncan Latta Van Drew  
Fallon Lesko Weber (TX)  
Finstad Luetkemeyer Webster (FL)  
Fischbach Mann Wenstrup  
Flood McClain Williams (TX)  
Gibbs Miller (IL) Wittman  
Gimenez Moore (AL)

ANSWERED “PRESENT”—2

Rosendale	Roy	
NOT VOTING—9		
Cheney	Huizenga	Pence
Doyle, Michael	Jackson	Welch
F.	Kinzinger	
Herrera Beutler	Mullin	

□ 1423

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

Aderholt (Guest)	Johnson (TX)	Murphy (FL)
Bass (Cicilline)	(Pallone)	(Wasserman)
Brooks (Moore (AL))	Khanna (Neguse)	Schultz)
Cawthorn (Gaetz)	Kind (Beyer)	Napolitano
Conway (Valadao)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
Courtney (Perlmutter)	(Pallone)	Newman (Correa)
Cuellar (Correa)	Larson (CT)	O'Halleran
DeFazio (Pallone)	(Cicilline)	(Pappas)
Demings (Kelly (IL))	Lawson (FL)	Palazzo
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)	(Wasserman)	(Bilirakis)
Ferguson (Kustoff)	Schultz)	Pascrell
Green (TN)	Long	(Pallone)
(Fleischmann)	(Fleischmann)	Payne (Pallone)
Higgins (NY)	Lowenthal	Porter (Neguse)
(Cicilline)	(Beyer)	Rice (SC)
Jacobs (NY)	(Valadao)	(Fleischmann)
(Sempolinski)	Maloney, Sean P.	Rush (Beyer)
	(Cicilline)	Sires (Pallone)
	McBeth (Kelly (IL))	Stevens (Neguse)
	(Fleischmann)	Thompson (CA)
	(Beyer)	(Correa)
	Meng (Rice (NY))	Timmons (Mace)
	Morelle (Rice (NY))	Waltz (Valadao)
	(Sempolinski)	Wilson (FL)
		(Cicilline)

SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON VA REGIONAL OFFICE 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. 4359) to designate the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta as the “Senator Johnny Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional Office”, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) 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 418, nays 2, answered “present” 2, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 483]

YEAS—418

Adams	Cawthorn	Foxx
Aderholt	Chabot	Frankel, Lois
Aguilar	Cherfilus-	Franklin, C.
Allen	McCormick	Scott
Allred	Chu	Fulcher
Amodei	Cielline	Gaetz
Armstrong	Clark (MA)	Gallagher
Arrington	Clarke (NY)	Gallego
Auchincloss	Cleaver	Garamendi
Axne	Cline	Garbarino
Babin	Cloud	Garcia (CA)
Bacon	Clyburn	Garcia (IL)
Baird	Clyde	Garcia (TX)
Balderson	Cohen	Gibbs
Banks	Cole	Gimenez
Barr	Comer	Gohmert
Barragán	Connolly	Golden
Bass	Conway	Gomez
Beatty	Cooper	Gonzales, Tony
Bentz	Correa	Gonzalez (OH)
Bera	Costa	Gonzalez,
Bergman	Courtney	Vicente
Beyer	Craig	Good (VA)
Bice (OK)	Crawford	Gooden (TX)
Biggs	Crenshaw	Gosar
Bilirakis	Crow	Gottheimer
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Granger
Bishop (NC)	Curtis	Graves (LA)
Blumenauer	Davids (KS)	Graves (MO)
Blunt Rochester	Davidson	Green (TN)
Bonamici	Davis, Danny K.	Green, Al (TX)
Bost	Davis, Rodney	Greene (GA)
Bourdeaux	Dean	Griffith
Bowman	DeFazio	Grijalva
Boyle, Brendan	DeGette	Grothman
F.	DeLauro	Guest
Brady	DelBene	Guthrie
Brooks	Demings	Harder (CA)
Brown (MD)	DeSaulnier	Harris
Brown (OH)	DesJarlais	Harshbarger
Brownley	Diaz-Balart	Hartzler
Buchanan	Dingell	Hayes
Buck	Doggett	Hern
Bucshon	Donalds	Herrrell
Budd	Duncan	Hice (GA)
Burchett	Dunn	Higgins (LA)
Burgess	Ellzey	Higgins (NY)
Bush	Emmer	Hill
Bustos	Escobar	Himes
Butterfield	Eshoo	Hinson
Calvert	Espallat	Hollingsworth
Cammack	Estes	Horsford
Carbajal	Evans	Houlahan
Cárdenas	Fallon	Hoyer
Carey	Feenstra	Hudson
Carl	Ferguson	Huffman
Carson	Finstad	Issa
Carter (GA)	Fischbach	Jackson Lee
Carter (LA)	Fitzgerald	Jacobs (CA)
Carter (TX)	Fitzpatrick	Jacobs (NY)
Cartwright	Fleischmann	Jayapal
Case	Fletcher	Jeffries
Casten	Flood	Johnson (GA)
Castor (FL)	Flores	Johnson (LA)
Castro (TX)	Foster	Johnson (OH)

Johnson (SD)	Miller (IL)
Johnson (TX)	Miller (WV)
Jones	Miller-Meeks
Jordan	Moolenaar
Joyce (OH)	Mooney
Joyce (PA)	Moore (AL)
Kahele	Moore (UT)
Kaptur	Moore (WI)
Katko	Morelle
Keating	Moulton
Keller	Mrvan
Kelly (IL)	Murphy (FL)
Kelly (MS)	Murphy (NC)
Kelly (PA)	Nadler
Khanna	Napolitano
Kildee	Neal
Kilmer	Neguse
Kim (CA)	Nehls
Kim (NJ)	Newhouse
Kind	Newman
Kirkpatrick	Norcross
Krishnamoorthi	Norman
Kuster	O'Halleran
Kustoff	Obermole
LaHood	Ocasio-Cortez
LaMalfa	Omar
Lamb	Owens
Lamborn	Pallone
Langevin	Palmer
Larsen (WA)	Panetta
Larson (CT)	Pappas
Latta	Pascrell
LaTurner	Payne
Lawrence	Peltola
Lawson (FL)	Perlmutter
Lee (CA)	Perry
Lee (NV)	Peters
Leger Fernandez	Pfleger
Lesko	Phillips
Letlow	Pingree
Levin (CA)	Pocan
Levin (MI)	Porter
Lieu	Posey
Lofgren	Pressley
Long	Price (NC)
Loudermilk	Quigley
Lowenthal	Raskin
Lucas	Reschenthaler
Luetkemeyer	Rice (NY)
Luria	Rice (SC)
Lynch	Rodgers (WA)
Mace	Rogers (AL)
Malinowski	Rogers (KY)
Malliotakis	Rose
Maloney,	Ross
Carolyn B.	Rouzer
Maloney, Sean	Roybal-Allard
Mann	Ruiz
Manning	Ruppersberger
Mast	Rush
Matsui	Rutherford
McBath	Ryan (NY)
McCarthy	Ryan (OH)
McCaul	Salazar
McClain	Sánchez
McClintock	Sarbanes
McColum	Scalise
McEachin	Scanlon
McGovern	Schakowsky
McHenry	Schiff
McKinley	Schneider
McNerney	Schrader
Meeks	Schrier
Meijer	Schweikert
Meng	Scott (VA)
Meuser	Scott, Austin
Mfume	Scott, David

NAYS—2

Boebert Massie  
Rosendale Roy

NOT VOTING—10

Cheney	Huizenga	Palazzo
Doyle, Michael	Jackson	Pence
F.	Kinzinger	Welch
Herrera Beutler	Mullin	

□ 1434

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

Aderholt (Guest)	Johnson (TX)	Murphy (FL)
Bass (Cielline)	(Pallone)	(Wasserman)
Brooks (Moore)	Khanna (Neguse)	Schultz)
(AL)	Kind (Beyer)	Napolitano
Cawthorn (Gaetz)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
Conway	(Pallone)	Neal (Beyer)
(Valadao)	Larson (CT)	Newman (Correa)
Courtney	(Cielline)	O'Halleran
(Perlmutter)	Lawson (FL)	(Pappas)
Cuellar (Correa)	(Wasserman)	Pascrell
DeFazio	Schultz)	(Pallone)
(Pallone)	Long	Payne (Pallone)
Demings (Kelly	(Fleischmann)	Porter (Neguse)
(IL)	Lowenthal	Rice (SC)
DesJarlais	(Beyer)	(Valadao)
(Fleischmann)	Maloney, Sean P.	Rush (Beyer)
Ferguson	(Cielline)	Sires (Pallone)
(Kustoff)	McBath (Kelly	Stevens (Neguse)
Green (TN)	(IL))	Thompson (CA)
(Fleischmann)	McEachin	(Correa)
Higgins (NY)	(Beyer)	Timmons (Mace)
(Cielline)	Meng (Rice (NY))	Waltz (Valadao)
Jacobs (NY)	Morelle (Rice	Wilson (FL)
(Sempolinski)	(NY))	(Cielline)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REFORM ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2250) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs, 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 California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 2, answered “present” 1, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 484]

YEAS—414

Adams	Bonamici	Castor (FL)
Aderholt	Bost	Castro (TX)
Aguilar	Bourdeaux	Cawthorn
Allen	Bowman	Chabot
Allred	Boyle, Brendan	Cherfilus-
Amodei	F.	McCormick
Armstrong	Brady	Chu
Arrington	Brooks	Cielline
Auchincloss	Brown (MD)	Clark (MA)
Axne	Brown (OH)	Clarke (NY)
Babin	Brownley	Cleaver
Bacon	Buchanan	Cline
Baird	Buck	Cloud
Balderson	Bucshon	Clyburn
Banks	Budd	Clyde
Barr	Burchett	Cohen
Barragán	Burgess	Cole
Bass	Bush	Comer
Beatty	Bustos	Connolly
Bentz	Butterfield	Conway
Bera	Calvert	Cooper
Bergman	Cammack	Correa
Beyer	Carbajal	Costa
Bice (OK)	Cárdenas	Courtney
Biggs	Carey	Craig
Bilirakis	Carl	Crawford
Bishop (GA)	Carson	Crenshaw
Bishop (NC)	Carter (GA)	Crow
Blumenauer	Carter (LA)	Cuellar
Blunt Rochester	Carter (TX)	Curtis
Boebert	Case	Davids (KS)

Davidson Jordan Omar Underwood Waltz Wild
Davis, Danny K. Joyce (OH) Owens Upton Wasserman Williams (GA)
Davis, Rodney Joyce (PA) Palazzo Valadao Schultz Williams (TX)

Van Drew Waters Wilson (FL) Adams
Van Dуйne Watson Coleman Wilson (SC) Aderholt
Vargas Weber (TX) Wittman Allen Aguilars

NAYS—2
Casten Garcia (TX)

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

NOT VOTING—15

Cartwright Gonzalez, Kinzinger
Cheney Vicente Mullin
Doyle, Michael Herrera Beutler Pence
F. Huizenga Salazar
Ferguson Jackson Welch
Kahele Yarmuth

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remain-

□ 1443

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

Aderholt (Guest) Kind (Beyer) Napolitano
Bass (Cicilline) Kirkpatrick (Correa)
Brooks (Moore) (Pallone) Neal (Beyer)

[Roll No. 485]
YEAS—402
Demings Keating
DeSaulnier Keller
DesJarlais Kelly (IL)
Diaz-Balart Kelly (MS)
Dingell Kelly (PA)
Doggett Khanna
Donalds Kildee
Duncan Killmer
Dunn Kim (CA)
Ellzey Kim (NJ)
Emmer Kind
Eshoo Escobar Kirkpatrick
Espaillat Eshoo Krishnamoorthi
Estes Kuster
Evans Kustoff
Fallon Larson (WA)
Fenstra Larson (CT)
Finstad Latta
Fischbach LaTurner
Fitzgerald Lawrence
Fleischmann Lawson (FL)
Fletcher Lee (CA)
Flood Lee (NV)
Flores Leger Fernandez
Foster Lesko
Foxy Letlow
Frankel, Lois Scott
Franklin, C. Fulcher
Scott Gallagher
Levin (CA) Levin (MI)
Levin (MI) Lieu
Lieu Lofgren
Lofgren Long
Long Loudermilk
Gallagher Gallego
Gallego Lowenthal
Garamendi Lucas
Garbarino Lucas
Garcia (CA) Luetkemeyer
Garcia (IL) Luria
Gibbs Lynch
Gimenez Mace
Gohmert Malinowski
Golden Malliotakis
Gomez Maloney, Carolyn B.
Gonzales, Tony Carolyn B.
Gonzalez (OH) Maloney, Sean
Good (VA) Mann
Gooden (TX) Manning
Gosar Mast
Gottheimer Matsui
Granger McBath
Graves (LA) Green (TN)
Graves (MO) Green, Al (TX)
Green (TN) Greene (GA)
Green, Al (TX) Griffith
Greene (GA) Grothman
Griffith Grothman
Grijalva Guest
Grothman Guest
Guest Guthrie
Guthrie McKinley
Harder (CA) McNerney
Harris Meeks
Harshbarger Meijer
Hartzler Meng
Hayes Meuser
Hern Mfume
Herrell Miller (IL)
Hice (GA) Miller (WV)
Higgins (LA) Miller-Meeks
Higgins (NY) Moolenaar
Hill Mooney
Himes Moore (AL)
Hinson Moore (UT)
Hollingsworth Moore (WI)
Horsford Morelle
Houlahan Moulton
Hoyer Mrvan
Hudson Murphy (FL)
Huffman Murphy (NC)
Issa Nadler
Jackson Lee Napolitano
Jacobs (CA) Neal
Jacobs (NY) Neguse
Jayapal Nehls
Jeffries Newhouse
Johnson (GA) Newman
Johnson (LA) Norcross
Johnson (OH) Norman
Johnson (SD) O'Halleran
Johnson (TX) Obernolte
Jones Ocasio-Cortez

LYMPHEDEMA TREATMENT ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3630) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program, 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. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 13, not voting 17, as follows:



Pallone	Schiff	Thompson (PA)
Palmer	Schneider	Tiffany
Panetta	Schrier	Timmons
Pappas	Schweikert	Titus
Pascarell	Scott (VA)	Tlaib
Payne	Scott, Austin	Tonko
Peltola	Scott, David	Torres (CA)
Perlmutter	Sempolinski	Torres (NY)
Perry	Sessions	Trahan
Peters	Trone	Sewell
Pfleger	Sherman	Turner
Phillips	Sherrill	Underwood
Pingree	Sires	Upton
Pocan	Slotkin	Valadao
Porter	Smith (MO)	Van Drew
Posey	Smith (NE)	Van Duyne
Pressley	Smith (NJ)	Vargas
Price (NC)	Smith (WA)	Veasey
Quigley	Smucker	Velázquez
Raskin	Soto	Wagner
Reschenthaler	Spanberger	Walberg
Rice (NY)	Spartz	Waltz
Rice (SC)	Speier	Wasserman
Rodgers (WA)	Stansbury	Schultz
Rogers (AL)	Stanton	Waters
Rogers (KY)	Stauber	Watson Coleman
Ross	Steel	Weber (TX)
Rouzer	Stefanik	Webster (FL)
Roybal-Allard	Steil	Wenstrup
Ruiz	Steube	Westerman
Ruppersberger	Stevens	Wexton
Rush	Stewart	Wild
Rutherford	Strickland	Williams (GA)
Ryan (NY)	Suozzi	Williams (TX)
Ryan (OH)	Swalwell	Wilson (FL)
Salazar	Takano	Wilson (SC)
Sánchez	Taylor	Wittman
Sarbanes	Tenney	Womack
Scanlon	Thompson (CA)	Yakym
Schakowsky	Thompson (MS)	Zeldin

NAYS—13

Biggs	Clyde	Rose
Boebert	Gaetz	Rosendale
Buck	Good (VA)	Roy
Cawthorn	Hice (GA)	
Cline	Norman	

NOT VOTING—17

Cartwright	Herrera Beutler	Pence
Cheney	Huizenga	Scalise
Doyle, Michael F.	Jackson	Schrader
Ferguson	Jeffries	Simpson
Grijalva	Kinzinger	Welch
	Mullin	Yarmuth

□ 1455

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

Aderholt (Guest)	Kind (Beyer)	Napolitano
Bass (Cicilline)	Kirkpatrick	(Correa)
Brooks (Moore)	(Pallone)	Neal (Beyer)
(AL)	Larson (CT)	Newman (Correa)
Cawthorn (Gaetz)	(Cicilline)	O'Halleran
Conway	Lawson (FL)	(Pappas)
(Valadao)	(Wasserman	Palazzo
Courtney	Schultz)	(Bilirakis)
(Perlmutter)	Long	Pascarell
Cuellar (Correa)	(Fleischmann)	(Pallone)
DeFazio	Lowenthal	Payne (Pallone)
(Pallone)	(Beyer)	Porter (Neguse)
Demings (Kelly	Maloney, Sean P.	Rice (SC)
(IL))	(Cicilline)	(Valadao)
DesJarlais	McBath (Kelly	Rush (Beyer)
(Fleischmann)	(IL))	Sires (Pallone)
Green (TN)	McEachin	Stevens (Neguse)
(Fleischmann)	(Beyer)	Thompson (CA)
Higgins (NY)	Meng (Rice (NY))	(Correa)
(Cicilline)	Morelle (Rice	Timmons (Mace)
Jacobs (NY)	(NY))	Waltz (Valadao)
(Sempolinski)	Murphy (FL)	Wilson (FL)
Johnson (TX)	(Wasserman	(Cicilline)
(Pallone)	Schultz)	
Khanna (Neguse)		

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JONES) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Education and Labor:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, November 16, 2022.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write today to request to be removed from the House Education and Labor Committee. It has been an honor to serve on the Education and Labor Committee and to work on issues of vital importance to Floridians.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,  
SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK,  
Member of Congress.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM ACTING CHAIR OF COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the acting chair of the Committee on Ethics:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,  
Washington, DC, November 16, 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 the Committee on Ethics has been served with a third-party subpoena to produce documents in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, the Committee has determined that only partial compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,  
SUSAN WILD,  
Acting Chairwoman.  
MICHAEL GUEST,  
Acting Ranking Member.

□ 1500

RECONSIDER HACKENSACK SAFER GRANT

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

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly urge the Hackensack City Council to reconsider their decision to turn down a nearly \$2.4 million Federal grant to hire new firefighters, which the Hackensack Fire Department and I worked very hard to claw back from Washington to New Jersey.

This grant will hire new firefighters to better protect our first responders, families, and help lower property taxes by taking the financial burden off of Hackensack taxpayers.

This week, I stood with the Hackensack Fire Department, the Professional Firefighters Association of New Jersey, Hackensack IAFF Locals 2081 and 3172, and Bergen County Executive Jim Tedesco to call on the Hackensack City Council to accept this Federal grant.

We know that firefighters will be retiring in the coming years, and the public safety report calls for the city to hire new firefighters. Yet, the city council plans to reject the grant and resubmit it for fewer firefighters.

I will do everything I can to support any revised grant application, but this is a very risky decision that could result in no new firefighters being hired with Federal investment, and that puts people's lives in danger.

Mr. Speaker, we must always look out for our families and get the backs of those who protect us.

RECOGNIZING ASHLEY REES

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

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of one of my constituents, Ashley Rees, who has been awarded the American Fork High School Visual Arts Sterling Scholar Award.

The Sterling Scholar Award recognizes the talent of students gifted in the arts and sciences in my home State of Utah. This is an impressive award, and I can only think of a few who are as worthy of this award as Ashley.

I have been personally impressed with Ashley's artwork, but also her hard work and her dedication to her growth as an artist. I am thankful to have such young, talented artists like Ashley in my district.

As the Representative for the youngest congressional district in the United States, few things make me prouder than seeing the talent of some of these young constituents.

Congratulations, Ashley. I look forward to seeing you flourish more and more.

NATIONAL VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH

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

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Veterans and Military Families Month.

Last week, I joined communities across Wake County to celebrate Veterans Day, a time when we honor the courageous men and women of our Armed Forces who put their lives on the line to defend our democracy.

As the proud daughter of an Air Force veteran, I know that behind every servicemember is a family making sacrifices every day. But thanking our veterans and their families is simply not enough. We must recommit ourselves to providing them with the care and benefits they have earned.

We, in North Carolina, support our veterans. Just last week, Raleigh, in my district, was named the best place in the country for veterans to live.

Mr. Speaker, let's strive to make every community an incredible place for our veterans to call home.

#### AMERICA FIRST

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, recently we saw yard signs across our Nation proclaiming "America First."

To put America first should mean defending our people against all enemies, foreign and domestic. That is a daunting task, indeed. No nation, including ours, is an island in a world where nuclear weapons, predatory armed submarines, cyber warfare, and space technologies encircle our globe and are ever-present threats.

Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine reminds all of us that no freedom-loving nation can fold its tent. Liberty threatened by known expansionists and fervent regimes threaten world order. Russia is testing the resolve of NATO and our free world.

I am old enough to have lived during an era in which Russia's historic aggression into territory that was not its own extended as far west as East Berlin, Germany.

Russia is repeating its brutal history yet again on the European Continent, a continent in which our Nation's World War II war dead reached 183,588 and globally over 416,800.

Our Nation cannot retreat from our alliances that protect us here at home and the rule of law the world around. Victory to Ukraine.

#### REMEMBERING THE LIVES OF LAVEL DAVIS, JR., DEVIN CHANDLER, AND D'SEAN PERRY

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

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I stand here as a Virginian, a UVA alumna, and a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives to remember the UVA football teammates who were shot and killed earlier this week.

For the University of Virginia, it has been an unimaginable loss for their families, and it has been an unthinkable reality.

This week, we remember Lavel Davis, Jr. We remember Devin Chandler. We remember D'Sean Perry.

Both on the field and off the field, their classmates, their coaches, their professors, and their loved ones saw their commitment to success. They saw their selflessness, their curiosity, and their determination to make the University of Virginia, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and our Nation a stronger place.

Please join me in remembering their lives, honoring their memories, and standing strong as their families mourn. We also stand with the University of Virginia student body, professors, the community, the entire football team, and all those who are impacted by this horrific loss.

We also pray for the recovery of Michael Hollins, Jr., as he and his family continue on the long road to healing.

This week has demonstrated the resilience of the UVA community. May we forever remember the lives that were lost: Lavel Davis, Jr., Devin Chandler, and D'Sean Perry.

#### RECOGNIZING THERESE McMILLAN

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

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of a friend and a dedicated public servant, Therese McMillan, who is retiring as executive director of the San Francisco Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Therese began her work with MTC in 1984 and then moved to the Federal Transit Administration, most notably as the acting administrator from 2014 to 2016. In 2019, Therese returned to the MTC as its new executive director.

Under her leadership, MTC established an Equity Platform to advance policies and make investments that will ensure all residents of the San Francisco Bay Area are considered when discussing the bay area's transit needs. She also helped to establish minimum housing density targets near transit stations to foster ridership.

I have had the pleasure of working with Therese over the years. She has always been smart, kind, and dedicated to doing what is best. Please join me in congratulating Therese on a magnificent career of public service and wishing her the best on her retirement and her nearly three decades of service to our community.

#### CERVICAL CANCER ELIMINATION DAY OF ACTION

(Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cervical Cancer Elimination Day of Action.

Two years ago, the World Health Organization launched a global strategy to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer by 2030. Last year, the WHO announced a partnership with Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, part of the University of Miami's Health System, designating it the first WHO Collaborating Centre for Cervical Cancer Elimination.

Across the globe, one woman dies every 2 minutes from cervical cancer, even though the disease is preventable, treatable, detectable, and curable.

Here at home, according to the CDC, 13,000 new cases of cervical cancer are diagnosed, and 4,000 women die of this preventable and treatable cancer every year. Cervical cancer disproportionately affects Hispanic and Black women.

Social determinants of health such as income, lack of access to the internet, race, geographic location, and limited access to transportation often impact women's ability to obtain needed prevention, screening, and treatment for cervical cancer. This is why I wanted to highlight Sylvester's work on developing new cost-efficient tests for HPV, improve treatment options to prolong survival, and increasing screening through mobile outreach campaigns.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sylvester's focus on decreasing cancer disparities across South Florida and beyond.

#### ABORTION RIGHTS ARE A KITCHEN TABLE ISSUE

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

Ms. JACOBS of California. Mr. Speaker, the debate is officially over: abortion rights are a kitchen table issue.

Last week, abortion rights were on the ballot in five States. Abortion rights went five for five, not only in what are considered blue States, like California and Vermont, but in a battleground State like Michigan, and red States like Montana and Kentucky.

Abortion was one of the top issues that motivated people to vote. That is because, for me and for millions of women, reproductive healthcare is our healthcare. That is why women showed up at the ballot box to defend abortion rights. That is why we need to do the same in Congress.

The House has already passed legislation to protect the right to access an abortion and contraception and protect those who cross State lines to access an abortion.

We need to do more. The House needs to pass the My Body, My Data Act, to create a new national standard to protect reproductive and sexual health data. The Senate needs to step up and abolish the filibuster so we can finally protect abortion rights at the Federal level.

Mr. Speaker, the voters spoke loud and clear. It is time to hear them and to act.

#### NEW MEXICANS VOTE TO INVEST IN THEIR CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

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

Ms. STANSBURY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today after a historic election in New Mexico and across the United States in which voters voted to not only uphold our democracy, our basic rights, but the continued fight to serve our communities. That includes the passage of

Constitutional Amendment 1 to invest in New Mexico's children and ensure that every single child across our State has access to early childhood education and care.

Last week, New Mexicans showed up across the State in every city, in every county, in every community. From Mescalero to Mountainair, from Albuquerque to Anton Chico, from Sandia Pueblo to Santa Rosa, and from Rio Rancho to Roswell and Ruidoso, over 70 percent of New Mexicans voted to invest in early childhood education and care.

New Mexicans believe in our people, they believe in our communities, and they believe that every single child should have what they need to thrive. But we have one more hurdle to cross to make this a reality, and that sits with our body here in Congress.

Because of antiquated laws that were put on the books over a century ago, we must provide concurrence so that our communities are able to tap these funds and make historic investments in our kids.

Today, I urge every single Member of this body to hear our voices, to hear the voices of New Mexicans and our children. New Mexicans want our kids to be able to access the resources they need. They are ready to lead the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to pass this concurring language now without delay and invest in New Mexico, our children, and our future.

□ 1515

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

H.R. 8454. An ACT to expand research on cannabidiol and marijuana, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 94-201, as amended by Public Law 105-275, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress:

Natalie Anne Merchant of New York.

#### THE END OF AN ERA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, the House will be leaving town today, heading back to our States, heading back to our districts. Obviously, this will be a week of thanksgiving and, obviously, I wish all of my colleagues well and safe travel. We have much, of course, for which to be thankful in this great country.

But there are great concerns that we face. Today, obviously, we had the speech and the news about the future of Speaker PELOSI. The outgoing Speaker has had a long career in this body, and I wish her well. I wish her the best in the next chapter of her life.

Some are saying it is an end of an era; and I would say that it is only an end of an era if we choose to make it so.

Speaker PELOSI ran this Chamber not terribly unlike her Republican predecessors, and I don't necessarily mean that to be the right way to do things; bills that are cooked up in small rooms among leadership staff and Members of leadership; thousands of pages of legislation dropped on Members at the 11th hour; key pieces of legislation that are shuttled through committee without significant debate and then dropped on the floor.

Sometimes we have what is called suspension votes, where we suspend the rules and we have votes on the floor with no Members here to debate it or discuss it; just take the word of the committees on which I don't serve; amendments on the floor of this body restrained since May of 2016, under both parties' leadership.

Some people refer to this as a cartel. Some refer to it as the swamp. What it is, regardless of branding, we know that it takes power away from the legislators and, thereby, takes power away from the people who sent their legislators here to represent them.

The only way we are going to make this the end of an era is if we change the way we do things, and we should. I am saying this now that there is a Republican majority about to take the gavel. I believe we have to change the way this town works. I believe we have to change the way this body works.

The reason that I introduced the Article I Act in the first Congress that I served in this body, while President Trump was in office, to reclaim power from the executive branch, to say that we must have a voice in these ongoing emergency declarations, some of which date back to the 1970s. The reason that I did that was because I believed it, even though it would have taken power away from a Republican President.

I am wondering now if some of my Democratic colleagues will think, well, maybe that is not a terrible idea if we look ahead. I don't know.

Here, in this Chamber, I am, as a Republican, calling on a fundamental change in the way we do things here; how bills get to the floor.

Most people might not understand that the default rules that would go back to the Jefferson Manual and the basic rules of parliamentary procedure would be that I have the right to be able to offer a bill; and that then you would have the right to amend the bill here on the floor of this body; this being the floor of the House of Representatives.

But what the American people don't know is that every Congress we come

in and we vote on new rules, and we vote on rules that, then, restrict the power of every Member of this body to be able to represent their constituents.

We restrict the power of a Member to offer a bill, to bring that bill to a vote, to have debate on that bill, to amend that bill here on the floor of the House of Representatives. That is the way it works.

Then we even go further. Every week, we fly in and then we have votes on rules, rules that are cooked up among 13 Members of the House of Representatives who sit up in a committee up here, behind these walls, and they vote a new rule, and send it down here; and then the body votes on the rule that then structures debate for the week.

Then can I offer an amendment here on the floor? No. You know why? Because people are afraid to vote.

Members of this body, sent to vote on legislation and to represent their constituents, are afraid to vote. Can you imagine, in the founding of this country, the establishment of this body, the people's House, to go get reelected every two years, to go seek re-election, that we are afraid to vote?

Do you know how many times if I bring up opening the process and opening up the floor of the House, colleagues on my side of the aisle, the other side of the aisle go, well, you know, don't you know that means somebody could bring up a really tough vote.

Well, if you vote "no" on a whole lot of tough votes, like I tend to do, you get kind of used to it, and you get used to what you have to do, which is go explain to your constituents why there ain't no free lunch.

This isn't the United States House of free stuff. You can't just keep passing bills to spend money we don't have to buy off votes. You can't keep voting for bills that have a nice title so that you don't have to go back and explain why you voted, as I did, against burn pit legislation for veterans who need support and help for burn pits. But you vote against it because you don't need another \$675 billion mandatory spending item.

Yet, bipartisan support for a bill because nobody wants to go say no. Nobody wants to go look in a veteran's eye and explain the hard reality of what we need to do in this body.

Nobody wants to say no to a bill that says ALS research. Nobody wants to say no to a bill that says something about helping animals or helping old people or helping kids. You put a nice title on there, then everybody has got to vote for. It doesn't matter which side of the aisle you are on; you have got to vote for it because there is no spending limit. There is no restraint. There is no responsibility.

There is no leadership. There is no check on unrestrained power of the executive branch by this body because this body keeps funding the very tyranny of the executive branch that many campaign against. That is the truth.

My colleagues on this side of the aisle just went out and sought election, where we took the House back. My colleagues on this side of the aisle went out and campaigned against unrestrained Federal power in the Federal Bureau of Investigation; a Department of Homeland Security that refuses to secure the border of the United States; labeling of parents as domestic terrorists.

They went out and campaigned against an energy policy of an administration that is destroying American energy; driving the price of gas up; driving the price of electricity up; destroying the grid of the United States; making us more dependent on China, on Venezuela, on Russia, on Saudi Arabia, on Iran.

It is absurd. We ran against all that stuff, but you know what? A whole lot of my colleagues vote to fund all that stuff; have no problem writing a big old check, both sides of the aisle.

You know why? Because they always have something they want that they are willing to just sign off on a monster piece of legislation, irrespective of the debt that is piling up around the ears of their kids and their grandkids, the destruction of the American Dream that is happening because of that, or the funding of the very bureaucrats that are undermining the freedoms of the United States people every day.

Come to the floor. It has got a National Defense Authorization Act. You come to the floor, and you have got something you must pass. We have to pay for the pay raise for our troops. We must pay for some more planes and bombers and helicopters and missiles.

Don't you know, CHIP, that we have got to go stand up against China. We have got to fund Ukraine. We have got to stand up against Putin.

Great. Let's have a debate on this floor about those things. If you are talking about war, maybe we should declare it. If you think that there is a proxy war with funding, maybe we should debate it on the floor of this body.

Maybe you shouldn't just keep writing blank checks and never have a debate about guns and butter. But that is what we do.

This is where I have got to have a little tough talk to my colleagues on this side of the aisle. What, pray tell, have you heard out of anybody on this side of the aisle that will change any of that?

Yesterday, we had all sorts of conference meetings, debates about our internal workings. I tend to like to keep those meetings confidential and private, but half my dadgum colleagues are tweeting that stuff out in real time.

The fact of the matter is nothing changed. The status quo remains because people want their power. They want their committee chairmanships. They want their gavel. They want the ability to control the power and the purse strings, but they don't want to

look in the mirror to fundamentally change a broken town, a broken House, a broken body, a broken Federal Government that is stepping all over the dreams and the hopes and the future and the prosperity of the American people.

There is not a remote indication that my colleagues on my side of the aisle understand what time it is in America; understand what we are facing. It is not just a campaign statement. It is not just something to go rile up the American people to get elected; to get elected, to get power, to get on a certain committee.

You know what every conversation that has been had in this body, at least on my side of the aisle, since last Tuesday? Hey, what's going on in the Steering Committee?

Hey, who is going to get Ways and Means?

Hey, who is going to get on what committee?

Hey, did the freshmen have their votes? Who is going to be the head of the freshman class?

Hey, who is going to be the Speaker? Who is going to be the whip?

I don't know. Let's figure out what we are going to do; who is going to have power. Who is going to have power; who is going to have power?

The answer is, anybody but the American people. The answer is, anybody but the rank-and-file Members of this body.

The answer is the status quo. That is why people ran—that is why President Trump, by the way, did well in 2016 running against the swamp.

Say what you want about President Trump. He represented a large block of this country that were sick and tired of this town, of this place, of this body, of the people in this room, and it is high time we do something about it.

Stop kissing each other's rear ends, asking and begging for some slot on a committee. We didn't come here to be on committees. We didn't come here to get a title.

The titles around this place, who is in leadership? Leadership. Isn't leadership something you recognize and follow? It is not something you elect.

I didn't come here for second place. I didn't come here—I don't leave my family, I don't say goodbye to my son and my daughter and my wife every Monday and fly up here and spend, 3, 4, 5 days up here and fly back every week, just because I want to earn Southwest points.

I didn't fly up here because I want to sit in rooms and go have a steak dinner and go talk to lobbyists about what needs to be put in a bill.

I didn't come up here to say, well, we have got to make sure we get—don't call them earmarks. No, don't call them earmarks. That is already bad out there. So we are going to call them community-directed spending. Okay, we will call them community-directed spending, the currency of this town.

How are you going to take care—how are you going to get a bridge back

home? That is important. We have floods in Houston. We have floods in Louisiana. They need flood money, right?

We have tornadoes in the Midwest. Well, we need some tornado money.

Well, how do you think you get people to vote for all these appropriations bills that have left your country \$32 trillion in debt?

□ 1530

By the way, 5 percent interest rates, do you know what is going to happen? I am sorry, interest rates going up where they are at 5 percent, do you know what is going to happen to the interest payments? It is going to be another \$600 billion, \$700 billion, \$800 billion. You pretty much just bought a whole second Department of Defense, ladies and gentlemen, with money that you are printing.

How does that sound? Enjoy that, do you? And nobody here has any plan on what to do about it except more of the same.

We will have a lot of speeches about, "Chip, don't you understand? Entitlements, mandatory spending, that is the problem. That is 70 percent of the whole thing."

Well, as a technical matter, that is not incorrect, but we got here because we refused to deal with it. And that is not an excuse to write a blank check for discretionary spending.

Hey, we don't need to be responsible on discretionary spending because the actual problem is the rest of the spending, even though discretionary spending is still \$1.5 trillion, \$1.6 trillion, \$1.8 trillion, \$2 trillion, or is it \$7 trillion? Does anybody know? Does anybody care?

Hey, we shut down the whole country under COVID-19, but hell, we will just write a \$5 trillion check. Why not? That is what we do. We just keep writing checks that we can't cash.

So, what are we going to do? What are Republicans going to do to demonstrate that they get what time it is in America, that they get that there is \$32 trillion in debt, that they get that our borders are wide open? That is not a political campaign speech; it is a reality.

Even Democrats who refuse to acknowledge that our border is wide open are panicked over the title 42 ruling by a district judge because even Democrats who want to ignore the 230,000 or 240,000 apprehensions in October, the 70,000-something got-aways, the 27 dead migrants, they ignore all that, but that 7,000 or 8,000 a day, they can just sort of barely process that.

You get rid of title 42—which, by the way, there is no pandemic reason for title 42 right now. It is literally a Band-Aid that Democrats are using as an, oh, my God. If we actually opened up the borders entirely, we can't deal with 17,000 a day. But that is the truth. That is the reality.

What are my colleagues on this side of the aisle going to do about it? "Oh,

CHIP. We will pass a bill in January. I don't know if it will be H.R. 1, H.R. 2, H.R. 5, but don't worry. We will pass a border security bill."

Well, one, I will believe that when I see it. We don't have a great track record.

Two, so what? Are you going to pass that bill and walk over and convince that great stalwart of defense of our border MITT ROMNEY that he should vote for it? Are you going to convince any of the 12 who just decided to redefine marriage and stomp all over religious liberty over in the United States Senate? Are you going to convince any one of them to vote for a strong border security bill? And even if you do, do you think that Joe Biden is going to sign it?

The question for Republicans is: Are you willing to use the power of the purse, articulated by our Founders in Federalist No. 58 and broadly at our founding, to stop what is happening and the destruction of our sovereignty with wide-open borders that are endangering migrants, killing Texas, having fentanyl poured into our schools, or are you just going to continue the fraud that is the United States House of Representatives?

That is what it is. We don't represent anything at all when it comes to the core values of the American people. We represent power. We represent the quest for power.

Are we going to use the power of the purse to secure the border? Are we going to deal with the National Defense Authorization Act that is currently being negotiated and likely passed out of the United States Senate and sent over to the House of Representatives?

Now, it is hard to hear the Republican leader, Mr. MCCARTHY, say that he thinks maybe the NDAA ought to be pushed to the next Congress. I agree with that. But then what? Then what?

Is the Senate going to pass the same thing right back over, an NDAA that is chock-full of all sorts of non-truly defense-related matters?

Are we going to have an NDAA that is sent over to us that drafts our daughters without so much as a single debate here on the floor about what it means to actually add our daughters to Selective Service?

Are we going to have an NDAA and are we going to support an NDAA that continues to advance vaccine mandates? How many of our men and women in uniform need to be fired? Oh, don't worry, CHIP. We took care of it. It is not a dishonorable discharge. Oh, really. Well, thank you for that grand leadership, GOP, because I am sure it really makes our men and women in uniform feel all that much better when they are forced to leave their service in the United States military with discharge—not honorable, discharge.

I am sure that makes them feel great. I am sure they are sitting around the table this coming Thursday after they got fired because they re-

fused to take a jab in the arm of a vaccine that Moderna and Pfizer made over \$100 billion on with all sorts of questions by legitimate, mainline doctors about the efficacy of the vaccine.

In a hearing that we held just last week off the Hill, because my Democratic colleagues won't hold a hearing on COVID on the Hill, where all three doctors sat on the panel, we asked them: Is there any basis, any reason, for our men and women in uniform to be required to take a vaccine for COVID? The answer was no, no, no. Unequivocal no.

This doesn't do anything significant for transmission. This doesn't do anything to truly help and protect young, healthy men and women who are in the military. They are precisely the population who are the least impacted by COVID.

Yet, here we are today, sitting here in real time while we adjourn for Thanksgiving, and an NDAA is getting debated in the Senate to be sent over here. What will Republicans do about that? I don't know. I don't know.

Are we going to have hearings in this body on COVID itself, the reaction and response to it, the power of government being used against the American people? Are we going to have hearings about its origins, hearings about NIH funding, hearings about mask policy, hearings about what Fauci and Birx knew and when they knew it, hearings about the efficacy of the vaccine, hearings about the side effects of the vaccine, hearings about why only now some of our leadership of this country is going out and saying: Oh, sorry. My bad.

I think it really was just kind of something bad for old people and maybe we really didn't see that maybe we didn't need to freak out and lock down our economy and kill our economy and send our kids to the corners and mask them and shut down our schools and set them back a generation in education. Our bad.

These are real people's lives. This is the greatest economy in the history of the world, and you just shut it down. What in the world? Is anybody on our side of the aisle going to do anything about that?

I haven't heard anything yet. I haven't seen anything yet. All I saw today was a hearing, a press conference talking about Hunter Biden.

Well, that is great. But what are we going to do about Scott Smith, who was targeted by the Department of Justice, the National School Board Association?

What are we going to do about Anthony Fauci? What are we going to do to make sure the American people know and fully understand the collective power of the Federal Government being pointed at and used against the American people?

Because it is happening—COVID tyranny, nurses and doctors forced out of the workforce, the effort under OSHA to try to force employers to mandate

vaccines, the CDC regularly pushing Twitter, Google, and Facebook to flag any dissenters who dared question the orthodoxy and all that the powers that be said that they thought we must know.

How about the CDC purchasing \$420,000 worth of Americans' location data to monitor compliance with lockdowns? Is anybody bothered by that? Is anybody bothered by the government looking at our information, looking at phone records?

How about guns? The FBI secretly coerced Americans to sign forms to voluntarily relinquish their rights to own, buy, or use firearms and permanently register them in the NICS system.

In Delaware, the ATF showed up unannounced to a man's home without a warrant for a surprise inspection. Under Biden, the ATF has revoked 500 percent more Federal firearms licenses.

How about DHS? Documents reveal DHS plans to target inaccurate information on "the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic and the efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines." Facebook created a special portal for DHS and government partners to report disinformation directly.

How about the environment? A 77-year-old veteran was sentenced to 18 months in Federal prison and \$130,000 in fines for digging ponds on his Montana property in violation of the Clean Water Act.

The power of government is being used against the American people and our citizens every day. I have heard lots of talk by my Republican colleagues about oversight. Oversight doesn't do any good if you have a handful of hearings and nobody in America knows what is going on.

That is why we should have a coordinated Church Committee-style direct effort to bring together the entirety of the Federal Government's assault on the well-being of the American people and bring that to light to the American people and then specific changes to deal with it.

But I am not sure how much confidence a lot of the American people have that we are going to change anything because you have to actually change something.

We have, immediately following the election, the reconsecration of MITCH MCCONNELL in the Senate and the adoption of essentially the exact same leadership team on this side of the aisle.

What is the first thing that happens in the votes? What do Republicans do? In the Senate, 12 Senate Republicans voted for cloture just yesterday to codify other than marriage between a man and a woman and trample on the religious liberty rights of Americans to disagree. That happened yesterday.

MITT ROMNEY, Utah, Trump won 58 percent of that vote in Utah; CYNTHIA LUMMIS, Wyoming, a 70 percent Republican State; SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, a 69 percent Republican State; TODD

YOUNG, a 57 percent Republican State; ROY BLUNT, a 57 percent Republican State; JONI ERNST, a 53 percent Republican State; ROB PORTMAN; DAN SUL-LIVAN; LISA MURKOWSKI; RICHARD BURR; THOM TILLIS; SUSAN COLLINS—Republicans walking away from religious liberty, walking away from the definition of marriage. What better way to signal to the American people and your Republican supporters and voters that you got your personal thing pulled together and you are going to represent them and change what we are doing in this town? Hard to believe the American people are cynical. Hard to believe that.

□ 1545

Yesterday, we had a bunch of votes on rules and procedures in the Republican Conference. It was a private meeting, despite the fact that my colleagues love to leak it out. I don't like to get into what specifically was done behind halfway closed doors, but I will just say this: There wasn't an overall warm and fuzzy feeling about change.

Very little changed. In fact, one of the things that did change was to just pull away from a 200-year-old precedent, dating back to Jefferson's Manual, about vacating the chair. It is my belief that sitting in the Speaker's chair, you would want to make very clear that you are confident that vacating the chair would never be a problem.

Yet, Republicans circled the wagons yesterday. You know why? It is about power. It is about the fear of losing power. It is about the fear of change. It is about the fear of empowering the body to do its thing. It is about the fear of open debate. It is about the fear of regular order. It is about the fear of votes. It is about the fear of taking tough votes.

I don't fear tough votes. But I will say something to my Republican colleagues. Don't talk to me about change or what you think is changing until you tell me about the process you are going to use to bring bills to this floor. Because if I don't have the right to amend it, if I don't have the right to represent my constituents, if I don't have the right to have a voice and you are going to come down and whip me and whip my colleagues to support a bill crammed down my throat by a Rules Committee that I didn't vote for or select, if you are going to tell me I have got to eat that vote, then that is not representative government and that is not the way we should do things.

When you bring a bill to the floor of the House of Representatives through the Rules Committee and it is told to us to be must passed—National Defense Authorization Act, which by the way is not must pass, but is always considered such. Appropriations bills—how many of my colleagues went to the microphone yesterday saying continuing resolutions are destroying our military; we need actual appropriations? You

know what? I do not disagree. But when you offer a rule change to say, I tell you what, if our Senate colleagues will work with us to get the defense bill passed, then maybe we can consider the other things. They are saying: No, no, no, we don't want to bind our hands to the Senate. But that sounds nice, doesn't it?

The truth is, what they don't want to do is give up the ability to do what they always do, which is trying to jam through an omnibus spending bill, with backroom deals cut in order to try to drive up defense spending. I support our defense, I want them to be properly funded, but I don't want them to get more blank checks.

When are we going to have a debate about guns and butter? When are we going to stop spending money we don't have? When are we going to have an honest conversation in this body?

Is it when we turn off those dadgum cameras? Is it when we decide to actually offer amendments on the floor again?

You are not going to change anything if you keep doing the same stuff. That is the truth.

Two days ago, I stood up and nominated my friend ANDY BIGGS for Speaker of the House as the nominee for the Republican Party. Andy did not win that vote. He is my friend. My friend KEVIN MCCARTHY won that vote and earned over a majority of the Republican Conference. That news has been reported.

Virtually everything that we did in that meeting or said in that meeting was literally verbatim tweeted out in real time or leaked to the press in real time. That is the truth.

I have a rule when reporters talk to me about what happened in a meeting, that I tell them it is a private meeting, and I don't think I should talk about it. But when things leak out in real time about what is being said and what is being done, you at some point have to go explain to the people you represent, to your supporters, and people broadly, what you were doing. Because if you can't have a private debate and a private conversation among family and it is going to be made public, then you have got to go explain it.

So allow me to read the speech that I gave in the Republican Conference meeting nominating my friend, ANDY BIGGS. It went like this:

I rise in support of my friend and colleague from Arizona to serve as Speaker of the House. ANDY BIGGS is a proven leader who has demonstrated leadership here in D.C., as well as serving as president of the Arizona State Senate in a slim two-seat majority. He is a committed conservative and a good man.

Andy's candidacy is not an attack on Kevin, with whom a number of us have been engaging and will continue to engage in good faith.

Andy's candidacy is about his courage to stand here today willing to take arrows, the courage to offer a debate

rather than a coronation; the courage to say perhaps, just perhaps, we should consider changing the way we do things in this broken Congress, in this broken town. A town to which our constituents sent us specifically to change it.

While there are many factors impacting last Tuesday's elections, the outcome is not so much murky as convicting.

Our voters, Republican voters, expected a reckoning, and in so doing, they gave us nearly 5 million more Republican votes in congressional elections than my Democratic colleagues.

Yes, redistricting can explain why we gained perhaps a smaller margin than anticipated, but it is not enough. What did we run on?

In the 1990s, we ran specifically on crime and a bold agenda to transform Congress. In 2010 and 2012, we ran specifically on cutting spending.

Meanwhile, this year, bold conservative leadership outside of this city was affirmed enthusiastically by voters. No one better represents that than Governor Ron DeSantis' overwhelming dominance in Florida. But we also saw Governor Lee in Tennessee, Governor Kemp in Georgia, Governor Reynolds in Iowa, and Governor Abbott in Texas, and we saw our old colleague LEE ZELDIN's powerful run for Governor in New York where he fell short but helped flip four seats, because LEE ran on something, crime and the rule of law in New York.

DeSantis ran on something: Fighting COVID tyranny directly and fighting woke-ism directly. Governor Abbott ran on something: Securing the border ravaging Texas.

Meanwhile, in a midterm election against the most radical, leftist, and dangerous White House in American history, we left the Senate in Democrat hands, and we are looking at a three- to five-seat majority in the House of Representatives.

So what do we do? I hear a lot about unity. Amen. But it has to be real unity. If we just say we are unified, it will not do a thing if the Rules Committee jams a disastrous immigration and border security bill, like happened in July of 2018.

Or consider that, to the best of my knowledge, the House Freedom Caucus, which represents about 20 percent of the body, has one member of the Steering Committee, which has 30 people, one member of the 20 standing committee chairs, or respectfully, how about all the PAC money that was spent around this town in favor of leadership-tapped candidates, for example, RODNEY DAVIS over MARY MILLER, two incumbents. That is why I give you that example.

But it is not about any one person or group. It is about empowerment of the whole Republican Conference, not just a select few.

We say we are for limited government, we Republicans, but how do you expect to decentralize the power of

Washington if we can't even decentralize our own leadership structure?

Our Republic is on the edge. Americans and their families are being crushed by a weaponized government, radical wokeness, vaccine mandates, open borders, crime, inflation. Yet voters don't understand how Democrats, who have championed such destruction, still hold so much power and largely avoided the reckoning that we talked about.

We talk a lot about accountability. I ask everyone in this room, how can we hold them accountable if we cannot hold ourselves accountable when we come up short?

Today's voting date—this being two days ago—is an arbitrary date, rushed in an environment where many of our voters believe the system is rigged against them.

A vote for Andy is a vote to shout “stop” and to stand to thwart the status quo. It is a vote to pause and debate. It is a vote to empower every one of us to have a say and to have the ability to use our election certificate to its fullest. It is not a vote against Kevin, but a vote to force us all to the table to figure out how—not if—how we will come together as a party to reshape the Conference rules; rethink the makeup of steering and the very structure and operation of the Rules Committee; and most of all, to lay out a specific agreed-to agenda and battle plan to which we can unite and to inspire and win the minds and hearts of the American people.

Now, that is an internal debate among Republicans. I think it is healthy. I think it is good. The question will be: Will Republicans stand for change, or will Republicans stand up for the continuation of the status quo?

The status quo ain't working. It is not. That is an indictment of both parties. That is an indictment of this institution. It is an indictment of this town.

We come here called to represent the American people. We come here called to engage in debate and discourse.

As I have said before on this floor, how often have you seen a legitimate and robust debate on this floor?

I would ask all the staff who sit in the room to answer, but that is not appropriate. They are the ones sitting here all the time, along with a handful of C-SPAN viewers.

Everybody knows, most of the time, we are preaching to an empty Chamber. Most of the time, if there are a lot of people on the floor, it is only for votes and a lot of back slapping and a lot of “Hey, when is our dinner tonight?” and a lot of “Hey, what are we going to do tomorrow? When are you leaving town? How fast can we leave town? How quickly can we get to the airport? Chip, don't demand another vote, dang it. I have got to get to my tee time back home.”

Yeah, but when was the last time you saw a rigorous debate? Yeah, okay, I know we sometimes have the majority

leader and the whip go back and forth on a Thursday afternoon or a Friday for an hour. But it is all talking points, it is all posturing, it is all back and forth to say, let's go out on the steps and give our speeches.

When was the last time you had—let's sit here for 3 hours and let's debate Ukraine. All of us, let's carve out time, how about 5 days? Let's debate Ukraine. We have given them \$70 billion, and now the administration is asking for \$37 billion more.

Any of y'all got \$107 billion sitting around? Well, guess what, neither do we. We are just going to print more money. We are just going to print more money, send it to Ukraine, allegedly for a helpful goal of trying to help Zelenskyy stand up against Putin.

Where is all that money going? Is any of that money going into the hands of certain companies who are then turning around and sending it to certain politicians here? Certain stories seem to indicate so.

Any of that money going to oligarchs in Ukraine? Any of that money getting into the hands of China? A lot of stories about all of that.

I am not even talking about accountability yet. I am just saying that if we are going to vote on another \$37 billion for Ukraine, shouldn't we debate it? Are we at war, or aren't we? Do we have advisers there or not? Is it in our national security or not? Is it helping stability around the globe or not? Is it actually good for the people of Ukraine, bad for Putin's power?

□ 1600

And there is a lot of good debates around all that. The answer might be “yes” to some of those, “no” to some of those. I will just throw it out there. Has anybody seen a debate like that on the floor of the United States House of Representatives? I have not. And I am here. A few people have come down and given speeches. That is not the same thing. That is not the same thing as an actual debate.

The American people expect us to do our job. I expect and believe that Republicans will end the absurdity of a closed-down Capitol; the absurdity of magnetometers to go onto the floor of the House; the absurdity of proxy voting, proxy voting extended by the current Speaker until December 25th, when Santa Claus is going to bring home the magic day when COVID disappears. Obviously absurd.

Our goal and our intent is to open up this body and to restore the people's House. That has to be our goal. That has to be our mission. Our mission as Republicans cannot be power for the sake of it. I would ask or suggest to my Democratic colleagues that their mission should not be opposition just for the sake of it.

I am proud that I have one of the higher voting records against my own party than most of the people in my party. I believe that is attached to some amount of consistency and not

attached to the whip or attached to the party power structure. It doesn't mean I am right. I mean, I think I am. But what it means is that I have got some guiding principles that I think ought to guide how I vote. And it shouldn't be just because we are in shirts and skins or, you know, red shirts-green shirts, blue shirts-red shirts. It shouldn't be that way.

We should be able to be united on taking power back from the executive branch and restoring it to Congress.

We should be united on sovereignty of our Nation and defense of our borders to ensure that cartels don't exploit them for human tragedy, sex trafficking, fentanyl pouring in and killing American people.

We should be united on a strong national defense used sparingly but forcefully, not entangled in never-ending battles, and not blank checks to countries representing proxy wars.

We should be united in trying to figure out how to solve our fiscal crisis that is killing our country.

Every one of us should wake up, we should literally not be going home right now. We shouldn't even go home for Thanksgiving. It is so bad and such a crisis; we should not leave here until we have a plan to stop spending money we don't have.

I will go ahead and say it right here, everything should be on the table. But we won't do that because if somebody brings up mandatory spending, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will run ads like they did against Paul Ryan saying, you are pushing granny off the cliff if you dare say something about Social Security or Medicare. You mean to say there is not a single dollar that we can save out of that without it being pushing granny off the cliff?

On my side of the aisle, they will not touch defense spending. If you do, it is sacrilegious. You cannot touch defense spending. Chip, we need more. It doesn't matter what we are going to do with that. We need more. You mean, there is not a single dollar we can't save at the Department of Defense? There is not a single dollar we can't repurpose? There is no way to make that run more efficiently, more effectively to have a strong military force that will kill bad guys and blow things up when necessary? I think we can do that. We should be united in that.

You can't keep spending money you don't have. You can't have open borders and a lack of sovereignty. You can't. If we can't unite on that, what in the world are we going to unite on?

This body is supposed to, even in our disagreement, stand athwart the executive branch extending beyond the powers given it in the Constitution. It is supposed to. Yet we routinely give the executive branch open-ended, long runways of power. And we both do it. And we know we do it. Why shouldn't we unite to restrain the executive branch if you actually believe in separation of powers?

I will say right here and stipulate, I don't care who is in the White House. I

don't want the President and the executive branch to have unlimited power. I introduced a bill under Trump. I will introduce that bill, and I have reintroduced it under Biden. I will introduce it again in January of 2025 if I am here, no matter who the President is.

We have got the American people right now trying to figure out what they are going to pass down to their kids and grandkids. I have got staff, 25, 27, 28, 30 years old saying, am I going to be able to buy a house? Literally. Look around the country. Pulling it up on maps, saying, how am I going to afford this? How do I afford a half million dollar house with 7, 8 percent interest rates? All the families across the country are trying to figure that out.

They are trying to figure out why they are increasingly concerned about their safety and well-being.

They are trying to figure out why kids in their schools are dying from fentanyl.

They are trying to figure out why we can't just agree that there are men and there are women, and we can acknowledge that we can build our society around that without that being hate.

These are fundamental truths, fundamental elements of our society and how we organize ourselves. We have got to find a way as a body, on both sides of the aisle, to bring back common sense, normalcy, and in this Chamber regular order. Or nothing will ever change.

I am strongly of the belief that we must change. I have tried to work with colleagues on the other side of the aisle. I have introduced legislation on a bipartisan basis. I have passed legislation on a bipartisan basis despite being, I think by any objective measure, on the more conservative end of the spectrum of this body.

I don't care whether there's a D or an R after your name, I am going to tell you what I think, and that is directed at my colleagues on my side of the aisle, running around back-slapping about getting the majority. The majority and having the majority is absolutely useless if we are unwilling to change. We have to change the way we do things around here.

We have to empower Members of this body to have a say in what is brought to the floor, to have a say to amend the legislation, a say in open and real and true debate that is driven by a desire to lead this country forward on the most basic of terms.

Open up the Constitution. Look at the powers granted in Article I, Section 8. Ask yourself whether what we are doing is connected to those powers, and then ask yourself if we are not a stronger, freer, better society if we can agree to disagree and push decision-making as close to the people and families and communities and local and State leaders so that we can actually have a Republic united around ideals and not at each other's throats because that is what we are, because we are trying to make decisions in this town

for everybody. And that is both sides of the aisle.

Federalism is not just some quaint word you talk about. It is actually central to the health of this Republic. We cannot function if we can't agree to disagree, and you can only agree to disagree if you are not trying to solve every problem for every person and every family in every walk of life in this Chamber doing everything and actually accomplishing nothing.

The beauty and the structure of this Republic and its founding is in the diffusion of power away from any one person, any one entity, the diffusion of power across three branches of government, the diffusion of power among Federal, State, and local government. That is the greatness of this country.

It is the essence of the great American experiment, that we trust the people, that we allow the people to prosper according to their own work, that we help each other, that civil society matters.

But we fundamentally broke not just this institution, we are breaking our country because we believe that an unlimited checkbook gives us the right to buy votes with it. And by doing it, you are breaking the spirit of the country. You are taking away the value of work. You are taking away the value of responsibility.

It is not just a campaign effort to buy student votes by paying off student loans so you can be nice. You just destroyed the entire ethic of responsibility of a woman like my wife, the daughter of a single mom who went to college, made decisions about what college she would go to based on the cost of that tuition, who took on loans, who then took every step to pay them back, who drove a crappy little car in order to pay her loans off. What do you say to her and every other American like her who did it the right way? You just say, Here you go, we are going to pay off your student loans.

That is just one example of thousands, and my side of the aisle is just as guilty. Another blank check to solve something, a disease or an illness, another blank check because Ukraine, another blank check because you don't dare look a farmer in the eye when the farm bill comes up and say, look, man, I am sorry, but farm plus SNAP equals a whole lot of debt, and we can't keep writing a blank check.

How about another blank check for subsidies for unreliable energy? Here you go. Here is another check to buy off another company to destroy our grid, destroy our way of life, destroy American energy through a blank check.

We are literally destroying the soul of the country every day we walk into this Chamber, and that is not a good legacy. Everybody just walks around acting like, well, one day the think tanks and the world will come together, we will solve all the mandatory spending problems. That is the real deal. Stop writing blank checks. Actu-

ally have the responsibility to do your job.

I am optimistic about the American people and always have been, and there is a large bloc of the American people who are not going to just walk away from the Republic that they inherited from their parents and grandparents and those that fought, bled, and died for this country. They are not going to walk away from the American Dream for their kids and grandkids. But this body, every day that we meet, we make it harder for them.

Why don't we stop that? Why don't we agree together to sit down and do the hard work that is required of us to do it the right way? To spend within our means? To follow the constitutional order? To limit our affairs to the consequential things that unite our Republic rather than meddling in the affairs of every American and every State and every local government? Why can we not sit down and agree to disagree and push decisions of disagreement down to the people, where they belong, and do our basic duty step by step. That is our calling. That is our opportunity. When you have a change of power and a change of leadership, it is our duty to follow the constitutional order. It is our duty to do it the right way. It is our duty to use the powers granted in the people's House to stand up in defense of the people who send us here to represent them.

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

□ 1615

#### ISSUES MAINSTREAM MEDIA IGNORES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to talk about some issues that I feel the mainstream media is ignoring. If anybody is listening here today, please put them on page one where they ought to be.

The first issue I am going to talk about is Ukraine.

I have felt all along that this is a disaster. It is obviously a disaster for all the family members of both the military and the civilians who have died during this conflict. It has the potential to become a huge disaster for the other countries in Europe and the United States of America, given the potential of what Russia is able to do.

Nevertheless, until apparently very recently maybe, the Biden administration has not been looking for an end to this war. Now, maybe the United States cannot broker an end, but maybe France or Turkey or Israel can. They should be encouraged to go down that path.

Every day the war continues, more people die. Every day the war continues, it is more of an economic catastrophe to Russia, an economic catastrophe even more to Ukraine.



In the relatively recent background, we had huge numbers of a much closer relationship with Russia, and I thought Russia was moving slowly toward being a more westernized country, having McDonald's and what have you.

But in any event, the sooner this war wraps up, the better. Above all, the sooner the war wraps up, the less likely it will become a war in which there are huge catastrophes as things get worse. I think there are some of my fellow Members who would not mind getting American troops involved in Ukraine. I do not want to have that happen.

I hope we get a little more pressure out of the press corps to say let's look for off-ramps for both of these countries and see what we can do about beginning a peace, as well.

The next topic that I think hasn't been reported on enough is the border. Just because the border is a mess does not mean we ought to not be reporting the new numbers of people who are coming here every month. They are released every month.

We recently got the totals for October 2022. When I am talking about the numbers here, I am talking about the people who come into the country. My colleagues sometimes refer to the number of people who are met by the Border Patrol. Many of these people are still turned around and sent back. I am not talking about encounters. I am talking about people who really come here.

I think since last Congress came in, we have had two new numbers come out. First of all, we had September 2022. I am going to be talking about the numbers for this year, a year ago, and 2 years ago.

Two years ago in September 2020, 15,000 people came across the border who we really didn't appropriately vet. Last year in September, 116,000 people came across the border that we really didn't vet. This year, 178,000 people in September came across the border. That should be a banner headline in every newspaper in the country. It hasn't been. It should be covered.

Now, let's look at October, the numbers that just came out. Two years ago, in October 2020, a little under 20,000 people entered the country. In October 2021, it was about 99,000, so jumping from 20,000 to 99,000. This year, miraculously, just like September—actually, a couple hundred less—178,000 came across the border.

Again, we go from 19,000 to 99,000 to 178,000. The situation keeps getting worse. I don't think, if there is such a thing as a responsible media, they are doing a good enough job of explaining the degree to which this number is growing. Just because it was a horrible situation and we were at 140,000 in August doesn't mean we ought not talk about the fact that there were 178,000 in the most recent month.

We know, of course, this huge increase in the number of people coming here almost certainly means that there is an increase of fentanyl streaming

across our border. We are at 108,000 deaths a year from illegal drugs in this country. When I think of all the parents, siblings, and children who are without sons or daughters or mothers or brothers or sisters, it just breaks my heart.

That also ought to be a banner headline, and I am sure that this huge increase of evil coming across the border means probably more fentanyl and probably more deaths of tens of thousands of Americans.

We are going to be working on appropriations bills soon, and I sure hope the 108,000 deaths of people every year from illegal drug overdoses in this country—twice the number of people who died in 12 years in Vietnam—is something that Congress takes into consideration when we put together that budget.

The next thing I would like to look at is sad news from the city of my birth adjacent to my district. Earlier this week, Milwaukee had its 197th murder. That is tied for their all-time high. Obviously, we have about 5 weeks to go, so barring a miracle, Milwaukee, like so many other big cities in this country, just has a horrific crime problem—197 deaths.

There will be analysis about it, but I have a feeling that one more time they will not get to the real root cause. To me, the real root cause here in Milwaukee, as in so many other big cities, is a breakdown in the family.

It is true we could use more police. It is true we should not constantly be attacking those police as racists so that they are afraid to do their jobs. But I hope in some of the analysis of the pundits, analysis of the talking heads out there, we talk about the decline of the role of husbands and fathers in families as one of the problems out there.

When I was a child, Milwaukee, depending on the year, had the lowest murder rate of the 25 biggest cities in the country. We were right down there with San Diego. Now, we are hitting records at 197. Given that we have about 6 weeks to go in this year, you are almost certainly going to clear 200 murders for the first time ever.

Please, journalists, pundits, talking heads, when you analyze what went wrong in Milwaukee, how come we are so much worse than we used to be, please look at the broken family, look at the role of fathers in their families, and also look at the role of families and their fathers.

One of the problems we have—and George Gilder talked about this at length—it is very important for men to become part of a family. A 25-year-old guy who is married with two kids at home is much less likely to engage in criminal behavior, much less likely to take illegal drugs, than a 25-year-old guy who is out there on his own without those responsibilities. It is sometimes not talked about. This breakdown in the family not only hurts the kids, but it hurts the men, as well.

If you will notice, the vast majority of people who are committing these

murders are men. We always talk about what we can do about the children, what we can do about the single moms. Let's spend a little bit of time saying what we are going to do about these guys who don't have a family that they are connected with.

In any event, I hope a little bit more thought is given when, later this week, everybody in the Milwaukee area is expected to weigh in on those currently 197 deaths.

My final comment for the press to look into a little bit for today is, earlier this year, there were reports from people who like to pay attention to military matters. Given what I would argue is the recklessness of the Biden administration, we have more danger of war in the future than we have had in a long period of time. There have been articles about aircraft carriers. There were articles regarding training exercises with France.

The aircraft carrier, I think it was the *Theodore Roosevelt*, one of our big aircraft carriers, which costs huge amounts of money. There was a French submarine involved in training exercises with the United States. That French submarine was able to sink that aircraft carrier. I think that should cause concern for people.

I mean, we build these aircraft carriers—first of all, we have about 5,000 people on the aircraft carrier, so if an aircraft carrier ever sinks, you have about 5,000 people dying right there, which by itself is a huge tragedy. Secondly, I think we have to begin to stop and look at: Are we spending a lot of money on fighting past wars?

Aircraft carriers were very important during World War II. They had a use still in the Vietnam war, which is hard to believe was about 40 years ago. They have a use in places around the world. I really believe antimissile defense, cybersecurity, building more submarines of our own would perhaps be a wiser use of our military dollars than having 11 or 12 aircraft carriers. I think they may be more useful in future wars. Hopefully, we will not have another war, but I think if we did, they would be more useful.

I encourage the press that follows this sort of thing to pay a little bit of attention to what we found out when we had training exercises with France, read a little bit about what would happen with the hypersonic missiles that are out there today, and wonder if maybe it is more important to deal with hypersonic missile defenses than aircraft carriers, which I think in major battles with, I will say, first-class military enemies could be sunk relatively quickly, together with all the people aboard the ship, and focus a little bit more on high-tech things.

In other words, look at what war will look like in 2025 or 2024 rather than what war looked like in 1944 and 1943.

So, there are some issues for you all, both the people who like to watch C-SPAN and some issues that should be taken up by our press corps.

Mr. 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 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon (at 4 o'clock and 28 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 18, 2022, at 11 a.m.

### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-5912. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report titled "2022 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report", pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 299b-2(b)(2); Public Law 106-129, Sec. 2(a); (113 Stat. 1658); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5913. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's Fiscal Year 2022 and 2023 Cost Estimate for the Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund, pursuant to Public Law 117-167; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5914. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Automatic Commercial Ice Makers [EERE-2017-BT-TP-0006] (RIN: 1904-AD81) received November 7, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-5915. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps [EERE-2021-BT-TP-0030] (RIN: 1904-AF29) received November 3, 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-5916. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Electric Motors [EERE-2020-BT-TP-0011] (RIN: 1904-AE62) received November 3, 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-5917. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Procedures for the Acquisition of Petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (RIN: 1901-AB56) received November 3, 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-5918. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and

Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for VRF Multi-Split Systems [EERE-2021-BT-TP-0019] (RIN: 1904-AE43) received November 3, 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-5919. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Program, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Part 11 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Emergency Alert System [PS Docket No.: 15-94] received November 3, 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-5920. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's Interim Staff Guidance — Safety Review of Light-Water Power Reactor Construction Permit Applications (DNRR-ISG-2022-01) received November 8, 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-5921. A letter from the Office Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Fitness for Duty Drug Testing Requirements [NRC-2009-0225] (RIN: 3150-AI67) received November 15, 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-5922. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a certification for FY 2022 that no United Nations agency or United Nations affiliated agency grants any official status, accreditation, or recognition to any organization which promotes and condones or seeks the legalization of pedophilia, or which includes as a subsidiary or member any such organization, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 287e note; Public Law 103-236, Sec. 102(g) (as amended by Public Law 103-415, Sec. 1(o)); (108 Stat. 4301); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5923. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting agreements transmitted pursuant to the Taiwan Relations Act, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 3311(a); Public Law 96-8, Sec. 12(a); (93 Stat. 20); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5924. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Determination Under Sec. 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5925. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a Memorandum of Justification, to provide military assistance to Ukraine, pursuant to Sec. 652 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5926. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Report Number: 005127; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5927. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Report Number: 005065; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-5928. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, De-

partment of State, transmitting changes that occurred from March 3, 2022 through August 8, 2022, and additional report on departure of ambassadors, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-5929. A letter from the Chairman, Board of Trustees and President, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting the Center's audited financial statements for the fiscal years ending October 3, 2021 and September 27, 2020, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. app. 8G(h)(2); Public Law 95-452, Sec. 8G(h)(2) (as added by Public Law 100-504, Sec. 104(a)); (102 Stat. 2525); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-5930. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's legislative proposal to reduce the frequency of a required Report to Congress regarding excess contaminated facilities; jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Armed Services.

### 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. 2626. A bill to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-582). 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. ESCOBAR (for herself, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 9324. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4400 East Paisano Drive in El Paso, Texas, as the "Enedina Sanchez Cordero Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. JONES, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. PAYNE):

H.R. 9325. A bill to incentivize States and localities to improve access to justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9326. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to authorize the allocation of the costs of certain interstate electric power transmission lines and electric power transmission lines that are located offshore, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself and Ms. NEWMAN):

H.R. 9327. A bill to establish in the Department of Labor an Older Workers' Bureau, to establish grant programs related to employment of older workers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself and Ms. BROWN of Ohio):

H.R. 9328. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to promote collaborative

treatment of mental and physical health comorbidities 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. BUCSHON (for himself and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 9329. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow waivers of annual establishment registration fees for small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. GUEST, Mr. FALLON, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. CLINE):

H.R. 9330. A bill to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 9331. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strike the provision of the American Opportunity Tax Credit that denies the credit to students with felony drug convictions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 9332. A bill to conform Federal tax law with the Texas Constitution to allow for the continued benefit to the fullest extent possible from the financial leverage of the Permanent University Fund to the State of Texas; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. LEVIN of California):

H.R. 9333. A bill to update the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mr. ELLZEY, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. LUCAS):

H.R. 9334. A bill to amend the National Quantum Initiative Act to make certain additions relating to quantum modeling and simulation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. STEEL, Mr. POCAN, Mr. KIND, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 9335. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 Franklin Street in Appleton, Wisconsin, as the "Mitchell F. Lundgaard Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 9336. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require coverage under State plans under the Medicaid program for annual lung cancer screening with no cost sharing for individuals for whom screening is recommended by U.S. Preventive Services Task Force guidelines, to expand coverage under Medicaid of counseling and pharmacotherapy for cessation of tobacco use, 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 Mr. JACKSON:

H.R. 9337. A bill to amend the USA PATRIOT Act to designate critical infrastructures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 9338. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require fairness and diversity in opportunity zone investment and to require minimum investment in controlled-environment agriculture; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Mr. STANTON):

H.R. 9339. A bill to improve the environmental review process for Federal-aid highway projects through the use of interactive, digital, cloud-based platforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Mr. STEWART, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 9340. A bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9341. A bill to provide accountability for funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Treasury under Public Law 117-169; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 9342. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prevent discrimination against airline passengers with disabilities who use lithium-ion-powered wheelchairs and mobility aids that are safe for air travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 9343. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve access by Indian Tribes to support from universal service programs of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ (for herself and Ms. STANSBURY):

H.R. 9344. A bill to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 9345. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to improve outreach and education on employee ownership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. WALTZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 9346. A bill to amend the Federal Ocean Acidification Research And Monitoring Act of 2009 to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Adminis-

trator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to collaborate with State and local governments and Indian Tribes on vulnerability assessments related to ocean acidification, research planning, and similar activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H.R. 9347. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to modify requirements relating to certain employee-owned businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself and Mr. MFUME):

H.R. 9348. A bill to amend the Second Chance Act of 2007 to require identification for returning citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. CAREY, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 9349. A bill to improve public-private partnerships and increase Federal research, development, and demonstration related to the evolution of next generation pipeline systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. PALAZZO, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MANN, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BABIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. BUCSHON):

H. Con. Res. 115. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family and urging that the United States be added as a signatory; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. PHILLIPS, and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H. Con. Res. 116. Concurrent resolution establishing the Commission on Evidence-based Policymaking to review, analyze, and make recommendations to Congress to promote the use of Federal data for evidence-building and evidence-based policymaking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WITTMAN (for himself and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD):

H. Con. Res. 117. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that public health professionals should be commended for their dedication and service to the United States on "Public Health Thank You Day", November 21, 2022; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. GREENE of Georgia (for herself, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. NORMAN):

H. Res. 1482. A resolution of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of State to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to

Congressionally appropriated funds to the nation of Ukraine from January 20, 2021 to November 15, 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. COLE (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HERN, Mr. KIND, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. MANN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. GUEST):

H. Res. 1483. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Rural Health Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. JACKSON LEE (for herself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mrs. FLORES, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. BRADY, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. HERN, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. ROY, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H. Res. 1484. A resolution honoring the 2022 World Series Champions—the Houston Astros and the team's dedicated, iconic manager, Dusty Baker, as well as all of the team's outstanding players who have contributed to making history and proving that anything is possible; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. EMMER:

H. Res. 1485. A resolution expressing support for the designation of November 17, 2022, as "National Rural Mental Health Day"; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. POCAN, Mr. STEIL, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. KIND):

H. Res. 1486. A resolution honoring the victims of the devastating attack that took place at the Waukesha, Wisconsin, Christmas parade on November 21, 2021; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. TRONE, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. ESCOBAR):

H. Res. 1487. A resolution recognizing the harm associated with restraints in schools; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NEWMAN (for herself, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MENG, Mr. TAKANO, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. POCAN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. SCHKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. WILD, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. TLAI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. WELCH, Mr. TONKO, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts):

H. Res. 1488. A resolution supporting the goals and principles of Transgender Day of

Remembrance by recognizing the epidemic of violence toward transgender people and memorializing the lives lost this year; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Miss RICE of New York (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CROW, and Ms. NORTON):

H. Res. 1489. A resolution supporting the designation of the week beginning November 14, 2022, as "National Apprenticeship Week"; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. RUSH:

H. Res. 1490. A resolution expressing support for the Parliament of the World's Religions; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H. Res. 1491. A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of Everglades National Park; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

### 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. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 9324.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 9325.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. CASTOR of Florida:

H.R. 9326.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 9327.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9328.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause

By Mr. BUCSHON:

H.R. 9329.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This resolution is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 9330.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 9331.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 9332

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 9333

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 9334

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 9335

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. HIGGINS of New York:

H.R. 9336

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. JACKSON:

H.R. 9337

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 9338

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, section 8, clause 18.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 9339

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 9340

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 9341.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 9342.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 9343.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ:

H.R. 9344.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. PHILLIPS:

H.R. 9345.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 9346.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8,

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 9347.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, §8, cl. 3 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 9348.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WEBER of Texas:

H.R. 9349.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 222: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 1275: Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 1282: Ms. DELBENE.

H.R. 1283: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 1401: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 1439: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 1946: Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 2143: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 2252: Mr. MRVAN and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 2256: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 2269: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 2489: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2549: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 2565: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2573: Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 2791: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 2794: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 2882: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 2974: Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 2998: Ms. BUSH.

H.R. 3187: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 3352: Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. RYAN of New York.

H.R. 3425: Mr. ESTES, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. TIMMONS, and Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 3541: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 3733: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 3783: Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 3824: Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 4057: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 4268: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 4520: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 4624: Mr. GIMENEZ and Mr. TIFFANY.

H.R. 4690: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 4833: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 5035: Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 5067: Mr. COMER.

H.R. 5232: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 5468: Ms. CONWAY.

H.R. 5536: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 5905: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 6268: Ms. PRESSLEY and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 6338: Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 6461: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 6823: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 6860: Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 6970: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 7073: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. TRONE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. PORTER, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WILD, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CASE, Ms. MANNING, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. NADLER, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. KILMER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. DEAN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. GALLEGRO, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CHU, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. HARDER of California, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 7277: Mr. OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 7299: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 7382: Mr. MOOLENAAR and Mr. DAVIDSON.

H.R. 7433: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 7570: Mr. CLOUD and Mr. GUEST.

H.R. 7641: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. ELLZEY, and Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 7758: Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 7773: Mr. RYAN of New York.

H.R. 7775: Mr. RYAN of New York and Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 7932: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 7936: Mr. TIFFANY.

H.R. 7944: Ms. SHERRILL and Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 8074: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 8387: Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 8471: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 8557: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 8581: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 8614: Mr. GARAMENDI and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 8616: Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 8643: Mr. JONES.

H.R. 8708: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 8710: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 8740: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 8767: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 8800: Mr. RYAN of New York, Mr. SIMPSON, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 8812: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 8913: Mr. FALLON, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 8924: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 8948: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 8981: Mr. RESCENTIALER and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 9088: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 9148: Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 9157: Mr. BIGGS.

H.R. 9158: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 9223: Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 9238: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 9245: Mrs. HAYES, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 9253: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 9263: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 9265: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 9279: Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 9289: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 9300: Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. BOWMAN.

H.R. 9312: Mr. JACKSON.

H. Res. 1113: Mr. GOLDEN.

H. Res. 1185: Ms. OMAR.

H. Res. 1390: Ms. SHERRILL.

H. Res. 1405: Mr. CARSON.

H. Res. 1474: Ms. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. BUCHANAN.

H. Res. 1481: Ms. OMAR and Mr. VARGAS.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022

No. 178

## Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Spirit of Life, who soars upon the wings of the wind, breathe Your Grace in us. Remind us to be thankful for the people who bless our lives.

Thank You for the people who live exemplary lives and show us what productive living should be. Thank You for the people who inspire us to strive for noble things. Thank You for the people who comfort us, who help ease life's hurts. Thank You for the people who strengthen us, who give us courage to tackle the difficult. Thank You for the people who enlighten us through the written word. Lord, thank You for our Senators, who strive to protect and defend our freedom.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, November 17, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,  
President pro tempore.

Ms. ROSEN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT— MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 8404, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to H.R. 8404, a bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

#### RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, what took place here on the floor yesterday was nothing short of the Senate working at its very best. The Senate took a bold step toward securing greater justice for millions of Americans by advancing the Respect for Marriage Act with a resounding bipartisan vote.

Standing here on the floor yesterday, you could feel the sense of relief, of

joy, within the Chamber. After the vote, I got on the phone with my daughter and daughter-in-law and told them the good news, that marriage equality is now on the march toward final passage—thank goodness.

Passing the Respect for Marriage Act is no longer a matter of if but only of when. Later this afternoon, the Senate will take the next step in the process by formally adopting the motion to proceed. After that, both sides will have to work together to reach an agreement for voting on final passage as soon as we can.

Yesterday's vote was a vindication that it was well worth the wait. While nothing was inevitable about the result, I never lost faith that deep down enough of our colleagues would understand how important it was to get this bill done. I am glad that that faith has now been justified.

While some may want to delay this process, make no mistake, there is no stopping this bill from final passage. As I said a moment ago, the question of passage is not about if but when. I hope my Republican colleagues will work with us to move forward with this bill sooner rather than later.

I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who spearheaded this legislation: Senators Sinema, Baldwin, Collins, Portman, and Tillis. They did terrific work. We wouldn't be here without them.

Finally, I hope this bipartisan legislation, and all others we have passed this Congress, will continue to show how the Senate can function in the upcoming 118th Congress. I have always said I have a hierarchy: First, try to get things done in a bipartisan way whenever possible. It is far better to get things done for the American people than to hold show votes that bring political reckoning but have no hopes of passing. Our job, after all, is to get things passed and make lives better here in the Senate. And when the new Congress begins next year, that will

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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continue to be my guiding star and No. 1 focus.

#### MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Madam President, now on MAGA, last week's midterm elections revealed a basic but often unappreciated truth about politics: When elected leaders prioritize getting things done—getting things done—and when candidates can run on accomplishments, the American people respond positively. That shouldn't be some remarkable insight, but, unfortunately, too many seem to forget it. Indeed, too many of my Republican colleagues seem to have forgotten it over the last couple of years.

Look at what happened on Tuesday. The Republican side ran many flawed candidates who embraced MAGA radicalism, and they lost. They spread the Big Lie, sowed doubt and division and nastiness, and they ignored the issues that mattered most to Americans. As a result, voters ran in the other direction.

But don't take my word for it. Here is what Leader MCCONNELL himself said earlier this week, and I want to quote him in full. This is Leader MCCONNELL:

We underperformed among independents and moderates because their impression of many of the people in our party and leadership roles is that they're engulfed in chaos, negativity and excessive attacks, and it frightened independent and moderate Republican voters.

Listen to that part again:

[I]t frightened independent and moderate Republican voters.

That is exactly what I have been saying. MAGA Republicans did, in fact, scare a lot of Americans who might have otherwise given the GOP a closer look. All that talk about stolen elections, threatening poll workers, it frightened people—and thank God. Americans said this is not for us. Americans believe deeply in democracy, despite the rightwing radical MAGA news media throwing all kinds of lies and incendiary statements at them every day. The roots of democracy are deep and a shield against that kind of activity.

Republicans have a choice to make when the 118th Congress begins next year. If they continue embracing the MAGA approach of chaos and gridlock and division, they are going to keep losing. I earnestly hope that Republicans realize it is better for them and, of course, for the country to cure themselves of this MAGA sickness as quickly as they can.

I know that it won't happen overnight, and I know that some on the other side would prefer to double down on MAGA, but it is critical for our Nation's health, and, in fact, their party's health that they learn this lesson.

Americans don't want government to be an endless circus of MAGA insanity. They want leaders who will take their job seriously and work across the aisle to solve our Nation's problems. They know we are not going to succeed at everything, but they want good, earnest efforts at trying. And when we

try—when both sides try in good faith—we often get a lot done, as this past Congress has shown.

If Republicans fail to accept this wisdom, they will only invite further defeat in the future.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

#### LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS AND REPUBLICAN POLICY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, yesterday, the Republican conference met and selected its leadership team for the 118th Congress. I am deeply honored that my remarkable colleagues on this side of the aisle decided to rehire me for another term as Republican leader. I am proud of Senators THUNE, BARRASSO, ERNST, CAPITO, and DAINES, who were also elected to take on critical roles for the next 2 years.

We have impressive new Senators-elect. We have outstanding returning Members. Our conference is brimming with energy, ideas, and enthusiasm to fight for the millions and millions of Americans who elected Republican Senators to be their champions and their voice in this Chamber.

Republicans are a big-tent party that unites around commonsense, conservative principles and policies to make our Nation stronger and make American families' lives better. We stand for fiscal sanity instead of the reckless liberal spending that created jaw-dropping inflation. We stand for the pro-worker, pro-family, pro-growth ideas that built the best economy for working people in a generation, before COVID-19. Republican policies have fueled low inflation, low unemployment, and robust growth, all at the very same time.

We stand for a strong, modern military that can deter and defeat America's enemies and confident American leadership in the world instead of this administration's deeply botched retreat from Afghanistan and desperate cozying up to the murderous regime in Tehran.

We stand for American energy dominance instead of cutting off our own supplies and canceling out our own pipelines while begging foreign dictators to produce more.

We stand for real energy independence, not making China rich by buying solar panel components that make American energy more expensive and less reliable.

We stand for safer streets, and we understand that real compassion means ensuring safety and security for innocent people, not giving shorter sen-

tences to the violent convicts who hurt them.

We stand for securing our border and enforcing our laws instead of letting unvetted people and illegal drugs pour into our country 24/7.

We stand for putting parents' rights and parents' involvement back into our Nation's schools and getting radical indoctrination out.

We stand for the quaint notion that judges need to follow our laws and the Constitution as they are written, not act like a third legislative branch that our citizens can't vote out.

We stand for free speech, religious liberty, and the freedom of worship instead of using the courts and the government to prosecute men and women of faith.

This is where we stand, Madam President, and it just so happens that the American people stand with us. Last week's exit poll showed that Republicans are more trusted on the kitchen-table issues that keep American families awake at night. When the American people got a clear, unclouded look at our commonsense, conservative approach to the issues, they liked what they saw. We have 49 outstanding Members on this side of the aisle who are living proof of that fact, and in just a few more weeks, we will have 50.

It is the honor of a lifetime to serve alongside my distinguished colleagues and to serve our conference in this leadership role.

Now on a related matter, yesterday evening brought confirmation of some great news for the future of our country. Republicans have secured the majority in the House of Representatives for the next 2 years. It will be Senate Republicans' great pleasure to partner closely with and serve alongside the new Republican House. I want to congratulate soon-to-be Speaker MCCARTHY and all of the new and returning Members of Congress across the Capitol whose elections will be transforming the people's House from a reckless rubberstamp into a sorely needed check and balance.

The composition of the new House demonstrates that fatigue and exhaustion with reckless and radical far-left policies are not just limited to so-called red or purple States. New Republican Congress men and women have been hired by their neighbors even in deep-blue States like New York and California—even further evidence that when the American people get an unclouded look at our commonsense, conservative vision on the issues, they like what they see. So I look forward to working with our House Republican colleagues, new and returning, in the years to come.

#### INFLATION

Madam President, now on a related matter, the Capitol may be preparing for the next Congress, but hard-working Americans are still being hurt every day by the reckless, radical, party-line spending that the Democrats rammed through during this Congress.

Since President Biden took office and his all-Democratic government fired up the printing presses, our Nation has been hit with 13.9 percent inflation. In the State of Georgia, inflation is even worse; it is closer to 15 percent since January of 2021. Families are having to pay hundreds of dollars extra every month just to maintain their standard of living from before the Democrats got power, let alone trying to get ahead. The many Georgia families who can't afford it are falling farther and farther behind.

Housing inflation alone is costing the average Georgia household an extra \$137 every month. Overall energy costs are up more than 9 percent in the Atlanta area just in the last 12 months alone. As we head into winter, nearly 4 in 10 households in Georgia use natural gas as their main heating fuel. Residential natural gas prices have skyrocketed more than 200 percent on President Biden's watch. The State's natural gas prices are way, way higher than the national average, and that is before you even get to the brandnew natural gas tax that both of Georgia's Senators voted to pass into law just a few months ago.

The Democrats have passed radical policy on top of radical policy, and it has brought hard-working Americans like the people of Georgia pain on top of pain. But Washington Democrats still aren't finished.

A month ago, the Biden administration decided to insult working Americans by unleashing yet another reckless giveaway that would actually transfer even more wealth toward highly educated people who already tend to be more well off.

As one study found, "Upper-income households account for a disproportionate share of student loan debt." That makes sense. They borrowed money to obtain a credential that tends to push up people's salaries in the future. But President Biden decided that working people who worked their way through college or who already paid off their debt or who planned entirely different careers to avoid student loans altogether—President Biden says all those people will now be picking up the tab for doctors' and lawyers' graduate studies.

Oh, and by the way, our colleague from West Virginia Senator MANCHIN has himself admitted this one reckless move would more than eclipse the supposed deficit reduction that Democrats claimed they bought with their so-called Inflation Reduction Act. Even according to the generous estimates of that bill's savings that Democrats actually liked, this student loan socialism cannibalizes it all. All the supposed savings that the senior Senator from West Virginia was promised are gone in the blink of an eye. Apparently, the White House was planning the bait-and-switch all along.

Now, not surprisingly, President Biden's attempt to circumvent Congress and implement student loan so-

cialism on his own has created some legal trouble. After all, it was Speaker PELOSI herself who admitted just months before the administration rolled out this plan that they actually lacked the proper legal authority to do what they did.

Earlier this week, a panel of the Eighth Circuit issued an injunction preventing the Biden administration from going forward with its plan, but, reportedly, President Biden's team is so desperate to make inflation even worse in this fashion, they are planning to extend student loan socialism anyway by extending their endless moratorium on payments. Washington Democrats' top priority is making sure that California doctors and Manhattan lawyers don't have to pay their debts, even if it causes even more inflation, while working people in Georgia keep getting burned.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

NATIONAL VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES  
MONTH

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, on Sunday, I had the privilege of attending a welcome home ceremony for the 235th Military Police Company of the South Dakota National Guard after their 10-month deployment to Guantanamo Bay. It was a fitting activity for Veterans Day weekend.

The ceremonies are always joyful occasions: seeing couples and families reunited and celebrating together after a long absence, welcoming soldiers back to the familiarity of home. But in the midst of the joy and celebration, these ceremonies are also a powerful reminder of all that our servicemembers and their families give up to serve our country.

The joy of reunification points to the months of loneliness in which spouses and loved ones have had to live without their husband or wife, mom or dad, son or daughter. It highlights the long months in which moms and dads have had to shoulder all the burdens of child-rearing alone. The soccer games, the football games, the doctors' visits, the emergency car repairs, the visit from the plumber—all the daily challenges and responsibilities that couples usually share fall solely on the shoulders of the spouse holding down the fort at home.

And on top of the responsibility is the anxiety—the constant worry about the loved one halfway around the world and maybe in danger. These moments of joyful reunion also point to all that our military men and women sacrifice while stationed far from their families and loved ones; the months of separation from spouses and children, with Zooms and phone calls and emails being a poor substitute for bedtime stories read together on the couch and holding hands on an afterdinner walk; the loneliness, the worry about a pregnant wife or an ailing parent or a child having a tough year in school—all while far away from the comforts of home that the rest of us take for granted.

And, of course, while reunions are joyful, the challenges don't end after deployment. It takes time for the stress of a tough posting to dissipate; for soldiers to get reacclimated to the civilian world or to their stateside base; for families to readjust to living together and not apart, only to have to do it all over again when the next deployment comes around.

Some servicemembers bear the invisible wounds of war for the long term, not to mention those who are wounded in combat sometimes requiring loved ones to become caretakers. And yet despite all of the hardships and the challenges, men and women still rise up and answer the call—for families to readjust to living together and not apart, only to have to do it all over again when their deployment comes around.

Servicemembers and their families spend years and decades serving our country. They willingly shoulder the burdens and the challenges of this life. Animated by love of country and of their fellow man, they choose a life that asks them to forget their own needs and focus only on what they can do for others. That asks them to forgo comfort and sacrifice, up to and including the sacrifice of their own lives. Their sacrifice, their willingness to serve, is what enables us to go about our lives in peace and freedom.

We owe our men and women in uniform—and the families who support them—a debt we can never repay. But we can at least—at the very least—remember. As we go about our daily business, as we travel to our jobs in security and come home again at night the same way, we can remember that we live in peace and safety because of the sacrifice of the men and women of the U.S. military who stand on watch for us.

I am profoundly grateful for the honor of representing some of the men and women of the U.S. military here in the U.S. Senate as well as our many South Dakota veterans. And I will continue to do everything I can to ensure that our military and our veterans have the resources they need and the resources that they are owed.

I have successfully fought for over a decade to prevent closures of service reductions at VA facilities in South Dakota to ensure that veterans can continue receiving the healthcare they need close to home. And I will continue to work to make sure our State's VA facilities remain open and available to our veterans and that community care is equally accessible, if they so choose.

I will continue to work to ensure that our military members have everything that they need to deter threats and to protect America. And, as always, Ellsworth Air Force Base is at the top of my priority list. I am currently working to ensure that we continue to make the needed investments in the facilities and other infrastructure that Ellsworth will need to host the future of B-21 bomber mission as well as to ensure the influx of military



families who will move to the area to have adequate school capacity in housing access.

As we celebrate Veterans and Military Families Month, I want to express my gratitude to the citizen-soldiers of the South Dakota National Guard, the airmen at Ellsworth Air Force Base, and our South Dakota veterans and their families.

May God bless you all and all of your brothers and sisters in arms. And may God continue to bless America.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I would like to echo the words of our Senator from South Dakota about Veterans Day. We weren't here. In my State of Alabama, we have 400,000 veterans who have served our country and served our country well. A lot of them put their life on the line. We have a lot of injuries. And I just want to thank them for what they have done, being that we weren't here in the Chamber on Veterans Day. And I want to again thank them for their service. And, hopefully, in the future we can talk more about our veterans here in this Chamber because there is not a more special group than that.

#### TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN BOYD

Madam President, also, I want to start today by taking time to honor my departing chief of staff, Stephen Boyd, and thank him for his service to the State of Alabama and to our country.

For the past 2 years, Stephen has been at the center of every decision and every action we have taken on behalf of the State of Alabama in my office. And after nearly two decades of public service, we say goodbye to this integral part of our team.

When you run for Congress, you learn that people are quick to give you advice, especially when you have had a lifelong career in something outside of politics. One tip I heard over and over was hire a great chief of staff. But when I thought about what would make a good chief of staff, I decided I needed someone with three main qualifications: One, someone who knew the Federal Government; two, someone who knew the great State of Alabama; and, No. 3, someone who would lead with integrity. And that someone was Stephen Boyd.

Stephen brought a wealth of knowledge to my office from his time working in the House, in the Senate, and as a Senate-confirmed Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Legislative Affairs. Stephen has been quietly working in the background to help improve the lives of the people in Alabama. And I have no doubt that he will continue with that sense of service and succeed in his next endeavors.

So, Stephen, thank you for your service to our office; thank you for your service to the great State of Alabama; and thank you for your continued long service to the great country that we live in.

#### MIDTERM ELECTIONS

Madam President, meanwhile, our work here in Washington continues. Moving forward, Congress has a lot to do to get our country back on track, with a lot of division. Last week, millions and millions of Americans across the country took part in one of the most sacred traditions that we have here. It is called voting.

The right to vote in free and fair elections is the cornerstone of our democracy. I was proud to see so many Alabamians exercise that right and also people across our country. Voting is the best way for the American people to tell the government how they feel about our performance. That is how we are evaluated.

As expected, the people used that opportunity last week to send a message to us here in DC: No more one-party rule in this building. For too long, this Congress has been controlled by the Democrats and has ignored a lot of the issues facing the American people as inflation has skyrocketed.

My Democratic colleagues continue to spend trillions of dollars on partisan bills that have made the problem worse. My Democratic colleagues passed the so-called Inflation Reduction Act a few months ago. You know, the name of the bill, which was intentionally misleading—it really has nothing to do with contents. There is a lot of content in that bill, a lot of money being spent, a lot of money going to the so-called climate change. Is that going to help inflation? Is that going to help the American people as we speak? No, it is not.

My Democratic colleagues need to know that the legislation will do nothing—absolutely nothing—and has done nothing at the present time to help inflation. But it does spend nearly 750 billion—with a “b”—more dollars on radical leftwing priorities, many of them focused on green energy policies that have accelerated our economy's slide toward recession.

You know, we are all environmentalists. We all love our environment. But we also love the people in this country from top to bottom. And the people come first. The lives of the people in this country come first. As gas prices hit record highs and home utility bills are expected to go through the roof this winter—and they have already started—this administration has done nothing—absolutely nothing—to ease the pain. Our President last week said, after the election—What do you plan on doing to help in the future—to the American citizens—What do you want to change?—he said: “Nothing.”

So we can take him at his word. This looming energy crisis has been obvious—very obvious—to all of us for months. Yet President Biden and his allies have nothing to stop it from happening. Prices will continue to go up. We have no answers. And that is why we are here. We are here to have answers for the American people. In fact, this administration has done the oppo-

site: siding with climate activists and begging for foreign adversaries for oil instead of promoting and unleashing energy production right here at home.

Just a couple of weeks ago, President Biden promised a group of climate protesters that there would be no new drilling while speaking at a campaign rally. There are no answers in that statement for the American people whom we represent.

In addition to inflation, painful high gas prices, leadership in DC has done nothing to address the rising crime ravaging our communities. The wide-open borders—it is a magnet for cartels and deadly, deadly, deadly drugs.

I recently visited the southern border to see the madness taking place just a few weeks ago and what it is costing the American taxpayers. I visited Eagle Pass, TX. At Eagle Pass, which is the Del Rio Sector, they control 200 miles of the border. That is basically just a third of the border on our southern tip of the United States—only one-third. We were spending \$15 million a month just processing the illegal immigrants coming across the border. That is only the cost of processing. They come across, and they are released into our country no less than 72 hours after they are brought across our border. And they go to no-telling where—all over our country. It is a taxpayer's nightmare. We are talking about 14- to \$15 million per month for just 200 miles. You could imagine what the rest of the border is having to pay out of the taxpayers' pocket.

One thing I want everybody to understand, I keep hearing about how our border is secure. Folks, our border is not secure. I was almost run over by the herd of people coming across the line early one morning, standing there. People are excited about being in the USA. We don't know who they are. Most can tell us where they are coming from, but they have no identification. As of today, we have taken people from 180 different countries. A lot of them are here doing no good.

I will tell you this: Just talking to the Border Patrol, we have a lot of people coming across maybe for a better life, but the ones coming across running from our Border Patrol which we do not catch, we do not see, which is 15 percent to 20 percent, when you are running—running—from the Border Patrol at the border, when we are letting you come across no matter who you are and come into our country, if you are running from Border Patrol, you have something to hide. That something to hide usually is not going to be very good for our country.

In addition to the tens of millions of illegal immigrants already in the United States, we already had 5 million come across that we know of. So you can probably add, as the Border Patrol said, another million to that list—another million people here that include people selling drugs, human trafficking, terrorists. It is a scary situation. We will pay the price in the near future for this.

Right now, the American taxpayer is paying a financial price, but in the near future, we will pay a price that we will have to overcome. We don't know what that is yet, but we will pay the price. The fact that this administration has ignored the border is a difficult reality for me to accept, and it should be a difficult reality for all of us to accept.

We love people in this country. We are an immigrant country. We all come from immigrants. When you are born in this country, you hit the lottery. We live in, no doubt, the best country on the face of the Earth. We are very fortunate. A lot of people weren't born in this country, but we take a lot of people into our country from all different places. But they should come in the right way, the proper way, where we can recognize them, identify them, and understand that they are coming here for the reasons of having a better life where we can help them.

But right now, our border is overrun, and we better get control of this because it is going to be a sad day when something happens in our country and we are going to be on this floor apologizing to the American people of something terrible happening again.

I am going to continue to push back on the radical spending in these next 2 years in this Congress, our open borders, counterproductive energy proposals, and the policies that take place.

And we make our criminals victims in this country. We have to stop that. We have to make sure we put criminals in jail and don't make them the victim. When my new Republican colleagues come to Washington in January, our party will be united. We have had our problems. We work out our problems, and we hope to be more united than ever before.

We want to deliver lower costs, safer communities, and a secure border. We need to continue to talk about that. I would love to hear my Democratic colleagues get up and talk about what they see when they go to the border because it is one of the most important things that has ever happened in this country—one of the most important. And we have to have an answer to that. We can do this by cutting spending and unnecessary resolutions.

We can help the American people. People ask: What are the Republicans going to do? We want to cut spending, we want to cut regulations, and we want to lower taxes, put more money in American people's pockets to where they can live a better life.

Our Federal Government, the Fed now is raising interest rates. Their job is try to keep inflation down. I understand that. Why do they do that? They raise interest rates to slow down housing.

Folks, we have ruined housing in this country in the last 3 months. We have achieved our goal. We have achieved our goal of people not building homes. We have gone to almost zero in the State of Alabama. We have put thou-

sands of people out of jobs. We accomplished our goal of putting housing on the back burner. I am for slowing down interest rate increases. Let's see what has happened in the Fed. Let's make sure they are working. We tend to raise them every couple of months now. Let's see what has happened. Let's help the American people. Let's don't keep kicking them to the back burner. We have slowed housing down. Let's put people back to work now. Let's put them back to work and give them an opportunity to live a better life.

We are in a tough time. It is going to get tougher. We will see a deep recession in 2023. It is coming. There is no way around it. We need to start making plans to help the American people overcome this recession that is going to hit us all right between the eyes in the next few months. We live in a great country, and this body needs to help the people that live in this great country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from California.

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the Respect for Marriage Act.

I was proud to introduce this bill earlier this summer with Senators BALDWIN, COLLINS, and PORTMAN. I am greatly encouraged by yesterday's bipartisan vote of 62 to 37 to advance the bill and continue moving this important legislation forward.

The Respect for Marriage Act would guarantee legal protections for millions of marriages in the United States by repealing the discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act and ensuring that marriages entered into legally are given full faith and credit by every State and the Federal Government.

Simply put, Americans should be free to marry the person they love, regardless of sexual orientation or race, without fear of discrimination or fear that their marriages will be invalidated. This is a straightforward bill. It merely codifies the existing requirement that the Federal Government and every State recognize legal marriages.

In 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in *Obergefell v. Hodges* that the U.S. Constitution guarantees the right to marry for same-sex couples. And 55 years ago, in *Loving v. Virginia*, the Supreme Court ruled that "the freedom to marry . . . a person of another race resides with the individual, and cannot be infringed by the State."

These decisions also reflect the will of the American people. Over the past few decades, public support for same-sex marriage and interracial marriage has grown exponentially. In fact, recent polls have found that 71 percent of Americans support same-sex marriage and 94 percent approve of interracial marriages. This bill has been endorsed by hundreds of organizations, including nonprofits, corporations, and religious organizations that span the ideological spectrum.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a list of endorsing organizations be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT—NOVEMBER 17, 2022

ABB, Abercrombie & Fitch Co., Accenture, ACLU, ADL (Anti-Defamation League), ADL Austin Region, ADL Florida, ADL New England, ADL New York/New Jersey, ADL San Diego, ADL Southeast, ADL Southwest, ADL Texoma, Adobe Inc., AEO, Inc., AFL-CIO, Airbnb, Alaska Airlines, ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal, AllianceBernstein.

Altria Group, Amalgamated Bank, Amazon.com, Inc., Ameinu, American Airlines, American Bar Association, American Conference of Cantors, American Federation of Teachers, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, American Honda, Motor Co., Inc., American Humanist Association, American Jewish World Service, American Psychological Association, Apple, Applied Materials, Inc., Asana, Inc., Ascena (Lane, Bryant, Ann Taylor, and, LOFT), Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, AT&T, Inc.

Auburn Seminary, Autodesk, Inc., Avana, Avodah, Aytzim, B'nai B'rith Connect, Bain & Company, Bank of America, BASF Corporation, Bayer U.S. LLC, BCW, Believe Out Loud, Bend the Arc: Jewish Action, Berkshire Bank, Best Buy Co., Inc., Beth Chayim Chadashim, Bloomberg LP, Boehringer Ingelheim USA, Boston Beer Company, Boston Consulting Group.

Boston Scientific Corp., BP, Braze, Inc., Bridgestone Americas, California Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-CA), Capital One, Carbon Health, Cardinal Health, Cargo Transporters, Inc., Carlyle, Carolina Jews for Justice, Catholics for Choice, Celanese Corporation, Center for American, Progress, Center for Faith, Justice, and Reconciliation, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies, Chobani, LLC, City of Oakland, California, Coastal Roots Farm.

Cohesity, Columbia Jewish, Congregation, Comcast NBCUniversal, Congregation Agudas Achim, Austin Texas, Congregation Har HaShem, Boulder, CO, Congregation Rodeph Shalom, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Constellation Energy Corporation, Corvea Agriscience, Cox Enterprises, Creative Artists Agency, CSAA Insurance Group, CVS Health, Daniel J. Edelman, Inc., Danone North America, Deckers Brands (UGG, HOKA, Teva, Sanuk and Koolaburra by UGG), Dell Technologies, Deloitte, Delta Air Lines, Deutsche Bank USA Corp.

DignityUSA, DoorDash, Dow, Drobbox, DTCC, DuPont de Nemours, Inc., DWS Group, Ecolab, Edison International, EMD Serono, MilliporeSigma and EMD Electronics, Equality Federation, Equinix, Equitable, Ernst & Young, LLP, Essence, Etsy, Eventbrite, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Exelon, Faith in Public Life.

Faithful America, Family Equality, Florida Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-FL), Ford Motor Company, Freedom BLOC, Freedom for All Americans, General Mills, General Motors, Gilead Sciences, Inc., GitHub, GLAAD, GLAD, Google, Greater Miami Jewish Federation, GroupM, H&R Block, Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Harley-Davidson Motor Company, Havurat Shalom, Andover MA, Hewlett Packard Enterprise.

Hexion Inc., Hilton, Hindus for Human Rights, HP, Human Rights Campaign, Hyatt, IAC, IBM, IFF, IHG Hotels & Resorts, IKAR,

IKEA Retail US, Illinois Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-IL), Intel, Interfaith Alliance, IRI (Information Resources, Inc.), J Street, Jackson Family Wines.

Jacobs, Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action, Jewish Community Action, Jewish Community Center of Asheville, Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund, Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia, Jewish Community Relations Council of Broward County, Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston, Jewish Community Relations Council of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda, and Contra Costa Counties, Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA).

Jewish Council on Urban Affairs, Jewish Emergent Network, Jewish Family Service Houston, Jewish Family Service of Greater New Orleans, Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, Jewish Family Service of San Diego, Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Jewish Federation of Greater Portland, Jewish Federations of North America, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish Teen Education and Engagement Network, LLC (JTEEN), Jewish Women International, Jewish Youth Climate Movement, Jews for a Secular Democracy, Jews United for Justice (JUFJ), Jewtina y Co., Johnson & Johnson, JPMorgan Chase.

JQY (Jewish Queer Youth), Judaism (RAC-MA), JYCA (Jewish Youth for Community Action), Kane Street Synagogue, Kearney, Kellogg Company, Keshet, KIND LLC, Kohl's, KPMG LLP, Lab/Shul, Lambda Legal, Landor & Fitch, Latter-day Saint Democrats of America, Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, League of United Latin American Citizens, Levi Strauss & Co., Liberty Mutual Insurance, Link Logistics.

LinkedIn, Logitech, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Lowenstein Sandler, Lush Cosmetics—North America, Lyft, Inc., Macy's, Inc., Makom Shelanu, Malkhut: progressive Jewish spirituality in Queens, Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals, Many Voices, Maranatha, Marriott International, Mars, Incorporated, Marsh McLennan, Massachusetts Religious Action Center of Reform, MassMutual, Match Group, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger.

McKesson, MediaCom, Medtronic, Men of Reform Judaism, Meta Platforms, Inc., MGM Resorts International, Michael Page International, Micron Technology, Inc., Microsoft Corporation, Milwaukee Jewish Federation, Mindshare, Mishkan Chicago, Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, Molson Coors Beverage Company, Momentive, MomsRising, Mondelez International, Morgan Stanley, Motive.

Moving Traditions, Muslim Advocates, Muslims for Progressive Values, National Association of Social Workers, National Black Justice Coalition, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Council of Jewish Women, National Council of Jewish Women New York, National Council of Nonprofits, National Education Association, National Grid, National League of Cities, National Wildlife Federation, National Women's Law Center, Nestlé USA, NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice, Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies, New Belgium Brewing, New Israel Fund.

New Jersey Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-NJ), New Ways Ministry, New York Life, New York Public Health Association, New York Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-NY), Nextdoor, NIKE, Inc., Nordstrom, Inc., Ogilvy, Ohio Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-OH), Okta, Omnicom

Group, Oracle, Owens Corning, Parity, Patagonia, PayPal, Peloton, Peninsula Jewish Community Center, Pennsylvania Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-PA).

PepsiCo, Petco, Pfizer, PFLAG, Pinterest, Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP, Power Home Remodeling, Presbyterian Church (USA) Office of Public Witness, Prudential Financial, PVH Corp., PwC, Rabbinical Assembly, Ralph Lauren Corporation, Raymond James Financial, Reconstructing Judaism, Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association, Recorded Future, Red Hat, Inc., Redfin, REI Co-op.

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Rockwell Automation, Romemu, Royal Bank of Canada, SACReD (Spiritual Alliance of Communities for Reproductive Dignity), SAJ—Judaism that Stands for All, Salesforce, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, SAP America, Inc., Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP, Saul Mirowitz Jewish Community School, Service Employees International Union, Seyfarth Shaw LLP, Shalom Austin, Shipt, Shutterstock, Siemens Healthineers, Siemens USA, Signet Jewelers.

Sixth Circle Consulting, Slalom, Society for Humanistic Judaism, Sojourners, Sony Corporation of America, Sony Electronics Inc., Sony Music Group, Sony Pictures Entertainment, Southwest Airlines Co., St. Paul Jewish Federation, Standard Chartered Bank, Stanley Black & Decker, Starbucks, State Street, Sunrun, Inc., Sustainable Food Policy Alliance, Synchrony, Sysco, Takeda Pharmaceuticals, Talbots.

Target, TBE, TechNet, Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael, Temple Beth El (Tacoma), Temple Beth El of Boca Raton, Tiffany & Co., Tivnu: Building Justice, T-Mobile, Toyota North America, TPG, Tribe 12, Tripadvisor, Truuh: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, Twitter, Tzedek Georgia, Temple Emanuel of Westfield, Temple Kol Emeth, Temple Ohabei Shalom, Temple Shir Tikva.

Tesla, Inc., Texas Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC-TX), The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, The Clorox Company, The Episcopal Church, The Freedom BLOC, U.S. Bank, Uber Technologies, Inc., UKG, Unilever United States, Union for Reform Judaism, Unitarian Universalist Association, United Airlines, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., The J.M. Smucker Co., The Knot Worldwide, The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc., The Shalom Center, The Temple—Atlanta GA, The Walt Disney Company.

The Workers Circle, Thermo Fisher Scientific, TIAA, United Church of Christ, United States Conference of Mayors, Universal Music Group, Upwork, USY, Vail Resorts, Verizon, Vertex Pharmaceuticals, VF Corporation, Via Transportation, VMLY&R, VMware, VP Corporation, Walgreens Boots Alliance, Walmart, Inc., Warner Brothers Discovery.

Warner Music Group, Wells Fargo & Co., Women of Reform Judaism, WPP, Wunderman Thompson, Xperi Holding Corporation, Ziff Davis, Zillow.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I would like to applaud the House for passing the Respect for Marriage Act with significant bipartisan support earlier this summer. It is now the time for the Senate to do the same.

I would like to take a moment to speak to my Republican colleagues who have said marriage equality is “a nonissue” right now. Some of my Senate colleagues have said things like: It's the law of the land, so passing legislation is not a good use of Congress's time.

As we saw this summer with the Supreme Court's decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, hard-fought rights are still always vulnerable to repeal. We must also remember that in a concurring opinion to the *Roe v. Wade* repeal, one Supreme Court Justice explicitly called for the Court to reconsider and overturn *Obergefell*. We must act now so that no matter what happens in the courts, married same-sex and interracial couples are protected.

Overturing *Obergefell* and *Loving* would return the country to a patchwork of State laws where couples could be subject to State-sanctioned discrimination. Many States still have bans on same-sex marriages on the books that would immediately take effect if marriage equality were overturned.

I would also like to touch on how far-reaching the legal ramifications of overturning *Obergefell* and *Loving* would be. Without the Respect for Marriage Act, if a married same-sex or interracial couple lived in a State that decided to ban their union, their marriage could be invalidated. Even if a couple lived in a State that permitted same-sex or interracial marriage, that marriage could be deemed invalid if they were able to travel to a State that did not have marriage equality.

Invalidated marriages would also give rise to a host of legal concerns for couples who relied on the ability to marry when making major life and family planning decisions. For example, spouses may no longer be able to make important healthcare decisions or even visit their partners in the hospital. Nonbirthing parents may no longer have parental rights over their children. There would be some serious confusion about Federal and State tax violations and tax laws could be arbitrarily and discriminatorily applied.

The Respect for Marriage Act will ensure that all legally married couples are afforded the same protections, regardless of where they live, providing security and peace of mind to millions of families.

I spent decades advocating for equality. As a supervisor and mayor of San Francisco during the height of the gay rights movement, I witnessed the terrible pain and trauma that resulted from hateful discrimination. I watched firsthand as the LGBT community fought for legal recommendation of their lives, their relationships, and their personal dignity. We cannot return to a system that allows bigotry and hate. Bigotry and discrimination have no place in this society. No one should have to live not knowing whether their marriage will suddenly become invalid.

This bill will give families the peace of mind and security that comes with knowing that their valid marriages will remain legally protected under Federal law.

I want to thank Senators BALDWIN, COLLINS, PORTMAN, SINEMA, and TILLIS for their leadership on this important

issue. I encourage the rest of my colleagues to please join us in supporting the passage of the bill.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NOMINATION OF RHEANNE WIRKKALA

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask unanimous consent for the confirmation of a highly qualified nominee standing ready to lead the greatest military the world has ever known.

As we speak, it is no secret that Vladimir Putin's unprovoked and deadly war is raging in Ukraine. Russia, along with China, Iran, North Korea, and other adversaries, is actively working to erode our national security and undermine democratic principles across the world.

Just last month, I had the opportunity to visit our troops stationed in Eastern Europe. I could not have been prouder of these brave American servicemembers who are at the tip of the spear protecting our democracy. They have literally dedicated their lives to defending our freedoms and the freedoms of our allies. These men and women need our support, and they are depending on us to do our part and confirm quality candidates to serve in strategic leadership roles.

With that in mind, I would ask to confirm Rheanne Wirkkala of Maryland as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs. This nominee's years of service at the Defense Intelligence Agency, as a senior staffer in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and as a special assistant to the Secretary of Defense make her immensely qualified to serve in this position.

Our national security is critically important. It is a fundamental responsibility of this body, and we must take action to make sure we have the best people in the positions to defend our democracy and our national security.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 993; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Rheanne Wirkkala, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Wirkkala nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, since the real President, President Biden, was elected to office, the southern border—my State shares a 1,200-mile common border with Mexico—has been absolutely overwhelmed by the number of migrants entering the United States.

The United States is the most generous country in the world when it comes to legal immigration. We naturalize almost a million people a year, which is, I think, part of the secret to our economic success. We see the best and the brightest from all around the world who want to come to America, who want to enjoy the kind of prosperity that Americans enjoy and the freedom and opportunity to pursue their dreams. Legal immigration, I think, has been part of the secret sauce that has helped to make our country great, and we need to protect that.

Illegal immigration is a disaster. What is happening now on the border and what has happened in the last 2 years under the Biden administration has been nothing short of a humanitarian and public safety crisis.

It is a little bit of a disappointment—it is more than a little bit of a disappointment—when President Biden campaigned on the promise of policies that were sure to lead to this exact situation. On the one hand, he said: I want to be a uniter. I want to work together to solve our Nation's problems.

But then to see him completely abdicate the Federal Government's responsibility to control uncontrolled migration across the border is inexcusable. Once President Biden took office, his administration continued to send a clear message to the cartels, to the human smugglers, and to the migrants that our border was open. Oh, and don't forget the drug cartels, who depend on an open border to sell their poison all across our country, taking the lives, last year, of 108,000 Americans alone.

Some people have said: Well, apparently, every State is now a border State.

I think that is true, particularly when you see the epidemic of fentanyl being so pervasive in all of our communities. We are losing students in our high schools on a regular basis who think they are taking something like, let's say, Xanax or Percocet or something else, but it is laced with fentanyl, and it kills them because only a very small piece of fentanyl can take your life. It is that powerful.

Unfortunately, the administration is now trying to play catchup to its failures and abdication to provide security across our southern border. In the last fiscal year, for the first time on record, annual border encounters reached nearly 2.4 million. When I say border encounters, that does not count the so-called getaways, which is what the Border Patrol calls them—the hundreds and thousands of people who don't turn themselves in and claim asylum. These are people who want to evade law enforcement. They are very likely involved in either criminal activity or have a criminal record themselves or, perhaps, they are just smuggling drugs into the United States. Those are the getaways. So the 2.4 million is a low number for the number of people to have come across the border in the last 2 years, and there is no indication that things are slowing down.

I know Vice President HARRIS—named the border czar for President Biden's administration—when she talks about immigration, she says: Well, we need to get back to the root causes.

She talks to the President of Guatemala or Honduras or El Salvador and says, well, we need to make life better for people there so they don't come here, which is totally ignoring the scope and the gravity of the human smuggling networks that operate internationally.

I mentioned this morning, in the Judiciary Committee, where the Presiding Officer was, too, that the Border Patrol regularly encounters people from as many as 150 different countries. So the fact is the criminal organizations that make money on human smuggling will smuggle you from anywhere in the world, including from countries of particular concern to us when it comes to terrorism, for a price. So, where coming from Central America or Mexico may cost you \$5,000 or \$10,000, if you are coming from Pakistan, Iraq, or Iran, it may cost you \$15,000, and it goes on and on and on and on.

So Vice President HARRIS, apparently, doesn't understand what we are up against when she talks about root causes. People want to come here, and they will pay to come here and to evade a lawful system of controlled legal immigration, which, as I said, has been a good thing for our country, in favor of transnational criminal organizations getting richer by the day by

smuggling people from all around the world, along with the drugs that I mentioned earlier that took the lives of 108,000 Americans last year alone.

In fiscal year 2018, we saw an average of 43,000 migrants at the border every month. That was in 2018, 4 years ago, 43,000. In fiscal year 2022—fast-forward 4 years—the monthly total has skyrocketed from 43,000 to 198,000 a month. We are seeing 4½ times more people coming every single month, and, not surprisingly, the Border Patrol can't keep up.

This is part of the strategy of these transnational criminal organizations. They will send children unaccompanied to the border, knowing that the Border Patrol—as they should—is going to try to take care of these children as they process them through the asylum system. What that means is that they are not on the border when they are back, filling out paperwork or changing diapers, and that is when the drug cartels come through.

It is like a four-lane highway into the United States, and it doesn't stop in Texas. It goes to New Jersey. It goes to Illinois. It goes all across our country, not to mention that the Border Patrol doesn't have the space to house this many people. So they simply let them go, in many instances, with a notice to appear for a future court hearing if somebody invokes asylum laws. But they don't have the personnel to control this humanitarian crisis, this flood of humanity, coming across the border.

As I said, the people coming across are a hodgepodge. Some are economic migrants. We can understand people fleeing poverty or violence—we are human beings too. We understand—but it also creates an opportunity for criminals and drug smuggling and other nefarious actors to come across because we don't know who is coming across. Because there are so many of them, they have overwhelmed our capacity to monitor, and hundreds of thousands of them, simply, are the gotaways.

We don't have enough people to do the job of patrolling the frontlines and arresting the people who need to be arrested and interdicted the drugs that need to be interdicted. I know Chairman DURBIN, our friend and colleague from Illinois, mentioned this morning in the Judiciary Committee hearing the fact that Customs and Border Protection has interdicted tons of drugs. That is a good thing, but nobody is under any illusion that they have gotten anywhere near all, much less the majority, of the drugs that have come across the border. They haven't. So this is, unfortunately, another manifestation of the broken policies of the Biden administration and the Biden border crisis.

We don't have enough immigration courts to keep up with the backlog as people are released by the millions into the United States and told to appear for a court hearing. The last figures I

saw showed that about half of the people didn't show up for their court hearings, but there has been no effort made to follow up by Immigration and Customs Enforcement to repatriate those people who don't comply with their notice to appear.

Honestly, there are millions of cases in the backlog, and the cartels know that, too, and this is another way for them to game the system, and this is another incentive for people to come. You know, the Border Patrol talks about the push factors—violence, poverty, things that cause people to want to leave their homes to go somewhere else—but they also talk about the pull factors, which is the perception that the border is open, and there is no impediment to people coming here outside of our legal immigration system. That is another reason the numbers are so huge—because there is simply no deterrence.

As I said, this isn't just a problem in Texas and other border States. My border communities don't have the resources to help each and every migrant who arrives penniless, malnourished, and, maybe, without any place to really go. The truth is the entire system is buckling under the weight of this border crisis, but if you think things are bad now, they are about to get worse.

Earlier this week, a D.C. district court judge vacated the Centers for Disease Control title 42 order. You will remember, title 42 is a public safety order which empowered the Border Patrol to turn back people coming across the border into the United States because infectious diseases can spread when people who haven't been vaccinated, who aren't tested, are released into the interior of the United States. So this is a public health order that enabled the Border Patrol at least to use that tool to try to modulate the flow of humanity coming across the border, but a district judge here has vacated title 42 now.

The judge has granted a 5-week stay, giving the Department of Homeland Security until midnight on December 21 to come up with a new plan. But this isn't a time to start scrambling and come up with a plan; it should have been happening years ago.

I still remember meeting with the Border Patrol leadership and Customs and Border Protection. They said when title 42 goes away, if we are denied that tool to be able to control the flow of illegal immigration, we will lose control. There will be no disincentive for people not to come across the border into the United States illegally.

Title 42 has been one of the few remaining tools that have been used to prevent even greater chaos than what I have described, and now, with it potentially likely going away, even that tool will be lost. But, of course, the administration has jettisoned almost every policy we had in place to secure the border and discourage migrants from undertaking the dangerous journey to our southern border.

Title 42 has given the Department of Homeland Security the ability to quickly expel some migrants—usually adult males—and to prevent our border facilities and local communities from becoming even more overwhelmed than they already are. Once this authority goes out the window—and that appears to be imminent—the situation is going to get much, much worse.

Of the more than 230,000 encounters at the southern border last month, more than 78,000 were removed under title 42—230,000 encounters; 78,000 removed using title 42. But if title 42 goes away, that is 78,000 more people each month who are likely, then, to make their way into the United States.

Title 42 also provided some means to control the need to process, house, and feed migrants coming across the border, but now, with all of the restraints of title 42 off, it is going to get much, much worse, and the consequences will be dire indeed.

As I said, the Biden border crisis is entirely predictable, and it is a result of the Biden administration dismantling what few tools that were available to Border Patrol and to the U.S. Government to control unrestricted access to the United States.

It seems to me that the only consistent policy of the Biden administration has been that whatever the previous administration did, whether it is build infrastructure, provide more technology, more boots on the ground, whatever the policy of the previous administration was, we are going to do the opposite—not because it makes sense; just because the previous administration did it, they are going to undo it.

Of course, those people who do claim asylum are met with a 2 million-case backlog. On average, it takes about 2 years for the case to be adjudicated. But migrants know this. They plan on this. This is part of the sales pitch of the human smugglers. They say: Just go to the border and claim asylum, and then you will be put in a queue of 2 million people, and you have to wait for your case to be called.

Of course, more than half of the people don't show up. That is part of the plan. And those who do show up, we know that 90 percent of those cases failed to meet the legal standard for asylum. In the meantime, those migrants, if they had had their case adjudicated, would have found they had no legal basis to the stay in the United States. They are able to live and work here for years in the meantime.

I mentioned the notice that many migrants are given to appear for a court date, but because of the volume of people coming across, at one point, the Border Patrol and Customs and Border Protection didn't even issue those notices to appear for a date certain for a court setting, and they gave migrants a notice to report. These are people who have evaded the legal process to make their way into the United States, and we give them a slip of

paper that says: Oh, when you get to where you are going—whether it is Chicago or New York or Washington, DC—go turn yourself in to Immigration and Customs Enforcement, ICE.

I just don't know how stupid the Biden administration thinks the American people are because the American people are not stupid. They understand that this notice to report is another means for people to make their way illegally into the United States and to stay here, and it is an incentive for more and more people to come.

Law enforcement is not just enforcing the law; it is actually sending a message of deterrence: Don't do that. We have lost all message of deterrence because migrants who make their way into the United States, they call back home, and they say: I made it. They watch TV. They see the migrants flowing across the border unrestricted. They say: Well, I guess if they can do it, I can do it too.

Given the massive influx of people coming across the border every day, the Border Patrol's facilities are completely underwater. Rather than stand up new facilities or hire more personnel to make the expedited removal process function properly, the Biden administration has just continued to release more and more people into the interior of the country. In many cases, these people are released without any real information about who they are, where they are going, and what they are going to do when they get there.

Senator LANKFORD and I have asked the Government Accountability Office to evaluate the impact of these practices, and the results are pretty shocking. The GAO reported that some of the migrants had their appointment with ICE scheduled for August 2024, nearly 2 years from now. That was just the appointment to receive the notice to appear, which begins—begins—the proceedings in immigration court. Tack on the average of a 2-year process for a single case to be adjudicated by an immigration judge, and you are looking at a 4-year-plus waiting period.

If the administration doesn't come up with a plan to fix these problems before title 42 is lifted, we will be looking at a pull factor to end all pull factors. Here is why.

Earlier this year, Secretary Mayorkas said that Customs and Border Protection detention facilities could hold approximately 18,000 people. Now, that sounds like a big number, but those beds fill up quickly. Once title 42 goes away, every single person who crosses the border will have to be processed by the Border Patrol.

The administration previously said we could see as many as 18,000 migrants every day if title 42 was lifted. That is a day, so all 18,000 of those beds could fill up as a result of a single day's migration. Then the question comes, what do we do with the rest when the only detention facilities we have are full?

When these facilities are filled to capacity, agents are left with no other

choice. The migrants are released, which is, again, part of the business model of the human smugglers and transnational criminal organizations that operate these illegal smuggling networks. They realize that they have overwhelmed the capacity of the Border Patrol and U.S. policy to keep people who should not come into the country out. They may be given a notice to appear, but that is a document that tells asylum seekers when and where to present their claims in court, or they may be paroled into the country and enrolled in the so-called alternatives to detention program. Years are likely to pass before that long-awaited court date arrives. When it does, maybe the person will show up; maybe they won't. But either way, one thing is certain: When word gets out, as it always does, that migrants are being released from custody, more illegal immigration will follow.

This creates a huge public safety risk, not because of the migrants themselves but because of the chaos that mass migration creates. When thousands of people are crossing the border every day, it completely overwhelms the Border Patrol, as I said. If agents are caring for unaccompanied children, they can't patrol the frontlines. If they are knee deep in paperwork, they can't stop dangerous criminals, people with criminal records, from slipping across the border.

The chaos at our southern border provides an excellent disguise for dangerous individuals. Gangs, cartels, criminal organizations are paying close attention to the state of our border. They see the gaps, and they know how to exploit them. Every day, cartel and gang members attempt to sneak across the border. The dedicated men and women of the Border Patrol arrest a number of them. Last fiscal year, agents apprehended more than 750 gang members, but, as we know, law enforcement is overwhelmed, and that means countless others have been undetected and slip through the cracks.

No one is suggesting that title 42 is a permanent solution or a partial solution to our border security problems—far from it—but the administration should have been planning years ago for the day that title 42 would be lifted because once title 42 is lifted, unless other policies are put in place for expedited removal of people who cannot legally enter the country, for example, we are going to lose control of the border entirely.

But the administration has shown zero interest in working with Congress to craft real change. That needs to change. Before title 42 goes away, the administration must implement a serious plan quickly and efficiently—and, yes, fairly—to enforce our immigration laws at the border and deter further illegal immigration. They need to ensure the Border Patrol facilities are equipped with the resources and the personnel needed to manage the massive influx of migrants.

But the fact of the matter is, those overwhelmed Border Patrol agents, those overwhelmed facilities, those overwhelmed border communities need policies that can only be passed by Congress and signed into law by the President of the United States, but so far, our Democratic colleagues have shown zero interest, turned a blind eye, really, to any of these concerns about an unrestricted flow of humanity across our border—again, of course, with the drugs that the cartels sell here in the United States. But the administration needs to change their approach.

I saw the forced resignation of the head of Customs and Border Protection—the former police chief, I believe, in Arizona—but this is just scapegoating. They are firing him, hoping people won't realize that what is really failing is not the officials heading up these government Agencies; it is the administration; it is the policies of the Biden administration itself and the failure of our Democratic colleagues to work with us to try to come up with solutions.

And I am not just here complaining. I am here offering constructive proposals. More than a year ago, Senator SINEMA, who happens to represent a border State of Arizona, a Democrat; HENRY CUELLAR from Laredo, TX, a Texas Democrat; and TONY GONZALES, a Republican Congressman, we came up with the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act, something that would not solve all the problems but would be a modest first step in the right direction.

But what we are told by our Democratic colleagues is they are not interested in that or, at least, they are not interested in any solutions until and unless you provide a pathway to citizenship for millions of people here in the country without proper documentation, in other words, illegal migrants, people who have broken our laws. They want a mass amnesty.

And they still don't want to change the policies that are creating this influx of humanity across the border. Our Democratic colleagues have had the White House. They have had majorities in the House and the Senate. They have Democratic colleagues who are chairing the committees in the House and the Senate who could actually mark up and pass legislation to deal with this crisis. And maybe you can't do it all in one piece of legislation. Maybe you can just do it one step at a time. But they have done none of that—zero, zip, nada.

And the only conclusion you can reach in the face of this failure to respond to this acknowledged crisis is that they don't care. Well, I can guarantee you, the American people care. The parents who lose children as a result of fentanyl overdoses because of the unrestricted flow of illegal drugs across the border, they care.

Our major cities and rural areas of the country that have experienced a spike in the prevalence of drug distribution and violent crime, they care,

because the distribution network for the drugs that come across the border is all across the United States, mainly operated by criminal gangs who are responsible for a lot of other criminal conduct and a lot of the gun violence and deaths you see every weekend, for example, in cities like Chicago. Those are criminal gangs fueled by the broken border and the Biden border crisis.

Something has got to change, Mr. President. I don't know what it is. I don't know what it is going to take for the Democratic leadership at the White House or the Senate or the House to say: Enough is enough.

Ultimately, I know that power lies with the American people. They can change, or they can change their elected representatives in the next election. So something is going to give. The status quo is not sustainable. The country, the border, is on fire. People are dying, and we are straining the whole legal system that is designed to expedite the entry of people through a legal process and turning the reins over to the transnational criminal organizations and international drug networks that profit hugely by the failure of Congress and the failure of the White House to act.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCHATZ). The majority whip.

MR. DURBIN. Mr. President, I listened to the statement of my colleague and friend from Texas Senator CORNYN on the issue of immigration. It would seem that we are miles apart, Democrats and Republicans, on this issue.

Let me state from my own personal point of view, speaking just for myself, what I think we are facing and what we should do to address it. Here are the basics as far as I am concerned: We need an orderly process for immigration in America, both at the border and off the border. That means laws and rules, numbers that work for both the immigrants as well as the economy of America.

No. 2, we should never knowingly allow anyone dangerous to come into this country; or, if they are here in immigrant status and pose a danger to our country, they have no right to stay, as far as I am concerned.

No. 3, it is a great compliment that so many people all over the world are desperate to come to our country. If the opposite were true and people were flowing out of the United States, it would be a sad commentary. But America has always been a magnet of opportunity, and so the fact that so many people want to come here is a compliment, in a way.

But the reality is this: We cannot absorb everyone who wants to come into America from all over the world in a limited period of time. It can only be considered, in an orderly fashion, over a longer period of time.

No. 4, we haven't touched this immigration set of laws in 30 years. So to blame Joe Biden for this is to ignore the obvious. There wasn't much, if any-

thing, done under the Trump administration that was helpful and, going back years and years before, very little, if anything, to show for it.

The only time we finally did a bipartisan bill and brought it to the floor of the U.S. Senate, I was part of the Gang of 8, and we brought it to the floor. We debated it at length in the committee and on the floor, and it passed with a vote, I believe, of 65 here in the U.S. Senate, a bipartisan vote.

We sent it over to the House of Representatives, which was under Republican control with Speaker Ryan. They never raised the issue. They never brought it to the floor. They never discussed it in committee. So that was the end of the effort.

So to argue that we haven't tried—we have. On various individual bills, like the DREAM Act, which I introduced 21 years ago—I brought it to the floor of the Senate five times and got a majority vote all five times. But that is not enough in the Senate. It didn't get 60 votes. So we lost the bill to a filibuster each and every time.

So to argue that the effort has not been undertaken is not quite accurate.

The question is: Where do we go from here? Title 42 was basically a public health announcement that we could deny access to the United States to people based on public health considerations. This week, a DC judge, Federal judge, concluded that whatever our initial rationale was for title 42, it no longer applied. If it was for COVID-19 or public health, he found reason to question whether or not, in today's circumstances, it still applied.

Why is this important? Because 40 to 50 percent of those who come to the border are turned away under title 42; so the Border Patrol is saying to us: What is going to happen when this expires? We will have even more people seeking entry into the United States and no basis for turning them away.

So it is a situation which is a real and challenging situation, and I think it argues more than ever that we have to do something and do it soon so that the situation at the border does not get worse.

Why is it so bad? Well, there are a variety of circumstances that have given rise to this situation, not the least of which is the countries that are sending the most people to the United States include Venezuela—where millions have fled Venezuela and the dictator that is running that country to neighboring countries—and they are now coming to the United States.

Venezuela does not have a government that we are in regular communication with, and so it is not a matter of working out our differences to slow down this flow of immigration. Our State Department notifies American citizens not to travel to Venezuela because it is too dangerous. So when Venezuelans come to our border and say: We are fleeing persecution and danger in our country, we have recognized that as a fact through the State De-

partment directives. It is a dangerous country. I have been to it. I have a general feeling about how dangerous it is.

So the situation is not easily resolved. Let me say to the Senator from Texas—he said he is ready to sit down. I am too. We need to sit down—he, a Republican; myself as a Democrat—and find some common ground.

There are some things which we can come to an agreement on. First, when it comes to fentanyl and drugs, overwhelmingly, by a margin of 6 to 1, drugs are flowing into the United States under regular ports of entry. It isn't a matter of some young person with a backpack full of heroin or fentanyl coming across the border in the middle of the night so much as it is truckloads coming through that escape detection.

That is inexcusable. Do you want to vote for more security, more technology, stopping the drugs coming in from the border? Count me in. It is not just a Republican platform. It is a Democratic platform as well. We are suffering from a drug crisis in my State of Illinois just as much as in the State of Texas—maybe more, in some circumstances. So count me in for more security.

Do you believe it is too long between a person arriving in the United States and being given a court date before they finally do appear? I am for changing that too. We need more immigration courts. We need more judges in those courts. I will vote for the money to see that happen.

What are we going to do in terms of people who come into this country? Are they needed? Well, they are desperately needed. Just recently, the Governors of Texas, Arizona, and Florida decided to pull a political stunt—I call it a stunt—of sending people who had just crossed the border on buses to communities around the United States. These people got on the buses believing that, at the end of the path, at the end of their trip, they would be taken care of: jobs, houses, and all sorts of things were promised to them. None of it was true. They were misled into getting on those buses.

How do I know that? Because I sat down with them in Chicago—4,000 or more have already arrived—and I heard their stories. And when you listen to their stories, you understand the fundamentals of this decision.

Carlos came with his wife and his 5-year-old daughter and his little baby infant. His wife was nursing. He left Venezuela on May 5. It took him 5 months to finally make it to our border. And when he got there, he was in a circumstance where everything had happened to him. He had been robbed, beaten, had his cell phone taken away, and he thought he was going to die under the circumstances. He was so desperate to come to the United States and escape Venezuela, he trucked on, carrying both babies at one point because his wife had hurt her leg.

That kind of determination belies the argument that these people are trying

to swindle our system. They are as desperate as many of our parents and grandparents to come and find freedom and opportunity. It is a natural human instinct.

It says to me that they are being exploited, I am sure, by smugglers and others and coyotes who try to bring them to our border, who charge them exorbitant amounts of money, often abandoning them in flight. The fact of the matter is, the push factor is dramatic, and we have to deal with it.

Now, what the administration has said is that they are going to allow a certain number of Venezuelans to illegally enter the United States as long as they have sponsors in our country. Twenty-four thousand is the number that they gave. I think that is beginning of talking about the legitimate needs of America for workers.

Many of these people coming off the buses in Chicago are offered jobs right on the spot; we have so many vacancies in employment right now. But we have to do this in an orderly fashion. That is one of the points that I made earlier.

I would like to say a word about the Dream Act. I see my other colleagues on the floor who are seeking recognition.

Yesterday, we had a rally for people who are protected by DACA. I introduced the DREAM Act 21 years ago. We couldn't pass it because of the filibuster on the floor of the Senate. I appealed to President Obama, who created DACA, which allowed young people brought here as children and infants to apply for 2 years of protection so they could work—and not be deported—in the United States, called DACA.

Well, there are 600,000 to 800,000 who have qualified for that. They have frozen their numbers over the last several years. But those are the ones who were in place at the time. They showed up, a lot of them, yesterday. One woman said to me: I am DACA, and I am also 40 years old. Senator, is this ever going to be resolved?

It is a legitimate question. So many of them are teachers and nurses and doctors and members of our military who are doing their best at essential work occupations. They deserve an opportunity to be in this country. And there is a feeling that some court could pull the rug out from under them in a matter of hours or days. So we need to act on that quickly.

I am going to submit for the RECORD the statement that I was going to make on the Ukraine situation. But I rose to respond to my friend from Texas. I accept his challenge. Let's sit down on a bipartisan basis, on a timely bipartisan basis, the Monday we return from Thanksgiving and start the conversation.

I am willing to talk honestly about border security, and I am sure he is willing to talk honestly about DACA and Dreamers and the critical needs of people who are coming into the United States.

## UKRAINE

Mr. President, nearly 9 months ago, I was sitting in an airport departure lounge in Lithuania with Senator COONS when the news broke of Russia's reprehensible effort to seize Ukraine by military force. Many may have forgotten, but Russian dictator Vladimir Putin actually thought Ukrainians would welcome the Russian military with open arms.

Based on that delusion, he gambled the reputation of his nation and the lives of more than 100,000 Russians troops who have died—all for one man's selfish pursuit and warped nostalgia for a Soviet dystopia. Vladimir Putin's illegal war on Ukraine also has unleashed untold horrors on millions of innocent Ukrainians, so many of them children.

CNN and PBS recently aired a heart-breaking segment by Christiane Amanpour about the countless Ukrainian children who are suffering terrible emotional turmoil living through the unspeakable terror and fear from Putin's war.

Some of the children are unable to speak, emotionally paralyzed after witnessing unimaginable violence against their parents or others. Putin and his cowardly enablers must face justice for these war crimes. And the United States is committed to seeing that justice done.

Despite the horrific violence unleashed by Putin, the Ukrainian people have prevailed and thrived. Their courage and sacrifices for freedom are truly inspiring. Ukraine's defenders not only repelled the initial military invasion, they have continued to recapture land illegally occupied by Russia in eastern and southern Ukraine.

A key victory came last week when Ukrainian forces liberated the provincial capital of Kherson. Kherson has suffered months of cruel Russian occupation. Innocent civilians experienced arbitrary arrest, torture, and forced disappearances. Many residents were forced at gunpoint to vote in a sham referendum—Russia's attempt to whitewash its illegal occupation.

Even in retreat, Russian forces continued to brutalize Kherson by destroying important infrastructure and sabotaging key services.

And yet Kherson is liberated. And despite all of the destruction and the tremendous rebuilding and healing that lies ahead for its people, the tears of joy have been palpable.

Just look at these photos—President Zelenskyy's recent visit to a freed Kherson—watching the Ukrainian flag being raised over the city once again, citizens hugging and kissing Ukrainian soldiers in an outpouring of relief and gratitude.

There is no doubt where the momentum in this war rests: with the Ukrainian people. Ukraine's military has reclaimed hundreds of villages and more than a thousand square miles of territory. The world has rallied to Ukraine's side, leaving Russia isolated in retreat of Putin's folly.

The nations of the free world understand that Ukraine is the frontline in the battle for freedom over autocracy. It is the frontline in the struggle for the rule of law over the rule of chaos and brute force. And now is not time for the United States and the rest of the free world to let up in our support for Ukraine. The unified support and military assistance of NATO has been invaluable to the brave Ukrainians fighting to protect their nation. And this Congress has been largely unified in providing this aid—and the results are both stunning and clear.

Russia is losing the war in Ukraine. Its leaders are now trying to break the will of the Ukrainian people with random terror bombings of civilian targets and critical infrastructure.

Make no mistake: Putin and his cronies are watching what we do in this Chamber. They are hoping that we and our allies will grow weary in our support for Ukraine. That is why it is essential we include in the supplemental spending bill that we must pass before the end of this year the critical military assistance that will allow Ukraine to continue to defend its people and reclaim its territory.

Let me end with a quote from the retired curator of the Kherson Art Museum, Iryna Rodavanova. Russian soldiers had beaten her husband. After Kherson was liberated, she said of President Zelenskyy, "I agree with our president . . . better without electricity, without water, and without heat if also without the Russians."

To Iryna, her husband, and all Ukrainians: You are not without friends; the American people and our Congress will be with you until Ukraine is again free and at peace.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

## UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 3959

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, earlier this week, a Federal judge in Washington, DC, outlawed the continued use of title 42 pandemic-related authority for the expedited removal of aliens who enter our country illegally. The judge found that the policy should be updated because the COVID-19 pandemic has changed since 2020. I agree. The pandemic is over. But the border crisis is not over. In fact, it is worse than ever.

That is why I have introduced legislation that provides a far stronger reason for invoking title 42 authority—the deadly drug smuggling crisis at our southern border that is killing a record number of Americans.

The Biden administration has dismantled our Nation's most effective border security policies. When I led a group of Tennessee sheriffs and mayors to the border this past April, Border Patrol agents in Laredo told me that the Migrant Protection Protocols, which are also known as MPP, or "Remain in Mexico," were a painful illustration of the Biden administration's destruction of these border security tools.



MPP required that migrants seeking asylum in the United States remain in Mexico until it has been determined whether they were actually entitled to asylum. The vast majority of those claiming asylum are not entitled to it.

When MPP was implemented in 2019, the agents said it was like flipping a switch because people stopped coming when they learned they couldn't get in. Once the Biden administration halted this policy, illegal immigration catapulted to record numbers.

In fiscal year 2021, more than 1.7 million known illegal border crossings occurred—a new record. That record was short-lived, however, because in fiscal year 2022 that just ended in September, nearly 2.4 million illegal crossings were documented, exceeding the 2021 record by 37 percent. And that doesn't take into account the got-aways. Last month set a new record for October, with more than 230,000 illegal aliens. These figures are just the crossings that the agents see and document.

When I traveled to the border in April, Border Patrol agents told me that title 42 was the last tool that they had to at least partially stem the tide of illegal border crossings. If we allow a DC judge to remove title 42 authority, our Border Patrol agents will have no tool to stem the massive increase in illegal immigration that is certain to follow. And that is why, given this recent court ruling, passing my legislation today is imperative.

To illustrate, Border Patrol currently has capacity to process a maximum of roughly 5,000 illegal immigrants per day. Right now, they are already overwhelmed, processing nearly 8,000 per day. Predictions from agents and former immigration judges are that, without title 42 authority, this number would likely double to between 15,000 and 18,000 per day.

This would overwhelm processing capability, and the border would effectively cease to exist. Such a surrender of American security and sovereignty is intolerable.

The Department of Homeland Security itself said in response to this week's court decision:

We will prepare for an orderly transition to new policies at the border. We know that smugglers will lie to try to take advantage of vulnerable migrants, putting lives at risk.

Yes, it is true that we need policies to replace title 42, and it is true that smugglers will use this court ruling to entice thousands more migrants per day to cross the border illegally, which will risk lives and will magnify the humanitarian crisis at our southern border in a variety of ways.

If swift removal under title 42 is a possibility, would-be border crossers may decide not to embark. But without title 42, there is nothing left to disuade them.

Further, without title 42, the drug cartels send migrants across the strategic points to bog down Border Patrol agents with paperwork processing. And the paperwork processing timeframe is

five times longer without title 42. Do the math. Removing title 42 will collapse what is left of our Border Patrol's capacity. And with Border Patrol bogged down further, the cartels will use the resulting enforcement gaps to move their fentanyl, which they produce with the help of the Chinese Communist Party, across our southern border. We cannot allow more enforcement gaps for deadly drug smuggling.

That is why I have introduced legislation to add drug smuggling as an additional basis for title 42 authority. It is called the Stop Fentanyl Border Crossings Act. Overdoses have become an epidemic in America. This legislation would allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to use title 42 to combat substantial dangerous drug trafficking across the border. This bill would give Border Patrol a necessary tool to focus on stopping drug traffickers.

According to the CDC, drug overdose deaths reached another record high last year. Nearly 107,000 Americans died, many from fentanyl and other synthetic opioids coming across this southern border. We desperately need title 42 to aid in the fight against this drug epidemic.

Without this authority, the record-breaking border crisis, and the deadly drug overdose crisis that it fuels, will become unimaginably worse.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of S. 3959 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, let me just say at the start, title 42 is a public health tool, and how it is used should be guided by public health experts, looking at data, looking at science—not politicians looking to score political points.

And let's be clear, drug trafficking is a serious problem and one we do have law enforcement agencies responsible for. We should leave that work to them and support their efforts. But instead of proposing real legislative solutions to address drug trafficking based on what will keep people safe, Republicans want to use title 42 now as the means to keep out anyone seeking asylum and create a political talking point.

And while I welcome the opportunity to work with my Republican colleague on serious bipartisan solutions to address drug trafficking, I object to this at this time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, my Democratic colleague is objecting to

legislation that simply gives the Secretary of Health and Human Services the authority to limit border crossings when necessary to combat substantial, dangerous illicit drug smuggling.

It doesn't provide authority to stop all asylum claims. It only applies where substantial illicit drug smuggling is endangering public health. More than 100,000 Americans are dying annually of drug overdoses, many of which result from drug smuggling at our southern border.

The legislation isn't a mandate. It is a tool to help save American lives whenever that is possible. Everyone acknowledges that an already record-breaking crisis will get far worse without title 42. American lives and communities hang in the balance. Yet my colleagues across the aisle are categorically opposed to a commonsense policy to address this glaring problem. It begs the question: What do Democrats propose that we do in response to this title 42 ruling? refuse to deal with the problem? hope this crisis won't spiral further out of control? These are not acceptable answers.

More broadly, is any volume of illegal immigration or drug overdose deaths adequate to get this administration to secure the border? How much longer will we allow our broken border policies to be manipulated by a criminal alliance between the Chinese communists and the billion-dollar Mexican drug cartels that are shipping huge quantities of deadly illegal drugs into the United States across our southern border?

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

GRANTING A FEDERAL CHARTER TO THE NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS, INCORPORATED

VAWA TECHNICAL AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I rise to discuss bipartisan legislation that I have introduced with Senator LUJÁN which would grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated, known as NAIV.

The NAIV was chartered in 2004, with headquarters located on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Reservation in South Dakota. The NAIV was originally established as the result of a request by former Senators Akaka, Inouye, and Nighthorse Campbell during a Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee in 2004.

At that time, no Native American veterans organization had ever received a congressional charter. Sadly, that remains the case today, nearly 20 years later. But that omission would be fixed by this legislation.

The NAIV is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that operates solely for charitable, literary, educational, scientific, patriotic, and civil improvement purposes. It provides a voice to

Native American veterans whose unique needs are not always represented adequately by other organizations.

Native Americans are the highest serving race per capita in the U.S. Armed Forces, often serving at a rate five times over the national average, and have served with distinction in every U.S. conflict over the last 200 years. They also have some of the highest concentration of women service members. According to a 2020 VA statistics report, there are over 140,000 Native American veterans across the Nation today. Discussions with Tribal leaders would indicate that this number is most likely an undercount and the true number likely approaches 200,000.

The NAIV serves the interests and needs of Native veterans in all 50 States. It conducts activities in collaboration with its national leadership and its 14 regional offices. Tribes rotate to host regional and State NAIV meetings. This is all done in a decentralized manner, respecting the independence and sovereignty of all Tribal nations.

NAIV often has been the only national Native American veterans organization invited to testify before Congress on issues facing Native veterans nationwide. NAIV works to make sure that our Native American veterans receive the benefits, compensation, and resources that they have earned. Among its activities, NAIV provided critical support for construction of an American Indian Veterans Memorial at the Riverside National Cemetery in California.

In addition, COVID-19 had a significant impact on Tribal reservations, and the NAIV secured over 5 million masks, thousands of gallons of hand sanitizer, and personal protective equipment to respond to the pandemic. It distributed these critical resources to over 375 Tribes in 30 States at no cost to our veterans or their Tribes.

NAIV also serves on the Disaster Response and Recovery Working Group of the FCC Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee and has been a tireless advocate of providing broadband access to Tribal communities throughout the Nation.

Last week, we celebrated Veterans Day, an opportunity to honor our veterans for their service. Also, last week, we finally saw the dedication of the National Native American Veterans Memorial on the National Mall here in DC. While the Native American Veterans Memorial actually opened in 2020, due to COVID, the dedication did not occur until this year.

I believe we have the opportunity today to address another overdue recognition of our Native American veterans by finally approving the Federal charter for the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated, to recognize all the work the organization does on behalf of our Native American veterans.

Mr. President, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 1725 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, reserving the right to object—Senator ROUNDS, I do not object to the substance of your bill. As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am very much in favor of the contributions made to our country by Native Americans and certainly the Native American veterans. However, for a long time, I have been trying to get a very simple technical fix to the Violence Against Women Act that would allow Native Hawaiian organizations to serve Native Hawaiian women.

As we all know, VAWA provides support to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, dating violence, and stalking. Tragically, Native women across the country—that would be Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians, American Indian women—experience disproportionately higher levels of sexual violence, which is why VAWA includes STOP grants to provide funding for eligible Native organizations, nonprofits, including Native Hawaiian organizations, to serve Native women.

However, in spite of the fact that Native Hawaiian women are represented among the disproportionately high number of survivors of gender-based violence and sex trafficking, and despite the fact that Native Hawaiian organizations are eligible for these grants, because of a drafting oversight, these Native Hawaiian organizations eligible for these grants cannot serve the Native Hawaiian community.

It would likely shock many of my colleagues to learn about the gender-based violence and sex trafficking numbers in Hawaii and of sex trafficking survivors in Hawaii. Over 70 percent are Native Hawaiian women and girls. But yet, Native Hawaiian organizations cannot actually serve Native Hawaiian women through these grants.

By passing this simple technical fix, we can ensure that Native Hawaiian women can access the benefits and support included in the critical Violence Against Women Act.

I am very glad that my colleague from Hawaii is presiding as we have this debate.

So now I would ask if the Senator would modify his request so that immediately following the disposition of S. 1725, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 7, which was introduced earlier today; further, that the bill be considered read a third

time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the modification?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Is there objection to the request, as modified?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1725) to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 1725

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

**SECTION 1. RECOGNITION AS CORPORATION AND GRANT OF FEDERAL CHARTER FOR NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS, INCORPORATED.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 1503 the following:

**“CHAPTER 1504—NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN VETERANS, INCORPORATED**

“Sec.

“150401. Organization.

“150402. Purposes.

“150403. Membership.

“150404. Board of directors.

“150405. Officers.

“150406. Nondiscrimination.

“150407. Powers.

“150408. Exclusive right to name, seals, emblems, and badges.

“150409. Restrictions.

“150410. Duty to maintain tax-exempt status.

“150411. Records and inspection.

“150412. Service of process.

“150413. Liability for acts of officers and agents.

“150414. Failure to comply with requirements.

“150415. Annual report.

**“§ 150401 Organization**

“The National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated, a nonprofit corporation organized in the United States (referred to in this chapter the ‘corporation’), is a federally chartered corporation.

**“§ 150402. Purposes**

“The purposes of the corporation are those stated in the articles of incorporation, constitution, and bylaws of the corporation, and include a commitment—

“(1) to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States while respecting the sovereignty of the American Indian Nations;

“(2) to unite under one body all American Indian veterans who served in the Armed Forces of United States;

“(3) to be an advocate on behalf of all American Indian veterans without regard to whether they served during times of peace, conflict, or war;

“(4) to promote social welfare (including educational, economic, social, physical, and cultural values and traditional healing) in the United States by encouraging the growth and development, readjustment, self-respect, self-confidence, contributions, and self-identity of American Indian veterans;

“(5) to serve as an advocate for the needs of American Indian veterans and their families and survivors in their dealings with all Federal and State government agencies;

“(6) to promote, support, and utilize research, on a nonpartisan basis, pertaining to the relationship between American Indian veterans and American society; and

“(7) to provide technical assistance to the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional areas that are not served by any veterans committee or organization or program by—

“(A) providing outreach service to Indian Tribes in need; and

“(B) training and educating Tribal Veterans Service Officers for Indian Tribes in need.

#### “§ 150403. Membership

“Subject to section 150406, eligibility for membership in the corporation, and the rights and privileges of members, shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation.

#### “§ 150404. Board of directors

“Subject to section 150406, the board of directors of the corporation, and the responsibilities of the board, shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation and in conformity with the laws under which the corporation is incorporated.

#### “§ 150405. Officers

“Subject to section 150406, the officers of the corporation, and the election of such officers, shall be as provided in the constitution and bylaws of the corporation and in conformity with the laws of the jurisdiction under which the corporation is incorporated.

#### “§ 150406. Nondiscrimination

“In establishing the conditions of membership in the corporation, and in determining the requirements for serving on the board of directors or as an officer of the corporation, the corporation may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, handicap, or age.

#### “§ 150407. Powers

“The corporation shall have only those powers granted the corporation through its articles of incorporation, constitution, and bylaws, which shall conform to the laws of the jurisdiction under which the corporation is incorporated.

#### “§ 150408. Exclusive right to name, seals, emblems, and badges

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The corporation shall have the sole and exclusive right to use the names ‘National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated’ and ‘National American Indian Veterans’, and such seals, emblems, and badges as the corporation may lawfully adopt.

“(b) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section interferes or conflicts with any established or vested rights.

#### “§ 150409. Restrictions

“(a) STOCK AND DIVIDENDS.—The corporation may not—

“(1) issue any shares of stock; or

“(2) declare or pay any dividends.

“(b) DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME OR ASSETS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The income or assets of the corporation may not—

“(A) inure to any person who is a member, officer, or director of the corporation; or

“(B) be distributed to any such person during the life of the charter granted by this chapter.

“(2) EFFECT.—Nothing in this subsection prevents the payment of reasonable compensation to the officers of the corporation, or reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses, in amounts approved by the board of directors.

“(c) LOANS.—The corporation may not make any loan to any officer, director, member, or employee of the corporation.

“(d) NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT.—The corporation may not claim congressional approval or Federal Government authority by virtue of the charter granted by this chapter for any of the activities of the corporation.

#### “§ 150410. Duty to maintain tax-exempt status

“The corporation shall maintain its status as an organization exempt from taxation under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

#### “§ 150411. Records and inspection

“(a) RECORDS.—The corporation shall keep—

“(1) correct and complete books and records of accounts;

“(2) minutes of any proceeding of the corporation involving any of member of the corporation, the board of directors, or any committee having authority under the board of directors; and

“(3) at the principal office of the corporation, a record of the names and addresses of all members of the corporation having the right to vote.

“(b) INSPECTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—All books and records of the corporation may be inspected by any member having the right to vote, or by any agent or attorney of such a member, for any proper purpose, at any reasonable time.

“(2) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section contravenes—

“(A) the laws of the jurisdiction under which the corporation is incorporated; or

“(B) the laws of those jurisdictions within the United States and its territories within which the corporation carries out activities in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation.

#### “§ 150412. Service of process

“With respect to service of process, the corporation shall comply with the laws of—

“(1) the jurisdiction under which the corporation is incorporated; and

“(2) those jurisdictions within the United States and its territories within which the corporation carries out activities in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation.

#### “§ 150413. Liability for acts of officers and agents

“The corporation shall be liable for the acts of the officers and agents of the corporation acting within the scope of their authority.

#### “§ 150414. Failure to comply with requirements

“If the corporation fails to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter, including the requirement under section 150410 to maintain its status as an organization exempt from taxation, the charter granted by this chapter shall expire.

#### “§ 150415. Annual report

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The corporation shall submit to Congress an annual report describing the activities of the corporation during the preceding fiscal year.

“(b) SUBMITTAL DATE.—Each annual report under this section shall be submitted at the same time as the report of the audit of the corporation required by section 10101(b).

“(c) REPORT NOT PUBLIC DOCUMENT.—No annual report under this section shall be printed as a public document.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 1503 the following:

“1504. National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated ..... 150401”.

A bill (S. 7) to make a technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 7

*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 “VAWA Technical Amendment Act of 2022”.

#### SEC. 2. GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIMES.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 2001(d) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10411(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “Indian”;

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “Indian”;

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “tribal communities”; and

(ii) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “Indian”; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “Indian tribes”; and

(ii) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “against Indian”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(iii), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “Indian tribes”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “Indian tribes”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) NATIVE HAWAIIAN DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘Native Hawaiian’ has the meaning given that term in section 801 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221).”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 40002(a)(42) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(42)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by inserting “, Native Hawaiian organizations, or the Native Hawaiian community” after “Indian service providers”; and

(B) by inserting “, organizations, or communities” after “member providers”; and

(C) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “designed to assist Indian”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “, organizations, or communities” after “member service providers”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “tribal communities”.

#### SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall become effective one day after enactment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I wanted to say how pleased I am to finally see this bill pass the U.S. Senate. I want to underscore, again, the situation of recognizing the important work done by the NAIIV to benefit our Native American veterans.

I particularly want to recognize the work done by Mr. Don Loudner of Mitchell, SD, who has led the NAIIV since its inception in 2004. Don has served as an Army officer and is a combat veteran of the Korean war. He served with my father in the National Guard in South Dakota, as well. He also served in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Census Bureau and has spent decades supporting our Native American veterans. I want to thank

him for his 70 years of service to our Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I would just like to commend my colleague for his work with the Native American veterans and for working with me to pass S. 7, which is a very necessary bill for Native Hawaiian women. Aloha.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. I would also like to thank Senator HIRONO for the open communication that we have received in coordinating and successfully passing these pieces of legislation.

I yield the floor.

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT—  
MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

REMEMBERING REX EARLY

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, last week, Indiana lost a legend, and America lost a true original. Rex Early died Friday at age 88, after a long battle with illness.

Rex was a lot of things in life. He was a U.S. marine. He was chairman of the Indiana Republican Party. He was a candidate for Governor of the State of Indiana. He is one of the few people in Indiana you had to go see if you wanted to run for public office.

But Rex will be remembered mostly for his sense of humor, his way with words. Many of his stories and “Rexisms” can be found in his book, “It’s a Mighty Thin Pancake (That don’t have two sides).”

After being stationed in Japan in the Marine Corps, Rex went to Indiana University on the GI bill. He married his sweetheart Barbara, and they moved to Indianapolis.

Rex said when he first went to register to vote in Indianapolis, the ward chairman said: Do you want to be a precinct committeeman? The last guy just went to jail.

Of course, Rex responded quickly “Sure,” and that is how he got involved in local politics—or so Rex told us.

Now, Rex said that one of the highlights of his professional career came during Ronald Reagan’s Presidential campaign when Rex hosted an event at his home for the future President. Rex said he was considering hanging a plaque that read “On May 4, 1980, Ronald Reagan used this bathroom.”

But as Reagan left his house that day, Governor Reagan told Rex, “All those people were wrong, Rex.”

Rex said, “What people?”

Governor Reagan said, “All the people who said you had no class.”

So Rex decided not to hang that plaque in his bathroom.

The Republican Party in Indiana today has enjoyed a long period of governing success, helping our State become one of the best run and most fiscally sound in the Nation. You can

trace that success directly back to work Rex Early put in in the early 1990s.

One of Rex’s 19 rules of politics was “You might be important, but the number of people who will attend your funeral will be dictated by the weather.” I don’t understand what Rex was trying to say. Don’t think too highly of yourself—perhaps that is what Rex had in mind. Don’t become, as Rex would call you, a “sophisti-suck.”

But I disagree with Rex perhaps on this point. Rex’s memorial service was well attended and not because the weather was good but because he made an indelible impression on everyone he met.

Semper fi, Marine.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. ERNST. I ask unanimous consent to use a prop during my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

INFLATION

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, Thanksgiving is just a week away, and, of course, we will have turkey—or so we thought. In these difficult times as Americans, we all have a lot to be thankful for.

I am so proud of my daughter Libby and grateful for my brandnew son-in-law Andrew. I am thankful for being selected by my fellow Iowans to have the privilege of representing each of them in the U.S. Senate. And I know I speak on behalf of all Iowans when I express the most heartfelt gratitude for every one of the brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of our great Nation, risking everything to protect what we all hold dear.

Thanksgiving is the day set aside for us to gather with family and friends to express our gratitude for all of our blessings with a grand feast. When most of us think of Thanksgiving trimmings, delicious sides like cranberry sauce—one of my favorites—sweet potatoes, green beans, mashed potatoes and gravy, and stuffing all come to mind. But this year, as a result of Bidenomics, Thanksgiving trimmings refer instead to the items being cut from the menu due to rising prices.

With the cost of Thanksgiving dinner up 20 percent since last year, 9 out of 10 Americans are planning to eliminate at least one dish from their menu. Some are even skipping the turkey altogether and serving cheaper alternatives like pizza. Most are also planning to invite fewer guests, and one in four plans to pass on Thanksgiving dinner altogether to save money.

Hard-working Americans shouldn’t have to trim the guest list or side

dishes from Thanksgiving dinner, but with the out-of-control inflation being caused by the Democrats’ failed economic policies gobbling up our family budgets, that is exactly what is happening.

So let’s talk turkey. Turkey costs 21 percent more this Thanksgiving than last. As a matter of fact, the chairman of the Democrats’ Congressional Campaign Committee said families struggling with these rising prices should eat Chef Boyardee. That is what he said. If that is the Democrats’ solution, boy are we cooked. Chef Boyardee? No. Chef Boy-are-we-cooked. What did his constituents think of this idea? On election day, they canned him.

Instead of Chef Boyardee, Washington needs to serve up some real solutions to cut the causes of climbing costs. Beginning on his very first day in office, President Biden made it a priority to turn off American-made energy. This has been a recipe for disaster, with energy prices increasing nearly 18 percent just this last year.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the Democrats’ so-called Inflation Reduction Act will even further increase the cost of natural gas, which will have a direct impact on food prices because natural gas is a key component for producing fertilizer, which is already costing our farmers two to four times more today than just 2 years ago. The Biden administration is also bringing out leftover land use rules from the Obama era that will impose costly and bureaucratic regulations on farmers that will also impact food costs. This certainly is no way to show gratitude towards those who grow the food we rely upon to feed our families on Thanksgiving and every other day.

Folks, let’s bring down costs by sticking a fork in these inflation-causing laws and burdensome regulations that the Democrats keep dishing out.

Bidenomics is going to be the real turkey at this year’s gathering, but I sure hope the bigger bite it is taking out of your budget doesn’t put you in a “fowl” mood when we all have so many other things to be thankful for.

Happy Thanksgiving.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 14

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise to make a unanimous consent request in regards to legislation that has already been passed by the committees of authorization.

This is a bill that deals with fighting corruption globally. I need not remind

my colleagues that “corruption threatens the United States’ national security, economic equity, global anti-poverty and development efforts, and democracy itself.”

That was a quote in regards to President Biden’s published memorandum of establishing the fight against corruption as a core United States national security interest.

We have heard this over and over again. I was in the White House a few years back, and the National Security Council was convened because of the spread of corruption globally. It presents a national security threat to the United States of America, and we find that many countries are moving in the wrong direction in anticorruption measures, and there are identifiable issues—independent judiciary, dealing with antibribery status, dealing with public disclosure-type requirements. There are things that are pretty well-identified internationally as necessary in fighting corruption.

Yesterday, I was in a hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with one of our closest allies, Georgia; and their judiciary is no longer independent, presenting real problems for our national security interests.

So I have worked in a bipartisan manner with colleagues on the Republican and Democratic sides to develop a system whereby we would be able to determine which countries in the world need our attention in our bilateral relations and in the tools we have available to help them deal with creating an anticorruption system in their own governments.

And we worked together to figure out how we can do this in a manner that would implement the types of results we need from our State Department.

So the legislation that we crafted would have the State Department rank countries in the world as to whether they are in tier 1, 2, or 3.

Tier 3 would be the countries of our concern. These are the countries that are not taking steps to deal with systemic corruption that they have in their system that does not comply with international standards.

Tier 2 are countries that have not met those international standards, but they are taking the right courses.

And tier 1 are those countries that have met these international standards.

Now, this is not unique. We have done similar types of work in our State Department identifying problems with trafficking, trafficking in humans. We have similar types of work in our State Department to identify religious tolerance and freedom. We have similar efforts to deal with basic human rights. So this is a system that we have worked in the past.

But it goes even further than that. The legislation gives the capacity in the State Department, in the missions in those countries that are in tier 3, to have a point person to help deal with the country to make the corrections that are necessary, to assist them.

This is an effort to try to get countries on the right path to fight corruption. Because, you see, many countries are trying to become democratic states; but if they don’t have the tools in place to protect them against corruption, they are going to find that they are not going to succeed in their efforts. So this is really an important step forward in order to build more democratic states around the world. It gives the right capacity to the State Department in its missions. I am pleased with the support I have gotten from many diplomats around the world, from many people in both branches of government. This bill is bipartisan. It has been—we have had markups in our committees and passed it in our committees, and I am hopeful that we can get a unanimous consent today to move it through the Senate so that hopefully we can catch up with the work that is being done in the House. We can reconcile any differences that may exist, but we will at least have this bill ready to move to fight corruption.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 88, S.14. I further ask that the committee-reported substitute be withdrawn, the Cardin substitute be considered and agreed to, the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed, and the title amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, so I am going to reserve the right to object, and let me say I am doing this somewhat reluctantly because I fully acknowledge the Senator from Maryland is correct, that corruption is a scourge. There are many countries going the wrong direction. It is fully in the national interest of the United States to combat the corruption that we see, and he has proposed a completely good-faith, thoughtful approach to dealing with some aspects of the corruption that we find.

But I have concerns about the particular way in which he does this, and I would like to work with him and see if we can find common ground on this.

Let me explain my concern.

The bill would task the State Department with annually ranking every country in the world, including our partners and allies and friends and even, maybe, countries that aren’t necessarily so friendly but, at the moment, are maybe working with us. It requires that this ranking of countries, based on how corrupt they are, be then made public. That is for good intentions, but I am concerned that in the process of naming and shaming countries that are deemed to be in the wrong place, it could complicate efforts that we are making, whether it is our Treasury or our State Department,

with very legitimate objectives that we have that are unrelated to the corruption problem that the country faces.

For instance, depending on the country, maybe we want them to be more cooperative in the global coalition against Russia to defend Ukraine. Let’s be honest. There are corruption problems in Ukraine also, but we are defending Ukraine, quite rightly. Maybe it is about joining the administration’s Indo-Pacific economic framework, which is very important for a variety of reasons, but maybe there are corruption problems.

This seems like a bit of a blunt tool that requires this labeling and naming and shaming, and it doesn’t provide the discretion for the administration to say: You know, maybe right now isn’t the right time to rub their noses in one of their problems because we need them for something else.

So I guess what I would say is, look, fighting corruption is absolutely important, and the Senator from Maryland has been consistent and thoughtful on this, but it is not our only—and sometimes it is not our most important—objective with another country.

I would like to continue to work with the Senator from Maryland, and I would be very happy to devote the time and energy to try to make sure we are able to get to common ground here before the end of the year; but at this moment, I can’t support this, so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am disappointed that there is an objection, but I appreciate my friend from Pennsylvania’s willingness to sit down and continue to try to work this out.

We have met with several Members who have had some similar concerns, and I thought we had resolved most of those issues. I am fully prepared to continue to work with the Senator from Pennsylvania, and, hopefully, we can find a common spot.

I would just point out that we have strategic partnerships with so many countries around the world that our State Department is very clear that we are not going to abandon our core principles in that relationship. We might need their help on a security issue, but if their human rights do not meet international standards, that will be raised.

We know that, in many bilateral meetings that we hold with Senators or that the administration holds with heads of state on important subjects, they mention human rights because it is an important value that we have in our relationship. We do the same in the trafficking of persons. We do the same for religious freedom. We do the same in so many other areas. Corruption is a growing problem globally, and we need to elevate the importance of that in our bilaterals and the importance of that in supporting internationally recognized standards.

But I understand the gentleman's concern. I will take him up on his offer. I will try not to bother him on Thanksgiving itself; but, perhaps, we can work together and find a way that we can move this forward.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BENNET). Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE  
CALENDAR

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask for a unanimous consent request on the confirmation of a highly qualified nominee standing ready to help lead the greatest military this world has ever known.

Last month, I had the opportunity to go to Eastern Europe. I had the opportunity to visit with folks, to visit with our troops who are out there on the frontlines. I could not have been prouder of these folks who are placed far, far, far away from the United States, fighting the fight, stopping Russian aggression, and doing what they need to help protect our democracy and, quite frankly, the democracies around the world.

It is our responsibility, as the U.S. Senate, to ensure that these folks have the support they need to protect our national security and defend our country against foreign adversaries like Russia.

It is going to happen with the appropriations process. Hopefully, we will get a top-line number very, very soon, and we will get that done in December.

But equally important is the kind of leaders we have in our military. We have to have capable leaders; otherwise, things won't happen as Congress intends them to. When these positions are left open, the military has their hands tied behind their back. I might add, this is the biggest budget by far in the United States of America.

I had a visit with Senator LEE, and he is going to raise some important points today. I understand where he is coming from. I also got notification today that the Secretary of Defense is going to meet with Senator LEE on the 23rd of November. I intend to hold them to that so that Senator LEE can bring up the challenges that he sees, and hopefully there will be good faith involved on both sides and a solution can be found, if there is a solution to be found.

I can't emphasize enough how, if we want to hold people accountable to spend the money right, that we appropriate—if we want to hold people accountable for doing the job of protecting this country and defending democracy and our freedoms, we have to have people in these critical positions.

For that reason, we have a nominee before us today as Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Security and Intelligence—let me say it again—Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Security and Intelligence. This is a very, very important position when it comes to our security.

Milancy Danielle Harris is her name. She has an incredible resume within the intelligence community. She has proven leadership within the DOD. There is no doubt in my mind that she will make the world a safer place, and that is why it is critically important today to confirm this nominee.

I am a U.S. Senator, just like the good Senator from Utah, and I can tell that you when we ask questions, we want answers. When we have problems, we like to find solutions.

I am willing to commit to the Senator from Utah today that I will work with you to try to help you find solutions, but we really need to get this nominee confirmed.

With that in mind, I want to ask unanimous consent that, as in executive session, the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 1153, Milancy Danielle Harris, to be Deputy Under Secretary of Defense; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. My staff and I have been in close contact with the Department of Defense regarding Ms. Harris's nomination. The Department of Defense is aware of my concerns with the nominee and also aware of the very simple request that I have made to the Department in connection with her nomination. For these reasons, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I wish to say this: The Senator from Utah has every right to object, and he has every right to get his questions answered, but we are 2 years into this administration. I hear every day folks from the other side of the aisle get up and rail on the Biden administration for not doing this and not doing that. That is patently unfair if we can't get people confirmed to the positions that need to be confirmed 2 years after he was sworn into the Presidency.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VAN HOLLEN). The majority leader.

TRIBUTE TO NANCY PELOSI

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I just left the floor of the House for one of the most emotional moments I have had in my career: the valedictory of NANCY PELOSI, one of the greatest leg-

islators and greatest people I have ever met.

I first met NANCY PELOSI back in 1987. I was a Congressman, and we had a little dinner group that would go out to dinner every Tuesday night. One of the leaders of that group, George Miller, a Congressman from California, came up to me. He said: In a few minutes, I am going to introduce you to a new member of our group. She is the new Congresswoman from San Francisco, and she is going to become the first woman Speaker.

That was the first thing I heard about NANCY PELOSI, even before I met her, and the moment I met her, I saw what he meant. It was obvious that this new Member from the west coast of California had it all—NANCY D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI.

She is the proud daughter of Baltimore's Little Italy neighborhood, the estimable Representative from the State of California, and the first woman ever as Speaker of the U.S. Congress.

It was amazing. She did an amazing job, and I wanted to go over to the House floor where I had served 18 happy years, many of them as a colleague of Speaker PELOSI and a friend, to just say thank you for the amazing things she has done for our country.

Few in American history have been as effective, as driven, as successful as Speaker PELOSI. She has transformed practically every corner of American politics and unquestionably made America a better, stronger nation. You know, I am known as having a lot of energy, but I have never ever met anyone with more energy than NANCY D'ALESSANDRO PELOSI. She is always moving in many directions at once, and she has a complete grasp of each direction in which she is moving even though she is moving at the same time.

She is just an amazing person. She never forgot why she is in the fight to begin with—as she said, the children, always her North Star, helping the children of America. She did so much—her passion to pass the ACA was for the children above all; and for women, where she broke, of course, one of the greatest glass ceilings we have had, becoming the first woman Speaker; and the American Rescue Plan and the Lilly Ledbetter Act and the infrastructure bill and VAWA and pandemic relief; climate change; repealing don't ask, don't tell—just a few of her amazing achievements.

She taught me a whole lot. NANCY PELOSI paid attention to each of her Members—I try to do the same—and she always taught the Members to be unified. Her expression that she repeated over and over again, which I have repeated to my caucus on so many occasions: Our unity is our strength.

She would tell us, she would tell everyone: If everyone goes in his or her own direction, you will get nothing done, but if we all come together and everybody gives a little bit, we could get a lot done. And she sure did.

I remember the moments that just became available on the tape when she and I were at the “secret place” during the attack on this Capitol, which so, so struck her, but there she was, cool, calm, and collected. Together, we worked to try to get either the National Guard or the police on the Hill, and we resolved that we were going to come back and actually count the votes—heavily regarded as one of Speaker PELOSI’s greatest moments. And, again, she was cool, calm, collected. She knew exactly what to do and how to do it.

So it is hard to fathom that very soon we will begin a new Congress where she is no longer a member of the party leadership. In my time as Democratic leader and as majority leader, she has been the best partner and ally I could ask for, and we have also been friends. She shared the joy of the birth of my children. I shared the joy of so many of the good things that happened in her family. She would always be talking about her family and always wanted to hear about mine. She was not only a great legislator; she was a great human being.

Today particularly, I want to wish the very best to her family, especially Paul. I cannot imagine how painful and scary it has been for the Pelosis in the aftermath of Paul’s attack, but, as usual, Speaker PELOSI carried herself with the same courage, grace, and dignity that she has always been true to.

Finally and maybe most importantly, NANCY PELOSI made our country a much better place for countless women and girls from every walk of life. NANCY PELOSI was the one to blaze the trail, but you can be certain that countless other women will rise up in leadership in this country because of what she has accomplished and how she inspired them.

I am going to have more to say in the weeks to come, but for now, let me finish with this: To NANCY PELOSI, my dear, good, and close friend, thank you. Thank you for being you. Thank you for dedicating your life to public service. Thank you for teaching us so much. Thank you for inspiring us all. It has been an honor of a lifetime to work with you.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Now, one notice to the Members, who I know want to hear about the schedule: We are working on an agreement on the marriage equality bill, and I hope that we can have a vote on the motion to proceed shortly. If we do not reach agreement, the vote is going to occur at 10 p.m. this evening. Members should be aware, and Members should stay close.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). The Senator from Utah is recognized.

#### RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, the Supreme Court’s decision in *Obergefell v. Hodges* is the law of the land. A single line from a single concurring opinion does

not make the case for legislation that seriously threatens religious liberty.

The Respect for Marriage Act is unnecessary. States are not denying recognition of same-sex marriages, and there is no serious risk of anyone losing recognition. There is not a single piece of legislation that I am aware of moving through the Congress or any State legislature to do the same.

But the Supreme Court majority explicitly stated in its *Dobbs* ruling earlier this year that the *Dobbs* decision had no bearing on the recognition of same-sex marriage. The proponents of this bill falsely claim that same-sex marriage is under attack because Justice Thomas suggested in a concurring opinion in *Dobbs* that the Supreme Court should take a closer look at all of its substantive due process jurisprudence; not necessarily to strike down those rulings, but often to consider whether they should be premised on a different constitutional hook. The majority opinion is what mattered, and it is the one that the majority of the Supreme Court supports.

Now proponents of this bill pretend that the legislation would simply codify the status quo. I take exception to that because I don’t think that is true. But even before we get to that issue, I think it is important for us to think about what codifying *Obergefell* on its own terms could mean and why it is that we ought to look at steps to protect religious freedom in light of *Obergefell* and in light of anything that purports to codify *Obergefell*.

I remember when the *Obergefell* case was being argued before the Supreme Court of the United States in 2015. Solicitor General Don Verrilli, in representing the U.S. Government—with then the Obama administration in power—was arguing before the Court, and Justice Alito, my former boss, interjected with a question.

He asked Solicitor General Verrilli, if the Supreme Court of the United States recognized a constitutional right to same-sex marriage throughout the United States, whether that, when read with other precedent—read in context with other Federal civil rights protections, along with prior Supreme Court rulings—might not result in the risk of some nonprofits, including some schools and universities, being threatened with the loss of their tax-exempt status.

Solicitor General Verrilli responded immediately and unambiguously. He said: Yes, Justice Alito. That is going to be a problem.

He reiterated it three times that that would be a problem and that it would be something that would have to be addressed.

What he was acknowledging was that there was a real risk dealing with *Obergefell* itself in that, unless we take steps to protect religious colleges, religious universities, and other religious nonprofits, some of those might be threatened with the loss of their tax-exempt status, based solely on their re-

ligious beliefs about marriage—about what a marriage is and what it is not.

Many in the immediate wake of *Obergefell* came right out, and purporting to offer comfort to religious Americans and religious institutions in America, many came forward and said: Oh, this risk isn’t going to materialize.

As I recall it, President Obama, at the time, said: Look, I am not going to force any church to perform a same-sex marriage contrary to its religious teachings.

That isn’t how this happens. That is not how this risk materializes. That isn’t the risk. It never really was the risk. The risk is, rather, whether religious Americans, whether acting individually or as a group, will be retaliated against—denied some privilege or status or access under Federal law to which they would otherwise have access—based solely on a religious- or a moral conscience-based belief about the definition of marriage.

So that risk exists independent of this legislation. It has been enhanced by the *Obergefell* ruling, and it would be materially enhanced if this legislation were to pass without corresponding, necessary, statutory protections for religious freedom.

Indeed, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops warns of this very thing.

He warns as follows:

This bill’s harms would be far-reaching. In any conflict with same-sex civil marriage and the rights that flow from it, it will be said that Congress took pains to codify *Obergefell*, but not to protect the freedoms of speech and religion that *Obergefell* harms, making them second-class rights.

In other words, this bill only makes things worse. This bill takes the pre-existing risks presented by *Obergefell* itself and enhances them, expands them, especially because, by protecting one set of interests—those identified in *Obergefell*, in the decision itself—but doing nothing to address the corresponding enhanced risks we are presenting for religious freedoms, it makes for a very, very significant concern.

He continues:

The bill will be a new arrow in the quiver of those who wish to deny religious organizations’ liberty to freely exercise their religious duties, strip them of their tax exemptions, or exclude them from full participation in the public arena.

So this bill—this bill that has been brought before us—will, unless modified as necessary, result in three significant problems.

First, the bill will label people of faith with differing views on marriage, influenced by their religious beliefs and moral convictions, as bigots.

Second, the bill’s new private right of action will subject religious Americans to a torrent of litigation—even more than they face now. Doing so will further erode their constitutional right to freely live according to their religious beliefs. This is, after all, what happens any time we allow for the free exercise of religion to be chilled by such action.

Third, the bill will put in jeopardy the work and existence of religiously minded social agencies, educational institutions, and other nonprofits as their tax-exempt status will be threatened.

Our country was founded on the principle that government should not interfere with the ability of people of faith or of people of no faith at all to practice their religion and to live by the tenets of their own faith in their daily lives.

Of course, this can and should be done without interfering with the right of other people to live their lives. That is what we expect. In fact, every time we as Americans seek to protect freedoms, liberty, whether through the adoption of the First Amendment or the adoption of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment, for example, or anywhere else, we seek to do it in a way that doesn't create a zero-sum game by enhancing the rights of some while diminishing the rights of others. That is not who we are. That is not how we roll. That is not how our constitutional framework was ever intended to function. It is antithetical to who we aim to be.

This bill elevates the rights of one group and does so at the expense of another, and it does so needlessly as there is a way to accommodate both interests, but that way, unfortunately, isn't pursued by the authors of this bill.

Many, including some on the left, want to label people who disagree with them on marriage as bigots and force them, in this instance, through endless litigation and threats, to comply with the beliefs of the left and renounce their genuine, sincere religious beliefs.

Proponents of this bill claim that the substitute amendment, which we saw for the first time just a few days ago, somehow fixes all of the concerns raised by those of us who want to protect religious liberty. They are wrong. They couldn't be more wrong. They are sadly, sadly, and severely mistaken. The amendment's narrow protections for people of faith apply to only limited circumstances—for example, to the solemnization and celebration of marriages. That protection and a few others are severely anemic when viewed against the backdrop of the threat to religious freedom presented by this bill.

Indeed, these changes brought about by the most recent amendment do nothing to prohibit the already existing, already mounting threat of government discrimination against individuals and organizations that hold traditional views regarding marriage—a risk that is materially enhanced by this legislation and all that will flow from it.

For example, Catholic Charities and other religious adoption agencies could be shut out of foster care and adoption ministries due to discriminatory government policies—policies that discriminate against them specifically be-

cause of their religious beliefs. The bill will only exacerbate what is already occurring in Illinois, Massachusetts, California, and the District of Columbia, potentially making this a nationwide trend.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' work with the Department of Health and Human Services in providing foster care to unaccompanied alien children and to unaccompanied refugee minors will be even more at risk than it is right now.

The legislation itself will put religiously affiliated schools and faith-based organizations and others who hold traditional views of marriage at even more risk of being compelled to hire or retain employees whose conduct contradicts their religious beliefs. Wedding vendors will potentially be subject, because of this legislation, to increased lawsuits, harassment, and the destruction of their livelihoods based on their religious beliefs and their desire to live their lives according to their beliefs. This includes small- and family-owned businesses, including religious businesses like kosher caterers.

Nonprofits face the potential revocation of their tax-exempt status based on their religious beliefs. At a time when we have added 87,000 new IRS agents, we shouldn't give them any additional encouragement to abuse that power in a way that threatens the beliefs and institutions that are so important to so many Americans and that form the bedrock of some of our most important institutions.

The bill's proponents claim that they want to protect religious liberty and that their most recent amendment does that, but they refuse to adopt my amendment or anything like it that would prohibit the Federal Government from discriminating against people or organizations that have traditional views on marriage based on sincerely held religious beliefs and moral convictions.

In many instances, they claim that the most recent amendment, in fact, does that—or they at least suggest that. The language of the most recent amendment even reads as if it might be going in that direction, but a closer inspection reveals that, alas, it does not. It does no such thing.

By suggesting that it doesn't do anything to alter or revoke tax-exempt status or any other status under Federal law—that the bill itself doesn't do that—it ignores the fact that this bill sets in motion, keeps in motion, and accelerates existing threats to religious freedom and to their revocation of tax-exempt status for broad categories of nonprofits based on religious beliefs.

It is disingenuous to suggest that this halts government from doing what I am warning of here. This amendment does not do that, which begs the question: Why? Why wouldn't they accept it?

Importantly, my proposed amendment places no restrictions on individ-

uals or even on State or local governments. It simply prohibits the Federal Government from discriminating against individuals or organizations that have sincerely held religious beliefs or moral concerns that marriage is and should be a relationship between a man and a woman. That is all.

What I don't understand is why my colleagues claim to want to protect religious liberty and uphold the First Amendment and, in fact, claim that their amendment essentially does that while simultaneously opposing my amendment so vigorously. I think we all know the answer to that question.

The bill pays lip service to protecting religious liberty, but it does not even begin to address the most serious, egregious, and likely threats to religious liberty presented by this bill. Those with differing views and beliefs can exist in the United States without threatening the constitutionally protected rights of one group—rights upon which our country was founded—to score political points.

You see, that is the beauty of America. Our Founding Fathers believed strongly in the principle that all religious beliefs should be protected, not just those favored by those in charge of government. It is yet another reason why, when we approach rights through legislation in the U.S. Senate and as Americans more broadly—when we protect rights—we know that we have a duty, an obligation, and an ability to secure those rights that we are trying to secure in a way that doesn't undermine the rights of others.

The fact that one group of Americans might have more political support for a particular right and in protecting that right doesn't make it OK within our system, within our culture, within our traditions to undermine the rights of others. That is exactly what we are facing here.

The good news is we can fix it. We can fix it. It is easy to amend this thing in a way that doesn't have to be this way. I have yet to hear any of my Democratic or Republican colleagues who supported the bill say that they want the Federal Government to be able to go out and indiscriminately threaten the revocation of tax-exempt status in order to punish religious beliefs with which they disagree.

I have yet to hear a single Republican or a single Democrat in the House or in the Senate or anywhere else in this town say—I have yet to hear any of them say—yes, that is what we want to do.

In fact, everyone who has addressed the issue has said: No, that is not what we want to do. Most of those on this bill have said: No, we have already taken care of that with this amendment. If that is really true, let's just adopt my amendment.

And if you don't want to do it in that form, if you want to write out another version of the same thing, something that does the same thing, that is fine too. But they shouldn't be able to punish religious belief. That is all I want,



a protection saying the Federal Government may not punish any individual or entity based on a religious or moral conviction-based belief about marriage. That is not too much to ask.

If you ask any American citizen whether that was reasonable, shoot, if you ask any Member of this body in public whether that is fair and reasonable, I think they would have to say yes because it is.

When legislation goes through this body and through this Congress in the proper way, we have a better chance of ironing out these details, of making sure that we are not expanding the zone of protected rights and interests of some at the expense of others. We do that pretty well.

Mr. President, you and I serve together on the Judiciary Committee. That is the committee of jurisdiction for legislation like this. This legislation should have gone through the Judiciary Committee, and yet we have not held a single hearing on it. We have not marked up this bill in Judiciary. We haven't independently voted on this bill in the Judiciary Committee.

In fact, it hasn't been through any committee process in the Senate that I am aware of. If it had, you know the kind of work we would have run it through, the kind of work we would have put into it, and the kind of carefully crafted language we could have produced as a result of it.

I am confident we could have and would have and definitely should have worked this out in committee had we had the opportunity to do so.

This legislation bypassed committees. Sometimes that happens. I understand that it happens from time to time. It is usually a very unfortunate thing when it does. But when it does, it does not excuse us from the obligation to try to replicate that process by at least making sure that we are not harming other people outside the immediate zone of intended protected beneficiaries of the legislation in question. That is all I am asking for here, and it isn't too much to ask.

States and the Federal Government can, and surely will, continue to recognize the validity of same-sex marriages, and they can do so without trampling on the First Amendment rights of those who believe in traditional marriage.

That is what it means to live in a pluralistic society. That is what it means to live in a society where we respect each other's differences, we allow each other to be who we are, live as we choose to live. That can't be done unless we allow each other to believe as we believe and not retaliate against others simply because they believe differently than we do.

Americans of good faith can continue to live by their own religion and daily life by living as they do and doing so without posing any threat to those who disagree with them. I am confident of that. But this bill does not strike that balance. It purports to do so, and it fails.

It labels people of good faith as bigots and subjects them to endless harassing litigation and discrimination and threats by that same government that was founded to protect their religious liberty.

Let's do this the right way, not the wrong way. We need to protect religious freedom. This bill doesn't do that. It places it in grave jeopardy. Let's fix the problem.

Mr. LEE. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, we continue to work on an agreement on the marriage equality bill. If we do not reach agreement, the vote on the motion to proceed will occur at approximately 10 p.m. this evening, so Members should stay close by.

#### NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 848, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 848) designating the week beginning October 16, 2022, as "National Character Counts Week".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 848) was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions introduced earlier today: S. Res. 839, S. Res. 840, S. Res. 841, S. Res. 842, S. Res. 843, S. Res. 844, S. Res. 845, S. Res. 846, and S. Res. 847.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate pro-

ceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MISSISSIPPI FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 800 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 800) celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; the Hyde-Smith amendment at the desk to the preamble be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 800) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 6484) to the preamble was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the second clause of the preamble, strike "lobbying" and insert "advocacy".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 800

Whereas the American Farm Bureau was created in 1919 to disseminate college research results to farmers;

Whereas, since 1919, the American Farm Bureau has since grown into one of the strongest advocacy organizations in the United States, with 6,000,000 members and affiliated services and member benefits that include highly respected insurance companies;

Whereas the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation was officially chartered on October 30, 1922, in Jackson, Mississippi, as a proud state affiliate of the American Farm Bureau;

Whereas C.L. Neill of Jones County was elected as the first president of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation;

Whereas the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation is a strong voice of agriculture for farmers, ranchers, and rural Mississippians;

Whereas the mission of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation is to create an environment in which Mississippi farmers, ranchers, and Farm Bureau members can have a better life and make a better living; and

Whereas October 30, 2022, marks the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates October 30, 2022, as the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation; and

(2) commemorates the history, effective advocacy, and contributions to agriculture in Mississippi of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation.

**RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF HANAIEI NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND PEARL HARBOR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE IN THE STATE OF HAWAII**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 801.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 801) recognizing the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge and Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge in the State of Hawaii.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 801) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 28, 2022, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

**PROVIDING RESEARCH AND ESTIMATES OF CHANGES IN PRECIPITATION ACT**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 1437, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1437) to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide comprehensive and regularly updated Federal precipitation information, and for other purpose.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the substitute at the desk be considered and agreed to; the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 6485) in the nature of a substitute, was 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 "Providing Research and Estimates of Changes In Precipitation Act" or the "PRECIP Act".

**SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE WEATHER RESEARCH AND FORECASTING INNOVATION ACT OF 2017 RELATING TO IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

**"TITLE VI—IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION**

**"SEC. 601. STUDY ON PRECIPITATION ESTIMATION.**

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the PRECIP Act, the Administrator, in consultation with other Federal agencies as appropriate, shall seek to enter an agreement with the National Academies—

"(1) to conduct a study on the state of practice and research needs for precipitation estimation, including probable maximum precipitation estimation; and

"(2) to submit, not later than 24 months after the date on which such agreement is finalized, to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, a report on the results of the study under paragraph (1).

"(b) STUDY.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

"(1) An examination of the current state of practice for precipitation estimation at scales appropriate for decisionmaker needs, and rationale for further evolution of this field.

"(2) An evaluation of best practices for precipitation estimation that are based on the best-available science, include considerations of non-stationarity, and can be utilized by the user community.

"(3) A framework for—

"(A) the development of a National Guidance Document for estimating extreme precipitation in future conditions; and

"(B) evaluation of the strengths and challenges of the full spectrum of approaches, including for probable maximum precipitation studies.

"(4) A description of existing research needs in the field of precipitation estimation in order to modernize current methodologies and consider non-stationarity.

"(5) A description of in-situ, airborne, and space-based observation requirements, that could enhance precipitation estimation and development of models, including an examination of the use of geographic information systems and geospatial technology for integration, analysis, and visualization of precipitation data.

"(6) A recommended plan for a Federal research and development program, including

specifications for costs, timeframes, and responsible agencies for addressing identified research needs.

"(7) An analysis of the respective roles in precipitation estimation of various Federal agencies, academia, State, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and other public and private stakeholders.

"(8) Recommendations for data management to promote long-term needs such as enabling retrospective analyses and data discoverability, interoperability, and reuse.

"(9) Recommendations for how data and services from the entire enterprise can be best leveraged by the Federal Government.

"(10) A description of non-Federal precipitation data, its accessibility by the Federal Government, and ways for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to improve or expand such datasets.

"(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized \$1,500,000 to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out this study.

**"SEC. 602. IMPROVING PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES.**

"(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the National Academies makes public the report under section 601, the Administrator, in consideration of the report recommendations, shall consult with relevant partners, including users of the data, on the development of a plan to—

"(1) not later than 6 years after the completion of such report and not less than every 10 years thereafter, update probable maximum precipitation estimates for the United States, such that each update considers non-stationarity;

"(2) coordinate with partners to conduct research in the field of extreme precipitation estimation, in accordance with the research needs identified in such report;

"(3) make publicly available, in a searchable, interoperable format, all probable maximum precipitation studies developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that the Administrator has the legal right to redistribute and deemed to be at an appropriate state of development on an internet website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

"(4) ensure all probable maximum precipitation estimate data, products, and supporting documentation and metadata developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are preserved, curated, and served by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as appropriate.

"(b) NATIONAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES.—The Administrator, in collaboration with Federal agencies, State, territorial, Tribal and local governments, academia, and other partners the Administrator deems appropriate, shall develop a National Guidance Document that—

"(1) provides best practices that can be followed by Federal and State regulatory agencies, private meteorological consultants, and other users that perform probable maximum precipitation studies;

"(2) considers the recommendations provided in the National Academies study under section 601;

"(3) facilitates review of probable maximum precipitation studies by regulatory agencies; and

"(4) provides confidence in regional and site-specific probable maximum precipitation estimates.

"(c) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the National Academies makes public the report under section 601, the Administrator shall make publicly available the National Guidance Document under subsection (b) on an internet website

of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(d) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall update the National Guidance Document not less than once every 10 years after the publication of the National Guidance Document under subsection (c) and publish such updates in accordance with such subsection.

“(e) FUNDING.—Amounts available to carry out this section may only come from within amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator.

**“SEC. 603. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this title:

“(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(2) NATIONAL ACADEMIES.—The term ‘National Academies’ means the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

“(3) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United States’ means, collectively, each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and any other territory or possession of the United States.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1(b) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8501 note) is amended in the table of contents by adding at the end the following:

**“TITLE VI—IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION**

“Sec. 601. Study on precipitation estimation.

“Sec. 602. Improving probable maximum precipitation estimates.

“Sec. 603. Definitions.”

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The bill (H.R. 1437), as amended, was passed.

**SAFE CONNECTIONS ACT OF 2022**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7132, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7132) to preserve safe access to communications services for survivors of domestic violence and other crimes, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 7132) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

(Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Without objection, it is so ordered.

**RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT—  
MOTION TO PROCEED**

VOTE ON MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All postcloture time is expired.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. BLUNT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted “nay” and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) would have voted “yea.”

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 23, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 357 Leg.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Capito	Durbin
Bennet	Cardin	Ernst
Blumenthal	Casey	Feinstein
Blunt	Collins	Gillibrand
Booker	Coons	Hassan
Brown	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Cantwell	Duckworth	Hickenlooper

Hirono	Murray	Sinema
Kaine	Ossoff	Smith
Kelly	Padilla	Stabenow
King	Peters	Tester
Klobuchar	Reed	Tillis
Leahy	Romney	Van Hollen
Lujan	Rosen	Warner
Manchin	Sanders	Warren
Markey	Schatz	Whitehouse
Merkley	Schumer	Wyden
Murphy	Shaheen	

NAYS—23

Boozman	Grassley	Risch
Cornyn	Hawley	Rounds
Cotton	Hoeben	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Kennedy	Shelby
Crapo	Lankford	Toomey
Cruz	Lee	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	

NOT VOTING—24

Barrasso	Hyde-Smith	Portman
Blackburn	Inhofe	Rubio
Braun	Johnson	Sasse
Burr	Lummis	Scott (FL)
Carper	Marshall	Sullivan
Cassidy	Menendez	Thune
Graham	Murkowski	Warnock
Hagerty	Paul	Young

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in a few moments, I am going to file cloture on the substitute amendment for the Respect for Marriage Act, as well as the underlying bill. The substitute I am filing will contain the legislative text for the Senate session of the Respect for Marriage Act negotiated by both parties. We will hold a cloture vote on the substitute amendment when the Senate comes back into session on the Monday after Thanksgiving.

Let me be clear. Passing the Respect for Marriage Act is not a matter of if but only of when.

I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who led this bill, and I have zero doubt that Respect for Marriage will soon be the law of the land.

**RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 8404) to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6487

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 6487.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] for Ms. BALDWIN proposes an amendment numbered 6487 to H.R. 8404.

The amendment is 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 “Respect for Marriage Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family.

(2) Diverse beliefs about the role of gender in marriage are held by reasonable and sincere people based on decent and honorable religious or philosophical premises. Therefore, Congress affirms that such people and their diverse beliefs are due proper respect.

(3) Millions of people, including interracial and same-sex couples, have entered into marriages and have enjoyed the rights and privileges associated with marriage. Couples joining in marriage deserve to have the dignity, stability, and ongoing protection that marriage affords to families and children.

**SEC. 3. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.**

Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is repealed.

**SEC. 4. FULL FAITH AND CREDIT GIVEN TO MARRIAGE EQUALITY.**

Chapter 115 of title 28, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by inserting after section 1738B the following:

**“§ 1738C. Certain acts, records, and proceedings and the effect thereof**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No person acting under color of State law may deny—

“(1) full faith and credit to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State pertaining to a marriage between 2 individuals, on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals; or

“(2) a right or claim arising from such a marriage on the basis that such marriage would not be recognized under the law of that State on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals.

“(b) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against any person who violates subsection (a) for declaratory and injunctive relief.

“(c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Any person who is harmed by a violation of subsection (a) may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against the person who violated such subsection for declaratory and injunctive relief.

“(d) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘State’ has the meaning given such term under section 7 of title 1.”

**SEC. 5. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

**“§ 7. Marriage**

“(a) For the purposes of any Federal law, rule, or regulation in which marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered married if that individual’s marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage could have been entered into in a State.

“(b) In this section, the term ‘State’ means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

“(c) For purposes of subsection (a), in determining whether a marriage is valid in a State or the place where entered into, if outside of any State, only the law of the jurisdiction applicable at the time the marriage was entered into may be considered.”

**SEC. 6. NO IMPACT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND CONSCIENCE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to diminish or abrogate a religious

liberty or conscience protection otherwise available to an individual or organization under the Constitution of the United States or Federal law.

(b) GOODS OR SERVICES.—Consistent with the First Amendment to the Constitution, nonprofit religious organizations, including churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, nondenominational ministries, interdenominational and ecumenical organizations, mission organizations, faith-based social agencies, religious educational institutions, and nonprofit entities whose principal purpose is the study, practice, or advancement of religion, and any employee of such an organization, shall not be required to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges for the solemnization or celebration of a marriage. Any refusal under this subsection to provide such services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges shall not create any civil claim or cause of action.

**SEC. 7. STATUTORY PROHIBITION.**

(a) NO IMPACT ON STATUS AND BENEFITS NOT ARISING FROM A MARRIAGE.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to deny or alter any benefit, status, or right of an otherwise eligible entity or person which does not arise from a marriage, including tax-exempt status, tax treatment, educational funding, or a grant, contract, agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, claim, or defense.

(b) NO FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF POLYGAMOUS MARRIAGES.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to require or authorize Federal recognition of marriages between more than 2 individuals.

**SEC. 8. SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision to any person, entity, government, or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or any amendment made thereby, or the application of such provision to all other persons, entities, governments, or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

Is there a sufficient second?  
There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6488 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6487

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6488 to amendment No. 6487.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

**SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6489 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6488

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6489 to amendment No. 6488.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

**SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

On page 1, line 3, strike “1 day” and insert “2 days”.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 6490

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to refer H.R. 8404 to the Committee on Judiciary, with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to refer the bill (H.R. 8404) to the Committee on the Judiciary with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 6490.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

**SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 5 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6491

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6491 to the instructions of the motion to refer.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

**SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

On page 1, line 3, strike "5 days" and insert "6 days".

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 6492 TO AMENDMENT NO. 6491

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 6492 to amendment No. 6491.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

**SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

On page 1, line 3, strike "6 days" and insert "7 days".

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask to dispense with further reading of the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the substitute amendment 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 Baldwin substitute amendment No. 6487 to Calendar No. 449, H.R. 8404, a bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Baldwin, Kyrsten Sinema, John W. Hickenlooper, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Maria Cantwell, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Mark Kelly, Jacky Rosen, Cory A. Booker, Brian Schatz, Mazie K. Hirono, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the bill 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 Calendar No. 449, H.R. 8404, a bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Tammy Baldwin, Kyrsten Sinema, John W. Hickenlooper, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Maria Cantwell, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Mark Kelly, Jacky Rosen, Cory A. Booker, Brian Schatz, Mazie K. Hirono, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1133.

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 Camille L. Vélez-Rivé, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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. 1133, Camille L. Velez-Rive, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Ben Ray Lujan, Tim Kaine, 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. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****EXECUTIVE CALENDAR**

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1147.

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 Anne M. Nardacci, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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. 1147, Anne M. Nardacci, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin, Maria Cantwell, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Mark Kelly, Jacky Rosen, Brian Schatz, Mazie K. Hirono, Angus S. King, Jr., Thomas R. Carper, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, Thursday, November 17, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION****MORNING BUSINESS**

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

**TRIBUTE TO KAREN ROETTER**

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I congratulate Karen Roetter, who is retiring as my regional director in my Coeur d'Alene office. Karen's humor, optimism, and dedication are hallmarks of who she is and will be greatly missed.

Karen graduated from the University of Idaho in 1979, with a teaching degree, and began teaching at Canfield Middle School in Coeur d'Alene, where she taught social studies and physical education and coached girls volleyball. Karen is a deeply devoted wife, mother, and grandmother to her beautiful family. After 5 years of teaching, she left teaching to stay home with her and her husband Matt's three daughters: Katie, Andrea, and Tara. Katie and her husband James have a son, Jackson. Andrea is married to Blake, and they have two children, Layne and Hudson. Tara is married to Shea and has three children, Ensley, Ebbet and Ellers.

In 1997, Karen took a part-time job with then-U.S. Representative Helen Chenoweth, before she, thankfully, came to work for me in 2000, doing casework part-time. In 2007, she began working for me full-time and was promoted to regional director for the Coeur d'Alene office.

In the nearly 23 years Karen has served the people of Idaho as a valued member of my staff, one of the many projects she has worked on has been our annual academy nominations. Her passion for this effort shows in the time and attention she devotes to educating about these opportunities and identifying and promoting the Idaho students ready and willing to attend our country's military academies. The commitment shown by the students and the fact they also have a desire to serve their country makes them her kindred spirits. Additionally, north Idaho, with the decades of cleanup at the Bunker Hill Superfund Site and the history of mining and milling in the Silver Valley, has had no shortage of land use and natural resources challenges. Karen has faced them with warmth, curiosity and a willingness to listen and help the rightly concerned people of the affected communities.

Karen, thank you for your hard work on behalf of Idahoans, and congratulations on your retirement. I have greatly enjoyed our conversations and valued your dedication to addressing the needs of north Idaho. You have also been a wonderful example of grace to all of us while facing life's most difficult challenges. On a lighter side, many members of the staff have you to thank for introducing them to huckleberry milkshakes. May retirement provide you ample time with the family you love so dearly, including shuttling your grandchildren to activities and the gardening you enjoy. I wish you all the best.

### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PINK RIBBON CAMPAIGN

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I would like to share a few words today to acknowledge the 30th anniversary of the Estee Lauder Companies' Breast Cancer Campaign and the important work this organization has done to expand breast cancer awareness.

When Evelyn H. Lauder cocreated the pink ribbon and launched the campaign back in 1992, breast cancer research was underfunded and few folks understood the dangers of this deadly disease.

In the past three decades, the Pink Ribbon Campaign has led the charge to raise awareness and collect funds for lifesaving breast cancer research and treatment. The campaign and charitable foundation has collectively dedicated more than \$108 million to fund research, education, and medical services, including therapy and counseling services, as well as expanded access to mammograms and screenings for vulnerable groups with limited access to healthcare.

Like too many folks across this country, the disease touched my family when my wife, Sharla, was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020. Fortunately, Sharla caught it early, and 2 years after her final chemotherapy treatment, she is cancer-free.

We often hear that "it takes a village"—well, when it comes to cancer, that saying is true. We couldn't have gotten through Sharla's treatment without the tireless efforts of Montana's top-notch medical professionals, support staff, and fierce advocates like the ones working with the Pink Ribbon Campaign, who have moved the needle in the fight against breast cancer nationwide.

So today, as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Pink Ribbon Campaign, I want to stress that breast cancer is no joke. Check yourself often and get regular screenings. Early detection can save your life.

Thank you to the folks at the campaign for 30 years of lifesaving work. Because of you, we are closer than ever to achieving a breast cancer free world once and for all.

### TRIBUTE TO GAYE OLIVIA BROWN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President. I rise today to honor the career of Gaye Olivia Brown, a dedicated public servant with more than three decades of government service, on the occasion of her retirement.

Maryland is home to a robust Federal workforce that serves our country with pride. Federal employees work day-in and day-out to provide crucial services to the American people. I have the honor of representing many of these dedicated individuals in the U.S. Senate.

For many years, Mrs. Brown has been part of that group, committing herself to government service locally and on the Federal level, for the Metropolitan Police Department, the Department of Defense, Andrews Air Force Base, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and finally, at the National Institutes of Health. At these Agencies and beyond, Federal workers help keep our country running, both in normal times and in times of crisis. I am honored to support this workforce as they fulfill their mission, just as Mrs. Brown has done with distinction.

I commend Mrs. Brown for 34 years of dedicated and faithful public service. I congratulate her on her well-deserved retirement.

### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

#### RECOGNIZING ROLF MONUMENT COMPANY

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spir-

it. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Rolf Monument Company of Newport, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

All across America's Main Streets, one will find small businesses that offer a product or service more valuable than that which is offered by their corporate competitors. Rolf Monument Company is one of those businesses. Established in 1895, Rolf Monument Co is the oldest business in Newport. The secret behind this main street mainstay is their respectful customer service and high-quality products, which are often sought by customers that are going through some of life's toughest moments. Rolf Monument Company is a premier craftsman of custom memorials, and the owner Tim Rolf takes great pride in providing his customers with products that showcase an unparalleled attention to detail and dignified artistry.

Being only the fourth person to run the business since its founding, owner Tim Rolf took the helm of Rolf Monument Company in 1984, and he takes special care in continuing to steward the family company into the modern age. Though his family may not be famous by their name, the work of Rolf Monument Co is well known throughout the tri-state area. Some of the company's most notable works around Newport include the 9/11 Memorial at the World Peace Bell, the Riverwalk plaques, the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Memorial, and the Beverly Hills Supper Club Memorial, which the company is currently designing and building. Perhaps the company's most famous work was a piece commissioned by a movie producer who was then in the production of "Rain Man". With the movie being filmed in northern Kentucky, the production crew largely depended on businesses in the northern part of the State to service whatever needs arose while filming. Therefore, Rolf Monument Co was tapped to design the headstones for the fictional parents of the characters played by Tom Cruise and Dustin Hoffman. These movie-famous monuments are on display today at Rolf Monument Company, serving as a reminder of the company's work featured in the hit 1988 movie.

In addition to his reputation for providing top-quality products to all his customers, Tim Rolf has been recognized for his service outside of his leadership of Rolf Monument Company. This year, Mr. Rolf was inducted into the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame, a group that honors Kentucky military veterans and educates the community about their accomplishments. Mr. Rolf comes from a family that understands the importance of serving our country; he and his three brothers and one sister all having served in the U.S. military. However, the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame not only recognized Mr. Rolf for his contributions during his time in uniform, his induction paid tribute to the fine work he and his company have

done to honor many of our fallen soldiers and servicemen. Memorials that are commissioned for veterans often display additional markings and features not usually featured on the average headstone, such as Bronze Stars and Purple Hearts. In a display of gratitude for their service to our country, whenever Rolf Monument Co receives a commission for one of these specially crafted veterans' headstones, Mr. Rolf adds the additional service-specific features free of charge.

Of the many services this company offers, the most popular is the creation of memorials for families who have recently lost loved ones. Mr. Rolf understands that these monuments often embody the final step in the grieving process, and Rolf Monument Company takes special care to streamline this process and ensure the family of the bereaved is treated with the utmost dignity and respect. Moreover, this same level of dignity is displayed in all the collaboration Rolf Monument Co participates in within the veteran community. Tim Rolf's company often works with AMVETS, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Vietnam veterans groups. Not only does his company play an important part in the transition of life for Kentucky citizens, but they work tirelessly to pay tribute to the men and women who fought to keep our country free. I want to thank Mr. Rolf for his fine work done on behalf of our Nation's veterans and congratulate him and to the entire team at Rolf Monument Company. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Kentucky.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:48 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 3369. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, as the "Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

S. 4359. An act to designate the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta as the "Senator Johnny Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs

Atlanta Regional Office", and for other purposes.

S. 4524. An act to limit the judicial enforceability of predispute nondisclosure and nondisparagement contract clauses relating to disputes involving sexual assault and sexual harassment.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2250. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3630. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program.

H.R. 4275. An act to provide for certain reports on enrollment in the Lifeline program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5502. An act to require online marketplaces to verify certain information regarding high-volume third party sellers of consumer products on such online marketplaces and to disclose to consumers certain contact and other information regarding such high-volume third party sellers.

H.R. 5721. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve research conducted within the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6290. An act to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7277. An act to improve the methods by which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs identifies health care providers that are not eligible to participate in the Veterans Community Care Program.

H.R. 7299. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8416. An act to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 3092. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3630. An act to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 4275. An act to provide for certain reports on enrollment in the Lifeline program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5502. An act to require online marketplaces to verify certain information regarding high-volume third party sellers of consumer products on such online marketplaces and to disclose to consumers certain contact and other information regarding such high-

volume third party sellers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 5721. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve research conducted within the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 7277. An act to improve the methods by which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs identifies health care providers that are not eligible to participate in the Veterans Community Care Program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 7299. An act to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 8416. An act to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 6290. An act to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5334. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing Standards for Recovery of Erroneously Awarded Compensation" (RIN3235-AK99) received during adjournment of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5335. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enhanced Reporting of Proxy Votes by Registered Management Investment Companies Reporting of Executive Compensation Votes by Institutional Investment Managers" (RIN3235-AK67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5336. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Central African Republic Sanctions Regulations" (31 CFR Part 553) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5337. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tailored Shareholder Reports for Mutual Funds and Exchange-Traded Funds; Fee Information in Investment Company Advertisements" (RIN3235-AM52) received during adjournment

of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5338. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Changes to HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program Commitment Requirement” (RIN2501-AD69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5339. 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 13413 with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5340. 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 13664 with respect to South Sudan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5341. 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 13067 with respect to Sudan; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5342. A communication from the Acting Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Requirements” (RIN1506-AB49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5343. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order declaring a national emergency with respect to blocking property of certain persons contributing to the situation in Nicaragua, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5344. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Ethiopia that was declared in Executive Order 14046 of September 17, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5345. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001 that was declared in Proclamation 7463 of September 14, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5346. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5347. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of

the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13894 of October 14, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5348. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5349. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the situation in Nicaragua that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5350. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction that was declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5351. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Iran that was declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5352. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China (PRC) that was declared in Executive Order 13959 of November 12, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5353. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Electronic Record-keeping Requirements for Broker-Dealers, Security-Based Swap Dealers, and Major Security-Based Swap Participants” (RIN3235-AM76) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5354. 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) 1.248 Rev 0, ‘Guide for Assessing, Monitoring, and Mitigating Aging Effects on Electrical Equipment Used in Nuclear Power Generating Stations’” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5355. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “American Society of Mechanical Engineers 2019-2020 Code Editions” (RIN3150-AK22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5356. 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) 1.246, ‘Acceptability of ASME Code Section XI, Division 2, ‘Requirements for Reliability and Integrity Management (RIM) Programs for Nuclear Power

Plants for Non-Light Water Reactors’” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5357. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Delaware: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions” (FRL No. 9951-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5358. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Virginia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions” (FRL No. 9947-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5359. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “North Dakota: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision” (FRL No. 9896-02-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5360. 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; North Carolina; Miscellaneous Emission Control Standards Rule Revisions” (FRL No. 9187-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5361. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Parent Company Definition for Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Reporting” ((RIN2070-AK42) (FRL No. 6004-02-OCSPP)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5362. 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; South Carolina; Revisions to Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Rules” (FRL No. 10161-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5363. 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; TN; Updates to References to Appendix W Modeling Guideline” (FRL No. 10136-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5364. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of his intent to terminate the designation of Burkina Faso as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the African Growth and Opportunity Act; to the Committee on Finance.



EC-5365. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary for Financial Resources, Department of Health and Human Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5366. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Additional Permitted Election Changes for Health Coverage under Section 125 Cafeteria Plans" (Notice 2022-41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5367. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 42, Low-Income Housing Credit Average Income Test Regulations" (RIN1545-BO92) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5368. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Affordability of Employer Coverage for Family Members of Employees" (RIN1545-BQ19) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5369. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "User Fees Relating to Enrolled Agents and Enrolled Retirement Plan Agents" (RIN1545-BQ17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5370. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of plan amendment deadlines relating to CARES Act Section 2202 and Relief Act Section 302" (Notice 2022-45) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5371. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: End-Stage Renal Disease Prospective Payment System, Payment for Renal Dialysis Services Furnished to Individuals with Acute Kidney Injury, End-Stage Renal Disease Quality Incentive Program, and End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices Model" (RIN0938-AU79) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5372. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Calendar Year (CY) 2023 Home Health Prospective Payment System Rate Update; Home Health Quality Reporting Program Requirements; Home Health Value-Based Purchasing Expanded Model Re-

quirements; and Home Infusion Therapy Services Requirements" (RIN0938-AU77) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5373. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program: Hospital Outpatient Prospective Payment and Ambulatory Surgical Center Payment Systems and Quality Reporting Programs; Organ Acquisition; Rural Emergency Hospitals; Payment Policies, Conditions of Participation, Provider Enrollment, Physician Self-Referral; New Service Category for Hospital Outpatient Department Prior Authorization Process; Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating: COVID-19" (RIN0938-AU82) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 7, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5374. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act: Section 1004 Medicaid Drug Review and Utilization"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5375. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2022 Calendar Year Resident Population Figures" (Notice 2022-12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5376. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Telehealth Services During the First Year of the Pandemic: Program Integrity Risks"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5377. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Western Balkans Stabilization Regulations" (31 CFR Part 588) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5378. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Libyan Sanctions Regulations" (31 CFR Part 570) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5379. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "The Attorney General's 2021 Annual Report to Congress on Fair Lending Enforcement"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5380. A communication from the Chair of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to credit availability for small businesses; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5381. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a re-

port entitled "Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Report to Congress and the President for Fiscal Year 2019"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5382. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Review of Light-Water Power Reactor Construction Permit Applications" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5383. A communication from the Senior Policy Advisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2022-2023 Station-specific Hunting and Sport Fishing Regulations" (RIN1018-BF66) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5384. 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 Quality State Implementation Plans; Approvals and Promulgations: California; San Diego County Air Pollution Control District; Permits; Correcting Amendments" (FRL No. 9713-04-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5385. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clean Air Plans; Base Year Emissions Inventories for the 2015 Ozone Standards; Nevada; Clark County, Las Vegas Valley" (FRL No. 9739-02-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5386. 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; Infrastructure SIP Requirements for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS and References to the Code of Federal Regulations" (FRL No. 9879-02-R5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 27, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5387. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Implementation Plan for Managing Emissions from Oil and Natural Gas Sources on Indian Country Lands within the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in Utah" (FRL No. 5872.1-01-R8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5388. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Outer Continental Shelf Air Regulations; Consistency Update for Massachusetts" (FRL No. 9265-02-R1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5389. 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; New Mexico; Clean Air Act Requirements for Nonattainment New Source Review Permitting for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 10029-02-R6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5390. 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; Ameren Sioux Sulfur Dioxide Consent Agreement" (FRL No. 10156-02-R7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5391. 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; Michigan; Revisions to Part 1 and 2 Rules; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 10162-03-R5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5392. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; West Virginia; 2021 Amendments to West Virginia's Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 10357-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5393. 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; Connecticut; Plan Submittals for the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard; Correction" (FRL No. 10414-01-R1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5394. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act, changes that occurred from March 3, 2022 through August 8, 2022, and an additional report on departure of ambassadors; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5395. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, enclosed agreements between the American Institute in Taiwan and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office and between the American Institute in Taiwan and United States Government Agencies; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5396. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Denmark in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-047); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5397. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to

section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad, including technical data, and defense services controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Jordan in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-027); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5398. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the Australia, Japan, and Singapore in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-012); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5399. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the UK and Canada in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-038); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5400. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad and the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services, abroad controlled under Category I of the US Munitions List to Italy and Qatar in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-021); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5401. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia and the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-029); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5402. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia and New Zealand in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-023); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5403. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-033); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5404. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Germany and the Netherlands in

the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-037); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5405. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-040); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5406. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Austria in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-042); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5407. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Qatar in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-030); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5408. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to Australia, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Italy in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-032); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5409. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination under Section 3(d)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5410. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise the authorities under section 506(a)(1) of the FAA to provide military assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5411. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise the authorities under section 506(a)(1) of the FAA to provide military assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5412. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5413. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5414. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to

law, a report entitled “Determination Under Sections 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine”; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5415. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0140 - 2022-0144); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5416. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0140 - 2022-0144); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5417. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0140 - 2022-0144); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5418. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0140 - 2022-0144); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5419. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0140 - 2022-0144); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5420. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2022-0145 - 2022-0155); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5421. A communication from Associate General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Employee Indemnification Regulations” (RIN3045-AA77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5422. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research” (RIN0985-AA16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 11, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5423. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Annual Report on the Use of Mandatory Recall Authority, FY 2021”; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2130. A bill to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-200).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 2996. A bill to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-201).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 3997. A bill to amend the Land Between the Lakes Protection Act of 1998 to clarify the administration of the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-202).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 4227. A bill to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-203).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1330. A bill to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-204).

S. 1877. A bill to modify eligibility requirements for certain hazard mitigation assistance programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-205).

S. 3423. A bill to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring (Rept. No. 117-206).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4167. A bill to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-207).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4243. A bill to establish the Department of Homeland Security Trade and Economic Security Council and the position of Assistant Secretary for Trade and Economic Security within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-208).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4623. A bill to advance Government innovation through leading-edge procurement capability, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-209).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 4629. A bill to amend the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to modify requirements relating to data centers of certain Federal agencies, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-210).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 4828. A bill to provide consistent leadership, purpose, and administrative support for the primary governmentwide executive councils, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117-211).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 4893. A bill to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain disclosures by registrants regarding exemptions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (Rept. No. 117-212).

H.R. 3175. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 Main Street in Biloxi, Mississippi, as the “Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building”.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. DURBIN for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Peter D. Leary, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia for the term of four years.

McLain J. Schneider, of North Dakota, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota for the term of four years.

Leigha Simonton, of Texas, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas for the term of four years.

David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2. A bill to support national training, technical assistance, and resource centers, to ensure that all individuals with significant expressive communication disabilities have access to the augmentative and alternative communication the individuals need to interact with others, in order to learn, work, socialize, and take advantage of all aspects of life in the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 3. A bill to improve the environmental review process for Federal aid highway projects through the use of interactive, digital, cloud-based platforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 5. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate supervision requirements for outpatient physical therapy and outpatient occupational therapy; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 6. A bill to improve the requirements for making a determination of interchangeability of a biological product and its reference product; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 7. A bill to make a technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 8. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration program to promote collaborative treatment of mental and physical health

comorbidities under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 9. A bill to provide for the vacating of certain convictions and expungement of certain arrests of victims of human trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 10. A bill to ensure that homicides can be prosecuted under Federal law without regard to the time elapsed between the act or omission that caused the death of the victim and the death itself; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 5115. A bill to allow community supports to meet specific needs of families and children through an electronic care portal under the MaryLee Allen Promoting Safe and Stable Families program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S. 5116. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require the authorization of frozen fruits and vegetables under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 5117. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the inclusion of information on prior authorization requirements and other utilization management techniques, and other information, in the Medicare & You annual notice; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 5118. A bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to identify and conduct recurrent vetting of evacuees from Afghanistan found not to be properly vetted before entering the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 5119. A bill to eliminate the position of the Chief Diversity Officer of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5120. A bill to amend the Second Chance Act of 2007 to require identification for returning citizens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 5121. A bill to update the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 5122. A bill to provide greater scrutiny of visas for Chinese Communist Party members; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 5123. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to modify the registration requirements relating to research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 5124. A bill to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 5125. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the application of family attribution rules for purposes of retirement plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5126. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strike the provision of the American Opportunity Tax Credit that denies the credit to students with felony drug convictions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 5127. A bill to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S. 5128. A bill to designate phosphate and potash as critical minerals, to approve the use of phosphogypsum in government road projects, to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to provide for the certification of certified crop advisors for conservation technical assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 5129. A bill to modify the boundary of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 5130. A bill to amend the Camp Lejeune Justice Act of 2022 to appropriately limit attorney's fees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSEN:

S. 5131. A bill to ensure that certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration are made available to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 5132. A bill to correct the boundary of the Chaco Culture National Historical Park in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRAPO, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 5133. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reform certain forfeiture procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BURR, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 5134. A bill to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 837. A resolution recognizing Israeli-American culture and heritage, the contributions of the Israeli-American community to the United States, and condemning antisemitic violence and discrimination; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. Res. 838. A resolution expressing concern about the spreading problem of book banning and the proliferation of threats to freedom of expression in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 839. A resolution expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 840. A resolution supporting afterschool programs and Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 20, 2022; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 841. A resolution recognizing October 2022 as "National Principals Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 842. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, and Ms. SMITH):

S. Res. 843. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on November 7, 2022 as "National School Psychology Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 844. A resolution congratulating the Houston Astros for winning the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 845. A resolution recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Ms. ERNST, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARPER):

S. Res. 846. A resolution designating November 2022 as "National College Application Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. Res. 847. A resolution recognizing the 1-year anniversary of the tragic attack at the Waukesha Christmas Parade on November

21, 2021, and honoring the 6 individuals who lost their lives and the 62 others who were injured; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 848. A resolution designating the week beginning October 16, 2022, as "National Character Counts Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Con. Res. 49. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women's Health and Strengthening the Family and urging that the United States be added as a signatory; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1106

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1106, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1408, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 1566

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1566, a bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals.

S. 2238

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Prevention and Services program, and for other purposes.

S. 3389

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3389, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration project to improve outpatient clinical care for individuals with sickle cell disease.

S. 3840

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from California

(Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 3840, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the threshold for the de minimis exception for information reporting by third party settlement organizations.

S. 3950

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3950, a bill to establish the Baltic Security and Economic Enhancement Initiative for the purpose of increasing security and economic ties with the Baltic countries and to establish the Baltic Security Initiative for the purpose of deepening security cooperation with the Baltic countries, and for other purposes.

S. 4169

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4169, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide assisted living services to eligible veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 4419

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4419, a bill to require small, medium, and large hub airports to certify that airport service workers are paid the prevailing wage and provided fringe benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 4499

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4499, a bill to prohibit any requirement that a member of the National Guard receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

S. 4587

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4587, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Benjamin Berell Ferencz, in recognition of his service to the United States and international community during the post-World War II Nuremberg trials and life-long advocacy for international criminal justice and rule of law.

S. 4625

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4625, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve nutrition in tribal areas, and for other purposes.

S. 4832

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

4832, a bill to temporarily prohibit the hiring of additional Internal Revenue Service employees until a certain level of taxpayer services have improved, and for other purposes.

S. 4925

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4925, a bill to preserve the readiness of the Armed Forces by limiting separations based on COVID-19 vaccination status and continuing pay and benefits for members while religious and health accommodations are pending.

S. 4998

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4998, a bill to establish uniform accessibility standards for websites and applications of employers, employment agencies, labor organizations, joint labor-management committees, public entities, public accommodations, testing entities, and commercial providers, and for other purposes.

S. 5089

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5089, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 5099

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5099, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to address certain issues relating to the extension of consumer credit, and for other purposes.

S. 5100

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5100, a bill to provide accountability for funding provided to the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Treasury under Public Law 117-169.

S. 5112

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5112, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 5114

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 5114, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide training for Department of Homeland Security personnel regarding the use of containment devices to prevent exposure to potential synthetic opioids, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 25

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 25, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S.J. RES. 64

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 64, a joint resolution disapproving of the rule submitted by the Department of Homeland Security relating to "Public Charge Ground of Inadmissibility".

S. RES. 454

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 454, a resolution expressing support for the designation of November 21, 2021, as "National Warrior Call Day" and recognizing the importance of connecting warriors in the United States to support structures necessary to transition from the battlefield.

S. RES. 825

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 825, a resolution recognizing the month of October 2022 as Filipino American History Month and celebrating the history and culture of Filipino Americans and their immense contributions to the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 5606

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5606 intended to be proposed to H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense and 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 6477

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 6477 intended to be proposed to H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense and 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.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 5129. A bill to modify the boundary of the Mammoth Cave National Park in the State of Kentucky; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 5129

*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 "Mammoth Cave National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2022".

### SEC. 2. MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK BOUNDARY MODIFICATION.

Section 11 of the Act of June 5, 1942 (56 Stat. 319, chapter 341; 16 U.S.C. 404c-11), is amended—

(1) in the second paragraph, by striking "the sum of not to exceed" in the first sentence and all that follows through the period at the end of the paragraph and inserting "such sums as are necessary."; and

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

"The Secretary of the Interior may acquire approximately 980 acres of the land and any interests in the land generally depicted on the map entitled 'Mammoth Cave National Park Proposed Southern Boundary Expansion Edmonson and Barren Counties, Kentucky', numbered 135/177, 967, and dated April 28, 2022, for inclusion in the Mammoth Cave National Park."

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 837—RECOGNIZING ISRAELI-AMERICAN CULTURE AND HERITAGE, THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ISRAELI-AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO THE UNITED STATES, AND CONDEMNING ANTISEMITIC VIOLENCE AND DISCRIMINATION

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 837

Whereas the United States is a nation of immigrants, and Israeli Americans are cherished along with United States citizens of all backgrounds;

Whereas Israeli Americans are a vibrant immigrant community who contribute heavily to the welfare and diversity of the United States;

Whereas the contributions of Israeli Americans in the fields of health sciences, pharmaceuticals, disaster relief, astrophysics, mathematics, chemistry, aerospace engineering, biotech, agriculture, and internet technologies have been invaluable to the United States;

Whereas Israeli Americans and Jewish Americans contribute invaluable skills that promote innovation and productivity bearing a quality of life impact for all the United States;

Whereas Israeli Americans contribute to the advancement of civil rights, equal protections, and justice for all United States citizens, particularly the most vulnerable;

Whereas Israeli Americans have helped to form a strong bond between the people of the United States and the people of Israel, reinforcing the shared values and interests between the 2 countries;

Whereas Israeli Americans, including young people on college campuses and in grade schools in the United States, are subjected to incidents of national origin-based discrimination that impact the ability of such individuals to openly connect with their culture and celebrate their heritage free from bigotry and bias; and

Whereas anti-Israel incitement has led to assaults and bullying targeting Jewish individuals and Israeli Americans: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) affirms that the Israeli-American community has contributed immensely to the society and culture of the United States; and

(2) condemns all forms of antisemitism, discrimination, and violence that—

(A) aim to marginalize or disenfranchise members of the Israeli-American community, the Jewish community broadly, and individuals of Israeli or Jewish origin; or

(B) infringe upon the ability of Israeli Americans and other individuals to celebrate Israeli-American heritage and a deep connection to Israel.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 838—EX-PRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE SPREADING PROBLEM OF BOOK BANNING AND THE PROLIFERATION OF THREATS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 838

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States protects freedom of speech and the freedom to read and write;

Whereas article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "[e]veryone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers";

Whereas PEN America has identified more than 1,600 unique books by 1,261 different authors, 290 illustrators, and 18 translators that have been banned in the United States during the 2021-2022 school year;

Whereas an increasing number of books bans have departed from best practice guidelines outlined by the National Coalition Against Censorship, the National Council of Teachers of English, and the American Library Association for responding to demands to censor books;

Whereas the sharing of all ideas and the freedom to read are essential to a strong democracy;

Whereas books do not require readers to agree with topics or themes but instead allow readers to explore and engage with differing perspectives to form and inform their own views;

Whereas suppressing the freedom to read and denying access to literature, history, and knowledge are inherently illiberal and anti-democratic tactics used by authoritarian regimes against their people;

Whereas book bans often seek to impose restrictions on all students and families based on the political, ideological, or cultural preferences of the individuals calling for book bans;

Whereas book bans have multifaceted, harmful consequences on—

(1) students, who have a right to access a diverse range of stories and perspectives, including students from historically marginalized backgrounds whose communities are often underrepresented in literature;

(2) educators and librarians, who are operating in some States in an increasingly punitive and surveillance-oriented environment with a chilling effect on teaching and learning;

(3) authors whose works are targeted; and  
(4) parents who want students to attend public schools that remain open to curiosity, discovery, and the freedom to read;

Whereas classic and award-winning literature and books that have been part of school curricula for decades have been challenged, removed from libraries pending review, or outright banned from schools, including—

(1) “*Brave New World*” by Aldous Huxley;  
(2) “*The Handmaid’s Tale*” by Margaret Atwood;

(3) “*Anne Frank’s Diary: The Graphic Adaptation*”, adapted by Ari Folman;

(4) “*Their Eyes Were Watching God*” by Zora Neal Hurston;

(5) “*To Kill a Mockingbird*” by Harper Lee; and

(6) “*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*” by Mark Twain;

Whereas books face a heightened risk of being banned, particularly when written by and about outsiders, newcomers, and individuals from marginalized backgrounds;

Whereas 674 books referring to LGBTQ+ themes or with LGBTQ+ characters, including books that recognize the equal humanity and dignity of all individuals despite differences, have been banned or otherwise restricted in the United States this year, including—

(1) “*Families, Families, Families!*” by Suzanne Lang; and

(2) “*All Are Welcome*” by Alexandria Penfold;

Whereas 659 books, both fiction and nonfiction, with protagonists of color or prominent secondary characters of color have been banned or otherwise restricted in the United States this year, including—

(1) “*Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story*” by Ruby Bridges;

(2) “*Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington*” by Francis E. Ruffin;

(3) “*Thank You, Jackie Robinson*” by Barbara Cohen;

(4) “*Malala: A Hero For All*” by Shana Corey;

(5) “*Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*” by Kevin Noble Maillard;

(6) “*Hair Love*” by Matthew A. Cherry;

(7) “*Good Trouble: Lessons From the Civil Rights Playbook*” by Christopher Noxon; and

(8) “*We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures*”;

Whereas the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund has reported a dramatic surge in challenges at libraries and schools to the inclusion of graphic novels that depict the vital diversity of civic life in the United States and the painful historical realities of the human experience, including—

(1) “*New Kid*” by Jerry Craft;

(2) “*Drama*” by Raina Telgemeier;

(3) “*American Born Chinese*” by Gene Luen Yang; and

(4) “*Maus*” by Art Spiegelman;

Whereas books addressing death, grief, mental illness, and suicide are targeted alongside nonfiction books that discuss feelings and emotions written for teenage and young adult audiences that frequently confront these topics;

Whereas the Secretary of Education of Oklahoma is seeking to revoke the teaching certificate of an educator who merely provided to her students a link to the Books Unbanned initiative of the Brooklyn Public Library, which provides young people across the country access to books that may be banned or otherwise restricted in schools;

Whereas, during congressional hearings on April 7, 2022, and May 19, 2022, students, parents, teachers, librarians, and school administrators testified to the chilling and fear-inducing effects that book bans have on education and the school environment;

Whereas, according to PEN America, during the 2021–2022 school year, approximately 140 school districts in 32 States issued more than 2,500 book bans or other restrictions, including repeated titles, affecting more than 5,000 individual schools and approximately 4,000,000 students, limiting access to certain books for limited or indefinite periods of time, including—

(1) Florida, where at least 566 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 21 school districts;

(2) Georgia, where at least 23 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 2 school districts;

(3) Indiana, where at least 18 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 3 school districts;

(4) Kansas, where at least 30 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 2 school districts;

(5) Michigan, where at least 41 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 4 school districts;

(6) Missouri, where at least 27 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 8 school districts;

(7) New York, where at least 123 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 34 school districts;

(8) Oklahoma, where at least 43 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 3 school districts;

(9) Pennsylvania, where at least 457 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 11 school districts;

(10) Tennessee, where at least 349 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 6 school districts;

(11) Texas, where at least 801 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 22 school districts;

(12) Utah, where at least 1,211 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 3 school districts; and

(13) Virginia, where at least 169 books in total have been banned or otherwise restricted in 79 school districts;

Whereas the overwhelming majority of voters in the United States oppose book bans;

Whereas an overwhelming majority of voters in the United States support educators teaching about the Civil Rights Movement, the history and experiences of Native Americans, enslaved Africans, immigrants facing discrimination, and the ongoing effects of racism;

Whereas, in 1969, the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969), that students do not “shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate”; and

Whereas, while library collections may be curated based on a variety of factors, including pedagogical value, student interest, and the age-appropriateness of the material, in 1982, a plurality of the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District No. 26 v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982), that schools may not remove books based on “narrowly partisan or political grounds”; as this kind of censorship will result in “official suppression of ideas”; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses concern about the spreading problem of book banning and the proliferation of threats to freedom of expression in the United States;

(2) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to supporting the freedom of expression of writers and the freedom of all individuals in the United States to read books without government censorship;

(3) calls on local governments and educational institutions to follow best practice guidelines when addressing challenges to books; and

(4) calls on local governments and educational institutions to protect the rights of students to learn and the ability of educators and librarians to teach students, including by providing students with the opportunity to read a wide array of books reflecting a multitude of viewpoints and perspectives.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 839—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GOALS OF STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 839

Whereas stomach cancer, also known as gastric cancer, is one of the most difficult cancers to detect in the early stages of the disease, which contributes to high mortality rates;

Whereas stomach cancer occurs when cancer cells develop in the lining of the stomach;

Whereas stomach cancer is the fifth most common type of cancer worldwide;

Whereas, in 2022, an estimated—

(1) 26,380 cases of stomach cancer will be diagnosed in the United States; and

(2) 11,090 individuals in the United States will die from stomach cancer;

Whereas the estimated 5-year survival rate for stomach cancer is only 32.4 percent, and when diagnosed at a late, or distant, stage, the 5-year survival rate is just 6 percent;

Whereas, in the United States, stomach cancer is more prevalent among racial and ethnic minorities;

Whereas initial diagnosis of stomach cancer is often delayed because up to 80 percent of patients are asymptomatic during early stages;

Whereas increased awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer among patients and health care providers could improve timely recognition of stomach cancer symptoms;

Whereas more research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer is needed; and

Whereas November 2022 is an appropriate month to observe Stomach Cancer Awareness Month; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month;

(2) supports efforts to increase awareness of, and education about, stomach cancer

among the general public of the United States;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research into early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for stomach cancer; and

(4) encourages States, territories, and localities of the United States to support the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 840—SUPPORTING AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS AND LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL, A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS HELD ON OCTOBER 20, 2022**

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 840

Whereas more than 30,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home;

Whereas high-quality programs that expand learning opportunities for children, such as afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning opportunities, provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences, including experiences that encourage the study of science, technology, engineering, and math that help children and youth develop social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas, during the COVID-19 crisis, afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support children by—

- (1) innovating to provide virtual programming to keep children engaged;
- (2) caring for children of essential workers;
- (3) providing meals and learning supports;
- (4) supporting the well-being of children and families; and
- (5) helping students recover and accelerating learning;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs and high-quality expanded learning opportunities provide students with hands-on, engaging lessons that are aligned with the school day;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs complement regular and expanded school days and support working families by ensuring that the children of those families are safe and productive during the hours parents are working;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of children and youth in the United States;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs that partner with high-quality community-based organizations build stronger communities by integrating schools with the larger community; and

Whereas Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool, before-school, summer, and expanded learning opportunities programs was held on October 20, 2022, to highlight the critical importance of those high-quality programs to children and the families and communities of those children: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 20, 2022.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 841—RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2022 AS “NATIONAL PRINCIPALS MONTH”**

Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING,

Mr. BRAUN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 841

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, and the American Federation of School Administrators have declared October 2022 to be “National Principals Month”;

Whereas principals are educational visionaries, instructional and assessment leaders, disciplinarians, community builders, budget analysts, facilities managers, and administrators of legal and contractual obligations;

Whereas principals work collaboratively with teachers and parents to develop and implement clear missions, high curriculum standards, and performance goals;

Whereas principals create school environments that facilitate great teaching and learning and continuous school improvement;

Whereas principals demonstrated leadership and played important roles in meeting the needs of students, families, and communities during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic;

Whereas the vision, actions, and dedication of principals provide the mobilizing force behind any school improvement effort; and

Whereas the celebration of National Principals Month would honor elementary school, middle school, and high school principals and recognize the importance of principals in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

- (1) recognizes October 2022 as “National Principals Month”;
- (2) honors the contributions of principals in elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools in the United States; and
- (3) supports the goals and ideals of National Principals Month.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 842—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.:

S. RES. 842

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the “CDC”)—

- (1) 37,300,000 individuals in the United States have diabetes; and
- (2) an estimated 96,000,000 individuals in the United States who are 18 years of age or older have prediabetes;

Whereas diabetes is a serious chronic condition that affects individuals of every age, race, ethnicity, and income level;

Whereas the CDC reports that—

- (1) Hispanic, Black, Asian, American Indian, and Alaska Native adults in the United States are disproportionately affected by diabetes and develop the disease at much higher rates than the general population of the United States; and
- (2) an estimated 23 percent of individuals with diabetes in the United States have not yet been diagnosed with the disease;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 11.3 percent of the population, including 29.2 percent of individuals who are 65 years of age or older, have diabetes;

Whereas, of the approximately 19,000,000 veterans in the United States, 1 in 4 are re-

ceiving care for diabetes from the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Whereas the risk of developing diabetes at some point in life is 40 percent for adults in the United States;

Whereas, according to the American Diabetes Association, the United States spent an estimated \$237,000,000,000 on direct medical costs for cases of diagnosed diabetes in 2017, and out-of-pocket costs for insulin have grown significantly in recent years for many patients;

Whereas the American Diabetes Association reports that care for people with diagnosed diabetes accounts for 1 in 4 health care dollars spent in the United States;

Whereas the cost of health care is estimated to be 2.3 times higher for individuals in the United States with diabetes than those without diabetes;

Whereas, as of November 2022, a cure for diabetes does not exist;

Whereas there are successful means to reduce the incidence, and delay the onset, of type 2 diabetes;

Whereas, with proper management and treatment, individuals with diabetes live healthy and productive lives; and

Whereas individuals in the United States celebrate American Diabetes Month in November: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month, including—

(A) encouraging individuals in the United States to fight diabetes through public awareness of prevention and treatment options; and

(B) enhancing diabetes education; (2) recognizes the importance of awareness and early detection, including awareness of symptoms and risk factors such as—

- (A) being—
  - (i) older than 45 years of age; or
  - (ii) overweight; and
- (B) having—
  - (i) a particular racial and ethnic background;
  - (ii) a low level of physical activity;
  - (iii) high blood pressure;
  - (iv) a family history of diabetes; or
  - (v) a history of diabetes during pregnancy;

(3) supports decreasing the prevalence of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes in the United States through research, treatment, and prevention; and

(4) recognizes the importance of addressing systemic barriers to health care that—

- (A) leave many vulnerable communities at a heightened risk for diabetes; and
- (B) limit access to health care resources that are needed to effectively prevent the onset, and to manage the condition, of diabetes.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 843—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK BEGINNING ON NOVEMBER 7, 2022 AS “NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WEEK”**

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. CASIDY, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 843

Whereas all children and youth learn best when they are healthy, supported, and receive an education that meets their individual needs;

Whereas schools can more effectively ensure that all students are ready and able to learn if schools meet all the needs of each student;



Whereas learning and development are directly linked to the mental health of children, and a supportive learning environment is an optimal place to promote mental health;

Whereas sound psychological principles are critical to proper instruction and learning, social and emotional development, prevention and early intervention, and support for a culturally diverse student population;

Whereas school psychologists are specially trained to deliver mental health services and academic support that lower barriers to learning and allow teachers to teach more effectively;

Whereas school psychologists facilitate collaboration that helps parents and educators to identify and reduce risk factors, promote protective factors, create safe schools, and access community resources;

Whereas school psychologists are trained to assess barriers to learning, utilize data-based decision making, implement research-driven prevention and intervention strategies, evaluate outcomes, and improve accountability;

Whereas State educational agencies and other State entities credential more than 35,000 school psychologists who practice in schools in the United States as key professionals that promote the learning and mental health of all children;

Whereas professional organizations, such as the National Association of School Psychologists and the American Psychological Association, help establish standards for the training and practice of school psychologists;

Whereas the people of the United States should recognize the vital role school psychologists play in the personal and academic development of children in the United States; and

Whereas the week beginning on November 7, 2022 would be an appropriate week to designate as National School Psychology Week: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of National School Psychology Week;

(2) honors and recognizes the contributions of school psychologists to the success of students in schools across the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the vital role school psychologists play in schools, in the community, and in helping students develop into successful and productive members of society.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 844—CONGRATULATING THE HOUSTON ASTROS FOR WINNING THE 2022 MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WORLD SERIES

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 844

Whereas, on November 6, 2022, the Houston Astros (referred to in this preamble as the “Astros”) defeated the National League Champions, the Philadelphia Phillies, by 4 games to 2 to win the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series in 6 games;

Whereas this victory marks the second Major League Baseball World Series championship for the Astros franchise and their first Major League Baseball World Series championship since 2017;

Whereas, during the 2022 playoffs, the Astros defeated the New York Yankees and

the Seattle Mariners to make their second consecutive Major League Baseball World Series appearance;

Whereas the Astros have won 2 consecutive American League West division titles;

Whereas the Astros exhibited outstanding skill and ability to attain a 106-56 record in the 2022 Major League Baseball season;

Whereas General Manager of the Astros, James Click, and the front office and the supporting staff of the Astros navigated an exemplary season and made tremendous decisions to assemble the 2022 World Series Champions;

Whereas Manager of the Astros, Dusty Baker, and the coaching staff, clubhouse, and the supporting staff of the Astros managed the 2022 Major League Baseball season, invested in their players, and should be congratulated;

Whereas the Philadelphia Phillies displayed teamwork, competitive spirit, and sportsmanship in the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series as they faced the Astros;

Whereas the entire roster for the Astros of the 2022 season proved to be instrumental in the victory and included—

- (1) Bryan Abreu;
- (2) Jose Altuve;
- (3) Yordan Alvarez;
- (4) Alex Bregman;
- (5) Hunter Brown;
- (6) Aledmys Diaz;
- (7) Mauricio Dubon;
- (8) Luis Garcia;
- (9) Yuli Gurriel;
- (10) David Hensley;
- (11) Cristian Javier;
- (12) Martin Maldonado;
- (13) Trey Mancini;
- (14) Chas McCormick;
- (15) Lance McCullers Jr.;
- (16) Rafael Montero;
- (17) Hector Neris;
- (18) Jeremy Pena;
- (19) Ryan Pressly;
- (20) Will Smith;
- (21) Ryne Stanek;
- (22) Kyle Tucker;
- (23) Jose Urquidy;
- (24) Framber Valdez;
- (25) Christian Vazquez;
- (26) Justin Verlander;
- (27) Pedro Baez;
- (28) Brandon Bielak;
- (29) Ronel Blanco;
- (30) Michael Brantley;
- (31) Jason Castro;
- (32) Yainer Diaz;
- (33) Niko Goodrum;
- (34) Taylor Jones;
- (35) Korey Lee;
- (36) Seth Martinez;
- (37) J.J. Matijevic;
- (38) Phil Maton;
- (39) Jake Meyers;
- (40) Parker Mushinski;
- (41) Jake Odorizzi;
- (42) Enoli Paredes;
- (43) Joe Perez;
- (44) Jose Siri; and
- (45) Blake Taylor;

Whereas Jeremy Pena was named Most Valuable Player for the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series;

Whereas the Astros have inspired the people of the city of Houston, Harris County, and Texas and Astros fans across the United States;

Whereas the people of the city of Houston, Harris County, and Texas and Astros fans everywhere are—

- (1) proud of the Astros organization;
- (2) thankful for the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of the Astros during the 2022 season; and
- (3) thankful to the Astros for bringing another World Series victory to the city of Houston; and

Whereas fans of the Astros demonstrated true passion and dedication in supporting their team throughout the 2022 Major League Baseball season: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Houston Astros on winning the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series;

(2) recognizes the achievements, contributions, and dedication of the players, coaches, management, and support staff of the Houston Astros;

(3) recognizes the hard work and commitment of the staff of Minute Maid Park; and

(4) respectfully directs the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

- (A) the Chairman of the Astros, Jim Crane;
- (B) the General Manager of the Astros, James Click; and
- (C) the Manager of the Astros, Dusty Baker.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 845—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGES AND CULTURES OF NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 845

Whereas, from November 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022, the United States celebrates National Native American Heritage Month;

Whereas National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans are descendants of the original, Indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates that—

(1) in 2020, there were 9,666,058 individuals of American Indian and Alaska Native descent in the United States; and

(2) in 2020, there were 619,855 individuals of Native Hawaiian descent in the United States;

Whereas Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community;

Whereas Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations;

Whereas Native Americans speak and write in their Indigenous languages, which have influenced and contributed in a variety of ways to the United States, including the naming of places and sites throughout the United States;

Whereas Congress has consistently reaffirmed support for self-governance and self-determination policies for Native American communities and the commitment of

the United States to improving the lives of all Native Americans;

Whereas the United States is committed to—

(1) strengthening the government-to-government relationship with Indian Tribes; and  
(2) upholding the Federal trust responsibility to Native American communities;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy and the influence of the Iroquois Confederacy on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of—

(1) freedom of speech;  
(2) the separation of governmental powers; and  
(3) the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas, with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

(1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and

(2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the world in many fields, including agriculture, environmental stewardship, wayfinding, medicine, music, dance, language, and art;

Whereas contemporary applications of traditional knowledge systems of Native Americans have expanded scientific, environmental, and intercultural understanding;

Whereas Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces of the United States for centuries and have the highest per capita involvement of any population currently serving in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used Indigenous languages to communicate an unbreakable military code, saving countless lives in both conflicts; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2022 as “National Native American Heritage Month”;

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as “Native American Heritage Day” in accordance with section 2(10) of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1923); and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 846—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2022 AS “NATIONAL COLLEGE APPLICATION MONTH”

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. KING, Ms. ERNST, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 846

Whereas equality of opportunity for all people is one of the noblest aspirations of the United States;

Whereas data on the benefits of higher education demonstrates that, while disparities to access and student success persist, postsecondary education can still provide pathways to economic opportunity;

Whereas the United States built a thriving middle class by providing students with postsecondary opportunities that lead to individual economic opportunity and shared economic growth;

Whereas higher education enhances the economic mobility of individuals, which is evidenced by—

(1) a finding by the Brookings Institute that the median lifetime earnings of holders of an associate degree are uniformly greater than the median lifetime earnings of holders of solely a high school diploma; and

(2) a finding by the Pew Economic Mobility Project that, for an individual born in the lowest income quintile, obtaining a 4-year degree or a higher degree is associated with—

(A) greater likelihoods of economic mobility compared to individuals who do not earn such degrees; and

(B) a greater than threefold difference in the probability of that individual going on to earn an income in the highest income quintile;

Whereas the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that—

(1) the unemployment rate of high school graduates in 2021 who did not immediately matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester was 21.6 percent, 6 times higher than the overall unemployment rate of the United States;

(2) approximately 38 percent of high school graduates in 2021 did not immediately matriculate to an institution of higher education the following fall semester, which represents a 0.9 percentage point decline from the prior year, and a 7.3 percentage point decline from 2018;

(3) the decline described in paragraph (2) was most notable among male high school graduates, who faced a 12-percent decline from 2018 in immediate matriculation to an institution of higher education; and

(4) the unemployment rate of adults with a bachelor’s degree is approximately half the unemployment rate of adults whose highest credential is a high school diploma, a gap that has grown larger as a result of COVID-19;

Whereas the National Student Clearinghouse reports that undergraduate enrollment in colleges and universities continues to decline precipitously even as the United States recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly for nontraditional students;

Whereas the complexity of financial aid systems and rising college costs can serve as additional deterrents or barriers for students and families as they assess the viability of higher education programs as a postsecondary option;

Whereas many students struggle to identify and compare postsecondary options due to—

(1) difficulties accessing school counseling services, which is evidenced by an estimation of the American School Counselor Association that the student-to-counselor ratio in the United States is 415 to 1;

(2) an absence of reliable programmatic and institutional outcome data; and

(3) a lack of comparable and understandable college financial aid offers;

Whereas, in addition to expanding outreach and support to recent high school graduates, colleges and universities must also expand outreach and support to all undergraduate students;

Whereas applications for State-based financial aid are available in many States for students who do not qualify for Federal student aid; and

Whereas the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities, families, and educational systems across the United States underscores and reinforces the value of ensuring that all individuals, including students enrolled in high school and working adults—

(1) understand their postsecondary options;  
(2) understand college financing opportunities; and

(3) have support to navigate the college application and financial aid processes: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2022 as “National College Application Month”;

(2) encourages the people of the United States to—

(A) evaluate options for pursuing higher education;

(B) submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid or an appropriate application for State-based financial aid in order to receive college financing opportunities; and

(C) support every student, regardless of the background, age, or resources of the student, in obtaining the skills and knowledge needed to thrive;

(3) supports efforts to better assist low-income and first-generation college students throughout the financial aid and college application process;

(4) urges public officials, educators, parents, students, and communities in the United States to observe National College Application Month with appropriate activities and programs designed to encourage students to consider, research, and apply to college and for financial aid; and

(5) commends teachers, counselors, mentors, and parents who support students throughout the college application process, as well as the organizations and institutions partnering to eliminate barriers to higher education.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 847—RECOGNIZING THE 1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC ATTACK AT THE WAUKESHA CHRISTMAS PARADE ON NOVEMBER 21, 2021, AND HONORING THE 6 INDIVIDUALS WHO LOST THEIR LIVES AND THE 62 OTHERS WHO WERE INJURED

Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 847

Whereas, on November 21, 2021, the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and the City of Waukesha Chamber of Commerce held the 58th annual Waukesha Christmas Parade, which has for more than 50 years brought residents of Wisconsin together to celebrate the holiday season with family, friends, and neighbors;

Whereas attendees and participants of the parade included hundreds of children, families, and valued community institutions such as local law enforcement, public safety professionals, school groups, business leaders, and dance troupes, including the beloved “Dancing Grannies”;

Whereas, on the day of the parade, a perpetrator committed a senseless attack, driving through the parade barricades and ramming into the crowd of attendees and parade participants;

Whereas police officers bravely attempted to intervene to stop the ongoing attack;

Whereas the perpetrator caused the death of 6 individuals and the injury of 62 other individuals, including 17 children;

Whereas local hospitals and health professionals cared for many of the injured, several of whom continue to suffer long term effects from their injuries;

Whereas countless individuals were injured by the immeasurable and lasting trauma of witnessing the attack;

Whereas, on October 26, 2022, a jury of 12 Wisconsinites found the accused perpetrator guilty on 76 counts, including 6 counts of first-degree intentional homicide;

Whereas the Waukesha community continues to contend with the aftermath of the tragic attack and will do so for years to come;

Whereas members of the Waukesha community will be stronger for having supported one another during and in the aftermath of the attack; and

Whereas, despite such tragedy, the City of Waukesha and Waukesha Chamber of Commerce will continue the tradition of hosting the Waukesha Christmas Parade, which has brought joy to the community for more than half a century: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 1-year anniversary of the tragic attack at the Waukesha Christmas Parade on November 21, 2021, and condemns the attack in the strongest possible terms;

(2) honors the memories of Tamara Durand, Wilhelm Hospel, Jane Kulich, Leanna Owen, Virginia Sorenson, and Jackson Sparks;

(3) recognizes the strength of the City of Waukesha, Wisconsin, and the resilience of the community in response to the attack;

(4) applauds the bravery of the first responders and medical professionals who responded to the attack and cared for the injured; and

(5) offers heartfelt condolences to the families, friends, and neighbors who lost loved ones in the attack.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 848—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 16, 2022, AS “NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS WEEK”**

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

**S. RES. 848**

Whereas the well-being of the United States requires that the young people of the United States become an involved, caring citizenry of good character;

Whereas the character education of children has become more urgent, as violence by and against youth increasingly threatens the physical and psychological well-being of the people of the United States;

Whereas, more than ever, children need strong and constructive guidance from their families and their communities, including from schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, and civic groups;

Whereas the character of a nation is only as strong as the character of its individual citizens;

Whereas the public good is advanced when young individuals are taught the importance of good character and the positive effects that good character can have in personal relationships, in school, and in the workplace;

Whereas scholars and educators agree that individuals do not automatically develop good character and that, therefore, institutions and individuals that influence youth must make conscientious efforts to help young individuals develop the essential

traits and characteristics that comprise good character;

Whereas, although character development is, first and foremost, an obligation of families, the efforts of faith communities, schools, and youth, civic, and human service organizations also play an important role in fostering and promoting good character;

Whereas Congress encourages students, teachers, parents, youth, and community leaders to recognize the importance of character education in preparing young individuals to play a role in determining the future of the United States;

Whereas effective character education is based on core ethical values, which form the foundation of a democratic society;

Whereas examples of character are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, citizenship, and honesty;

Whereas elements of character transcend cultural, religious, and socioeconomic differences;

Whereas the character and conduct of youth reflect the character and conduct of society, and, therefore, every adult has the responsibility to teach and model ethical values and every social institution has the responsibility to promote the development of good character;

Whereas Congress encourages individuals and organizations, especially those that have an interest in the education and training of the young individuals in the United States, to adopt the elements of character as intrinsic to the well-being of individuals, communities, and society;

Whereas many schools in the United States recognize the need, and have taken steps, to integrate the values of their communities into teaching activities; and

Whereas the establishment of “National Character Counts Week”, during which individuals, families, schools, youth organizations, religious institutions, civic groups, and other organizations focus on character education, is of great benefit to the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning October 16, 2022, as “National Character Counts Week”; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States and interested groups—

(A) to embrace the elements of character identified by local schools and communities, such as trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship; and

(B) to observe National Character Counts Week with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 49—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE GENEVA CONSENSUS DECLARATION ON PROMOTING WOMEN’S HEALTH AND STRENGTHENING THE FAMILY AND URGING THAT THE UNITED STATES BE ADDED AS A SIGNATORY**

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

**S. CON. RES. 49**

Whereas the United States strongly supports women reaching the highest attainable outcomes for health, life, dignity, and well-being throughout their lives;

Whereas the historic coalition that issued the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this preamble referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) was formed by a diverse group of countries committed to charting a more positive path to advance the health of women, protect the family as foundational to any healthy society, affirm the value of life in all stages of development, and uphold the sovereign right of countries to make their own laws to advance those core values, without external pressure;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration was signed on October 22, 2020, by 35 countries from every region of the world, representing more than 1,600,000,000 people, which committed to working together on the core pillars enshrined in the Declaration, and 3 countries have subsequently signed;

Whereas, although President Joseph R. Biden removed the United States as a signatory to the Geneva Consensus Declaration, at least temporarily, 36 countries remain signatories, and longstanding Federal laws that prohibit the United States from conducting or funding abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries remain in effect;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “all are equal before the law” and “human rights of women are an inalienable, integral, and indivisible part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms the inherent “dignity and worth of the human person” and that “every human being has the inherent right to life”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “there is no international right to abortion, nor any international obligation on the part of States to finance or facilitate abortion”;

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration reaffirms that “the family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State”; and

Whereas the Geneva Consensus Declaration coalition strengthens the collective voice of the signatory countries to prevent any country from being intimidated, isolated, or muted on the core values expressed in the Declaration: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) affirms the commitments to protect life and the family made in the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Promoting Women’s Health and Strengthening the Family (in this resolution referred to as the “Geneva Consensus Declaration”) and applauds the signatory countries for their dedication to advancing women’s health, protecting life at every stage while affirming that there is no international right to abortion, and upholding the importance of the family as foundational to society;

(2) declares that the principles affirming life and the family recognized by the Geneva Consensus Declaration remain universally valid;

(3) welcomes opportunities to strengthen support for the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(4) will defend the sovereignty of every country to adopt national policies that promote women’s health, protect the right to life, and strengthen the family, as enshrined in the Geneva Consensus Declaration;

(5) will conduct oversight of the United States executive branch to ensure that the United States does not conduct or fund abortions, abortion lobbying, or coercive family planning in foreign countries, consistent with longstanding Federal law;

(6) urges the signatory countries to the Geneva Consensus Declaration to defend the universal principles affirming life and the family expressed in the Declaration; and

(7) calls on President Joseph R. Biden to once again add the United States as a signatory to the Geneva Consensus Declaration.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 6483. Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6480 submitted by Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. TILLIS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 6484. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 800, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation.

SA 6485. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. WICKER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1437, to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide comprehensive and regularly updated Federal precipitation information, and for other purposes.

SA 6486. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6480 submitted by Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. TILLIS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 6487. Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

SA 6488. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6487 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

SA 6489. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6488 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 6487 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

SA 6490. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

SA 6491. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6490 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

SA 6492. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6491 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 6490 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 8404, supra.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 6483.** Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6480 submitted by Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. TILLIS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure re-

spect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, as added by section 4, is amended by striking subsections (c) and (d) and inserting the following:

“(c) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘State’ has the meaning given such term under section 7 of title 1.”.

**SA 6484.** Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 800, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation; as follows:

In the second clause of the preamble, strike “lobbying” and insert “advocacy”.

**SA 6485.** Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. WICKER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1437, to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide comprehensive and regularly updated Federal precipitation information, 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 “Providing Research and Estimates of Changes In Precipitation Act” or the “PRECIP Act”.

##### SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE WEATHER RESEARCH AND FORECASTING INNOVATION ACT OF 2017 RELATING TO IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

##### “TITLE VI—IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION

##### “SEC. 601. STUDY ON PRECIPITATION ESTIMATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the PRECIP Act, the Administrator, in consultation with other Federal agencies as appropriate, shall seek to enter an agreement with the National Academies—

“(1) to conduct a study on the state of practice and research needs for precipitation estimation, including probable maximum precipitation estimation; and

“(2) to submit, not later than 24 months after the date on which such agreement is finalized, to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make publicly available on a website, a report on the results of the study under paragraph (1).

“(b) STUDY.—The report under subsection (a) shall include the following:

“(1) An examination of the current state of practice for precipitation estimation at scales appropriate for decisionmaker needs, and rationale for further evolution of this field.

“(2) An evaluation of best practices for precipitation estimation that are based on the best-available science, include considerations of non-stationarity, and can be utilized by the user community.

“(3) A framework for—

“(A) the development of a National Guidance Document for estimating extreme precipitation in future conditions; and

“(B) evaluation of the strengths and challenges of the full spectrum of approaches, in-

cluding for probable maximum precipitation studies.

“(4) A description of existing research needs in the field of precipitation estimation in order to modernize current methodologies and consider non-stationarity.

“(5) A description of in-situ, airborne, and space-based observation requirements, that could enhance precipitation estimation and development of models, including an examination of the use of geographic information systems and geospatial technology for integration, analysis, and visualization of precipitation data.

“(6) A recommended plan for a Federal research and development program, including specifications for costs, timeframes, and responsible agencies for addressing identified research needs.

“(7) An analysis of the respective roles in precipitation estimation of various Federal agencies, academia, State, tribal, territorial, and local governments, and other public and private stakeholders.

“(8) Recommendations for data management to promote long-term needs such as enabling retrospective analyses and data discoverability, interoperability, and reuse.

“(9) Recommendations for how data and services from the entire enterprise can be best leveraged by the Federal Government.

“(10) A description of non-Federal precipitation data, its accessibility by the Federal Government, and ways for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to improve or expand such datasets.

“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized \$1,500,000 to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to carry out this study.

##### “SEC. 602. IMPROVING PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the National Academies makes public the report under section 601, the Administrator, in consideration of the report recommendations, shall consult with relevant partners, including users of the data, on the development of a plan to—

“(1) not later than 6 years after the completion of such report and not less than every 10 years thereafter, update probable maximum precipitation estimates for the United States, such that each update considers non-stationarity;

“(2) coordinate with partners to conduct research in the field of extreme precipitation estimation, in accordance with the research needs identified in such report;

“(3) make publicly available, in a searchable, interoperable format, all probable maximum precipitation studies developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration that the Administrator has the legal right to redistribute and deemed to be at an appropriate state of development on an internet website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; and

“(4) ensure all probable maximum precipitation estimate data, products, and supporting documentation and metadata developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are preserved, curated, and served by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, as appropriate.

“(b) NATIONAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PROBABLE MAXIMUM PRECIPITATION ESTIMATES.—The Administrator, in collaboration with Federal agencies, State, territorial, Tribal and local governments, academia, and other partners the Administrator deems appropriate, shall develop a National Guidance Document that—

“(1) provides best practices that can be followed by Federal and State regulatory agencies, private meteorological consultants, and

other users that perform probable maximum precipitation studies;

“(2) considers the recommendations provided in the National Academies study under section 601;

“(3) facilitates review of probable maximum precipitation studies by regulatory agencies; and

“(4) provides confidence in regional and site-specific probable maximum precipitation estimates.

“(c) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the National Academies makes public the report under section 601, the Administrator shall make publicly available the National Guidance Document under subsection (b) on an internet website of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(d) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall update the National Guidance Document not less than once every 10 years after the publication of the National Guidance Document under subsection (c) and publish such updates in accordance with such subsection.

“(e) FUNDING.—Amounts available to carry out this section may only come from within amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator.

**“SEC. 603. DEFINITIONS.**

“In this title:

“(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(2) NATIONAL ACADEMIES.—The term ‘National Academies’ means the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

“(3) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United States’ means, collectively, each State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and any other territory or possession of the United States.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1(b) of the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 (15 U.S.C. 8501 note) is amended in the table of contents by adding at the end the following:

**“TITLE VI—IMPROVING FEDERAL PRECIPITATION INFORMATION**

“Sec. 601. Study on precipitation estimation.

“Sec. 602. Improving probable maximum precipitation estimates.

“Sec. 603. Definitions.”.

**SA 6486.** Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 6480 submitted by Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. TILLIS) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, beginning on line 3, strike “No person acting under color of State law” and insert “No State, territory or possession of the United States, or Indian Tribe”

On page 3, line 17, strike “person” and insert “State, territory or possession of the United States, or Indian Tribe”.

On page 3, strike lines 19 through 23.

On page 5, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 6, line 3, and insert the following:

(a) NO IMPACT ON BENEFITS, STATUS, OR RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act, or any amend-

ment made by this Act, shall be construed to deny or alter any benefit, status, or right of any entity or person, including tax-exempt status, tax treatment, educational funding, or a grant, contract, agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, claim, or defense, provided such benefit, status, or right does not arise from a marriage, or based in whole or in part on the belief, practice, or observance, of the entity or person about marriage.

On page 6, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

(c) NO IMPACT FROM PARTNERSHIPS.—For purposes of this Act, and any amendment made by this Act, no faith-based organization shall be considered to be a government actor because the organization entered into a partnership with a government.

**SA 6487.** Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, 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 “Respect for Marriage Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family.

(2) Diverse beliefs about the role of gender in marriage are held by reasonable and sincere people based on decent and honorable religious or philosophical premises. Therefore, Congress affirms that such people and their diverse beliefs are due proper respect.

(3) Millions of people, including interracial and same-sex couples, have entered into marriages and have enjoyed the rights and privileges associated with marriage. Couples joining in marriage deserve to have the dignity, stability, and ongoing protection that marriage affords to families and children.

**SEC. 3. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.**

Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is repealed.

**SEC. 4. FULL FAITH AND CREDIT GIVEN TO MARRIAGE EQUALITY.**

Chapter 115 of title 28, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by inserting after section 1738B the following:

**“§1738C. Certain acts, records, and proceedings and the effect thereof**

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No person acting under color of State law may deny—

“(1) full faith and credit to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State pertaining to a marriage between 2 individuals, on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals; or

“(2) a right or claim arising from such a marriage on the basis that such marriage would not be recognized under the law of that State on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals.

“(b) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against any person who violates subsection (a) for declaratory and injunctive relief.

“(c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Any person who is harmed by a violation of sub-

section (a) may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against the person who violated such subsection for declaratory and injunctive relief.

“(d) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘State’ has the meaning given such term under section 7 of title 1.”.

**SEC. 5. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.**

Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

**“§ 7. Marriage**

“(a) For the purposes of any Federal law, rule, or regulation in which marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered married if that individual’s marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage could have been entered into in a State.

“(b) In this section, the term ‘State’ means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

“(c) For purposes of subsection (a), in determining whether a marriage is valid in a State or the place where entered into, if outside of any State, only the law of the jurisdiction applicable at the time the marriage was entered into may be considered.”.

**SEC. 6. NO IMPACT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND CONSCIENCE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to diminish or abrogate a religious liberty or conscience protection otherwise available to an individual or organization under the Constitution of the United States or Federal law.

(b) GOODS OR SERVICES.—Consistent with the First Amendment to the Constitution, nonprofit religious organizations, including churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, nondenominational ministries, interdenominational and ecumenical organizations, mission organizations, faith-based social agencies, religious educational institutions, and nonprofit entities whose principal purpose is the study, practice, or advancement of religion, and any employee of such an organization, shall not be required to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges for the solemnization or celebration of a marriage. Any refusal under this subsection to provide such services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges shall not create any civil claim or cause of action.

**SEC. 7. STATUTORY PROHIBITION.**

(a) NO IMPACT ON STATUS AND BENEFITS NOT ARISING FROM A MARRIAGE.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to deny or alter any benefit, status, or right of an otherwise eligible entity or person which does not arise from a marriage, including tax-exempt status, tax treatment, educational funding, or a grant, contract, agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, claim, or defense.

(b) NO FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF POLYGAMOUS MARRIAGES.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to require or authorize Federal recognition of marriages between more than 2 individuals.

**SEC. 8. SEVERABILITY.**

If any provision of this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision to any person, entity, government, or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or any amendment made thereby, or the application of such provision to all other persons, entities, governments, or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

SA 6488. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6487 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:
SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 6489. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6488 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 6487 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS)) to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:
SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

On page 1, line 3, strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

SA 6490. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:
SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 5 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 6491. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6490 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

posed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:
SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

On page 1, line 3, strike "5 days" and insert "6 days".

SA 6492. Mr. SCHUMER proposed an amendment to amendment SA 6491 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the amendment SA 6490 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER to the bill H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end add the following:
SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

On page 1, line 3, strike "6 day" and insert "7 days".

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have four requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 11:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 9 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 17, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Lauren Sahagun during the pendency of the 117th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following legislative fellows in my office be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of the Congress: Robert Watson Fagan and Benjamin Shafer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384--22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Rows include Paul Grove, Senator Christopher Coons, Jeffrey Sanchez, Senator Roy Blunt, Chad Krekemeier, Senator Tammy Baldwin.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Rows list various senators and employees with their travel expenses in different currencies.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Rows include various members like Katherine Bowles, Adam Yezerski, Paul Grove, Patrick Magnuson, Jennifer Bastin, Jason McMahon, Tim Rieser, Dianne Nellor, Rachel Erlebacher, Hannah Chauvin, Patrick Carroll, Elizabeth Dent, Morgan Ulmer, Senator Tammy Baldwin, Mitchell Blake Souter, Senator Lindsey Graham, Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith, Craig Abele, Cole Bockenfeld, and various Delegation Expenses.





CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	Dollar				10,321.18				10,321.18
Megan Bailey:									
Germany	Euro		130.00						130.00
Poland	Zloty		124.00						124.00
Lithuania	Euro		68.00						68.00
United States	Dollar				11,224.38				11,224.38
Senator Gary Peters:									
France	Euro		633.66						633.66
Georgia	Lari								
Italy	Euro		261.18						261.18
Ireland	Euro		139.26						139.26
Angeli Chawli:									
France	Euro		595.19						595.19
Georgia	Lari								
Italy	Euro		297.56						297.56
Ireland	Euro		58.32						58.32
Shil Patel:									
Serbia	Dinar		178.23						178.23
Bosnia	Mark		110.00						110.00
Kosovo	Euro		186.77						186.77
Belgium	Euro		467.73						467.73
United States	Dollar				11,331.27				11,331.27
Senator Thom Tillis:									
Serbia	Dinar		178.23						178.23
Bosnia	Mark		88.00						88.00
Kosovo	Euro		177.77						177.77
Belgium	Euro		354.27						354.27
United States	Dollar				11,260.17				11,260.17
Senator Deb Fischer:									
Belgium	Euro		479.00						479.00
Switzerland	Franc		3,345.44						3,345.44
Emily Leviner:									
Belgium	Euro		479.00						479.00
Switzerland	Franc		2,410.96						2,410.96
Senator Roger Wicker:									
Belgium	Euro		479.00						479.00
Switzerland	Franc		3,454.55						3,454.55
Michelle Richardson:									
Belgium	Euro		479.00						479.00
Switzerland	Franc		1,485.25						1,485.25
Chadd Montgomery:									
Japan	Yen		171.45						171.45
United States	Dollar				14,751.87				14,751.87
<b>Totals</b>			<b>26,083.15</b>		<b>90,754.12</b>				<b>116,837.27</b>

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95–384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED  
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Oct. 8, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Jonathan Epstein:									
France	Euro		756.17						756.17
Estonia	Euro		547.59						547.59
United Kingdom	Pound		1,315.82						1,315.82
United States	Dollar				11,457.77				11,457.77
Kristina Belcourt:									
France	Euro		793.06						793.06
Estonia	Euro		553.92						553.92
United Kingdom	Pound		1,355.31						1,355.31
United States	Dollar				11,457.77				11,457.77
Senator Deb Fischer:									
Finland	Euro		443.00						443.00
Sweden	Krona		424.00						424.00
Spain	Euro		1,817.00						1,817.00
Emily Leviner:									
Finland	Euro		443.00						443.00
Sweden	Krona		424.00						424.00
Spain	Euro		1,817.00						1,817.00
Senator Thom Tillis:									
Spain	Euro		1,970.84						1,970.84
United States	Dollar				13,669.87				13,669.87
Lauren Johnson:									
Finland	Euro		80.00						80.00
Sweden	Krona		126.02						126.02
Spain	Euro		1,945.68						1,945.68
Delegation Expenses: *									
Sweden	Krona					10,326.00			10,326.00
Mariah McNamara Cooper:									
Germany	Euro		326.09						326.09
Poland	Zloty		229.69						229.69
Romania	Leu		197.67						197.67
United States	Dollar				11,476.07				11,476.07
Elizabeth King:									
Germany	Euro		326.09						326.09
Poland	Zloty		229.69						229.69
Romania	Leu		197.67						197.67
United States	Dollar				11,476.07				11,476.07
Senator Jack Reed:									
Germany	Euro		326.09						326.09
Poland	Zloty		229.69						229.69
Romania	Leu		197.67						197.67
United States	Dollar				8,803.27				8,803.27
Eric Trager:									
Mexico	Peso		527.27						527.27

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Transportation (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Miscellaneous (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Total (Foreign, U.S. dollar). Rows include members like William Monahan, Senator Deb Fischer, Jonathan Epstein, etc.

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED, Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Oct. 31, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Transportation (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Miscellaneous (Foreign, U.S. dollar), Total (Foreign, U.S. dollar). Rows include Joshua Altman, Senator Jon Ossoff, Miryan Lipper, Balaji Narain.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Dylan Clement:									
South Korea .....	Won .....		1,370.36						1,370.36
Japan .....	Yen .....		1,415.04						1,415.04
Taiwan .....	Dollar .....		998.27						998.27
Phil Ruddy:									
South Korea .....	Won .....		1,161.27						1,161.27
Japan .....	Yen .....		1,415.04						1,415.04
Taiwan .....	Dollar .....		998.27						998.27
Delegation Expenses:*									
India .....	Rupee .....					12,622.97			12,622.97
South Korea .....	Won .....					2,338.94			2,338.94
Japan .....	Yen .....					5,844.76			5,844.76
Taiwan .....	Dollar .....					8,119.62			8,119.62
Total .....			17,903.27			29,279.33			47,182.60

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHERROD BROWN,  
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs,  
Oct. 27, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Alice James Burns:									
Italy .....	Euro .....		1,503.76						1,503.76
Israel .....	Shekel .....		1,190.00						1,190.00
Delegation Expenses:*									
Italy .....	Euro .....					3,506.76			3,506.76
Israel .....	Shekel .....					2,147.38			2,147.38
Total .....			2,693.76			5,654.14			8,347.90

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BERNARD SANDERS,  
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, Oct. 18, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Rebecca Branum:									
United States .....	Dollar .....				3,385.10				3,498.84
Colombia .....	Peso .....		596.00						596.00
Honduras .....	Lempira .....		222.07						222.07
Delegation Expenses:*									
Colombia .....	Peso .....					1,406.00			1,406.00
Honduras .....	Lempira .....					148.05			148.05
Total .....			818.07		3,385.10	1,554.05			5,870.96

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL,  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,  
Oct. 20, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Lauren Orndorff:									
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....		4,149.59						4,149.59
Delegation Expenses:*									
United Kingdom .....	Pound .....					2,434.83			2,434.83
Senator Cynthia Lummis:									
Italy .....	Euro .....		1,805.70						1,805.70
Israel .....	Shekel .....		1,190.00						1,190.00
Kristin Walker:									
Italy .....	Euro .....		1,503.76						1,503.76
Israel .....	Shekel .....		1,190.00						1,190.00
Delegation Expenses:*									
Italy .....	Euro .....					3,506.76			3,506.76
Israel .....	Shekel .....					2,147.38			2,147.38
Meghan Ladwig:									
United States .....	Dollar .....				7,478.97				7,478.97
Japan .....	Yen .....		749.24						749.24
Thailand .....	Baht .....		820.86						820.86
Indonesia .....	Rupiah .....		770.05						770.05
Delegation Expenses*									
Japan .....	Yen .....				366.13				366.13

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Thailand	Baht						169.63		169.63
Indonesia	Rupiah						683.31		683.31
Ken Reidy:									
United States	Dollar				12,774.77				12,774.77
Serbia	Dinar		244.00						244.00
Finland	Euro		359.61						359.61
Romania	Leu		496.33						496.33
Latvia	Euro		172.00						172.00
Delegation Expenses:*									
Ireland	Euro						155.75		155.75
Serbia	Dinar						303.75		303.75
Finland	Euro						680.22		680.22
Romania	Leu						282.77		282.77
Total:			13,451.14		20,619.87		10,364.40		44,435.41

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL,  
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation,  
Nov. 10, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Peter Stahley:									
United States	Dollar				1,284.01				1,284.01
Canada	Dollar		613.51						613.51
Zahava Urecki:									
United States	Dollar				1,284.01				1,284.01
Canada	Dollar		577.63						577.63
Senator Roger Marshall:									
Argentina	Peso		914.60						914.60
South Africa	Rand		2,904.16						2,904.16
Italy	Euro		2,279.96						2,279.96
Djibouti	Franc		431.00						431.00
Delegation Expenses:*									
Canada	Dollar						389.51		389.51
Argentina	Peso						380.13		380.13
South Africa	Rand						2,857.54		2,857.54
Italy	Euro						2,111.08		2,111.08
Djibouti	Franc						74.75		74.75
Total:			7,720.86		2,568.02		5,813.01		16,101.89

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JOE MANCHIN,  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, Oct. 21, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & PUBLIC WORKS AMENDED TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Mary-Eileen Manning:									
United States	Dollar				2,975.77				2,975.77
Portugal	Euro		806.42						806.42
Delegation Expenses:*									
Portugal	Euro						497.00		497.00
Total:			806.42		2,975.77		497.00		4,279.19

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR THOMAS R. CARPER,  
Chairman, Committee on Environment & Public Works, Oct. 20, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Hannah Vogel:									
United States	Dollar				3,617.70				3,617.70
South Korea	Won		689.32						689.32
Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar		333.43						333.43
Cambodia	Riel		90.33						90.33
Philippines	Peso		758.92						758.92
Delegation Expenses:*									
South Korea	Won						1,348.72		1,348.72
Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar						2,927.01		2,927.01
Philippines	Peso						714.03		714.03

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Total			1,872.00		3,617.70		4,989.76		10,479.46

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR THOMAS R. CARPER,  
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works, Oct. 20, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator John Cornyn:									
Romania	Leu		862.57						862.57
United Kingdom	Pound		1,470.05						1,470.05
Finland	Euro		398.77						398.77
Sweden	Krona		1,355.86						1,355.86
Issac Jalkanen:									
Romania	Leu		223.48						223.48
United Kingdom	Pound		319.07						319.07
Finland	Euro		89.24						89.24
Sweden	Krona		264.21						264.21
Delegation Expenses:*									
Romania	Leu						6,727.48		6,727.48
United Kingdom	Pound						7,967.22		7,967.22
Finland	Euro						499.34		499.34
Sweden	Krona						1,895.04		1,895.04
Total			4,983.25				17,089.08		22,072.33

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RON WYDEN,  
Chairman, Committee on Finance, Sept. 16, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Edward Markey:									
South Korea	Won		2,090.76						2,090.76
Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar		695.39						695.39
Cambodia	Riel		759.91						759.91
Philippines	Peso		618.50						618.50
United States	Dollar				5,775.80				5,775.80
Sarah Trister:									
South Korea	Won		998.78						998.78
Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar		249.36						249.36
Cambodia	Riel		386.54						386.54
Philippines	Peso		540.81						540.81
United States	Dollar				3,034.30				3,034.30
Delegation Expenses:*									
South Korea	Won						2,697.44		2,697.44
Taiwan	Taiwan Dollar						5,187.14		5,187.14
Cambodia	Riel						1,029.51		1,029.51
Philippines	Peso						1,428.04		1,428.04
Senator Robert Menendez:									
Italy	Euro		3,309.46						3,309.46
Israel	Shekel		1,190.00						1,190.00
Elisa Catalano Ewers:									
Israel	Shekel		1,595.00						1,595.00
United States	Dollar				1,283.80				1,283.80
Delegation Expenses:*									
Italy	Euro						3,506.76		3,506.76
Israel	Shekel						2,147.38		2,147.38
Senator Christopher Murphy:									
Colombia	Colombia Peso		804.00						804.00
Mexico	Peso		1,258.30						1,258.30
United States	Dollar				3,911.68				3,911.68
Jessica Elledge:									
Colombia	Colombia Peso		854.00						854.00
Mexico	Peso		1,296.30						1,296.30
United States	Dollar				3,131.18				3,131.18
Delegation Expenses:*									
Colombia	Colombia Peso						1,029.51		1,029.51
Mexico	Peso						3,058.66		3,058.66
Senator Rob Portman:									
Cape Verde	Escudo		227.36						227.36
Kenya	Shilling		511.00						511.00
Rwanda	Franc		671.00						671.00
Mozambique	Metical		626.00						626.00
Tunisia	Dinar		264.34						264.34
Lydia Denis:									
Cape Verde	Escudo		225.36						225.36
Kenya	Shilling		541.00						541.00
Rwanda	Franc		252.00						252.00
Mozambique	Metical		292.00						292.00
Tunisia	Dinar		264.34						264.34
Elizabeth O'Bagy:									
Cape Verde	Escudo		225.36						225.36
Mozambique	Metical		292.00						292.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Table with columns for Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), and Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Rows include various members like Kenya, Rwanda, Tunisia, and delegations, listing expenses in multiple currencies.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	Dollar				4,417.57				4,417.57
Delegation Expenses:*									
Portugal	Euro					497.00			497.00
Matthew Sullivan:									
Turkey	Lira		819.12						819.12
Malta	Euro		428.50						428.50
Cyprus	Euro		481.23						481.23
United States	Dollar				3,286.47				3,286.47
Katie Chaudoin:									
Turkey	Lira		819.12						819.12
Malta	Euro		428.50						428.50
Cyprus	Euro		481.23						481.23
United States	Dollar				3,286.47				3,286.47
Delegation Expenses:*									
Turkey	Lira						7.13		7.13
Malta	Euro						611.85		611.85
Cyprus	Euro						79.57		79.57
Mischa Thompson:									
The Netherlands	Euro		308.45						308.45
Belgium	Euro		828.24						828.24
United States	Dollar				3,227.07				3,227.07
Delegation Expenses:*									
The Netherlands	Euro						171.00		171.00
Total			61,777.34		134,535.51		58,058.41		254,371.26

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ  
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, Oct. 28, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Rob Portman:									
United States	Dollar				6,703.28				6,703.28
Poland	Zloty		195.32						195.32
Ukraine	Hryvnia								
Michael Callesen:									
United States	Dollar				6,561.97				6,561.97
Poland	Zloty		195.32						195.32
Ukraine	Hryvnia								
Delegation Expenses:*									
Poland	Zloty						2,556.21		2,556.21
Ukraine	Hryvnia						798.45		798.45
Totals			390.64		13,265.25		3,354.66		17,010.55

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR GARY C. PETERS,  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,  
Oct. 19, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Richard Durbin:									
Lithuania	Euro		477.02						477.02
Sweden	Krona		717.00						717.00
Spain	Euro		1,820.10						1,820.10
Chris Homan:									
Lithuania	Euro		477.02						477.02
Sweden	Krona		616.00						616.00
Spain	Euro		1,820.10						1,820.10
Delegation Expense:*									
Lithuania	Euro						460.23		460.23
Sweden	Krona						1,376.80		1,376.80
Spain	Euro						3,959.00		3,959.00
Senator Lindsey Graham:									
Poland	Zloty		274.43						274.43
Turkey	Lira		1,031.97						1,031.97
Iraq	Dinar		52.00						52.00
Katherine Nikas:									
Poland	Zloty		274.43						274.43
Turkey	Lira		1,031.97						1,031.97
Iraq	Dinar		52.00						52.00
Aaron Strickland:									
Poland	Zloty		274.43						274.43
Turkey	Lira		1,031.97						1,031.97
Iraq	Dinar		52.00						52.00
Delegation Expense:*									
Poland	Zloty						4,086.57		4,086.57
Turkey	Lira						3,303.56		3,303.56
Senator Mike Lee:									
Japan	Yen		642.94						642.94
Allyson Bell:									
Japan	Yen		642.93						642.93



CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Delegation Expense:*									
Japan	Yen						1,373.96		1,373.96
Total			11,288.31				14,560.12		25,848.43

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RICHARD J. DURBIN,  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Oct. 7, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22  
U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022.

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Peter Metzger:			713.16						713.16
Delegation Expenses:*					8,401.07				8,401.07
Michael Pevzner:								118.71	118.71
Stephen Smith:			601.46		8,685.87				8,685.87
Rafi Martina:			616.95						616.95
Stephen Smith:			601.46		8,401.07				8,401.07
Stephen Smith:			799.96						799.96
Stephen Smith:			601.46		8,401.07				8,401.07
Delegation Expenses:*			2,377.65						2,377.65
Peter Metzger:			385.97						385.97
Nicolas Adams:			283.57		7,165.03				7,165.03
Delegation Expenses:*								3,600.72	3,600.72
Peter Metzger:			2,065.00						2,065.00
James Sauls:			385.97						385.97
Delegation Expenses:*			283.57		7,059.93				7,059.93
Nicolas Adams:			1,923.00		13,803.13				13,803.13
James Sauls:			774.18						774.18
Delegation Expenses:*			402.21		11,848.37				11,848.37
Andrew Polesovsky:								187.32	187.32
Arjun Ravindra:			402.19						402.19
Delegation Expenses:*			774.18		11,793.97				11,793.97
Senator Mark Warner:			774.18						774.18
Delegation Expenses:*			402.20		11,848.37				11,848.37
Michael Pevzner:			366.12						366.12
Delegation Expenses:*			328.58						328.58
Michael Pevzner:			532.00						532.00
Senator Jerry Moran:								7,081.14	7,081.14
James Kelly:			366.12						366.12
Senator Angus King:			328.58						328.58
Delegation Expenses:*			532.00						532.00
Stephen Smith:			186.12						186.12
Delegation Expenses:*			186.12						186.12
Stephen Smith:			327.67						327.67
Delegation Expenses:*			290.13						290.13
Stephen Smith:			493.55						493.55
Delegation Expenses:*			366.12						366.12
Senator Richard Burr:			328.58						328.58
Delegation Expenses:*			532.00						532.00
Arjun Ravindra:			366.12						366.12
Delegation Expenses:*			328.58						328.58
Jon Estridge:			532.00						532.00
Delegation Expenses:*			366.12						366.12
Senator Roy Blunt:			657.16		3,825.17				3,825.17
Delegation Expenses:*			366.12						366.12
Delegation Expenses:*			657.16		3,825.17				3,825.17

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE—AMENDED FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022.—Continued

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Total row shows 24,831.97, 105,058.22, 10,987.89, and 140,878.08.

\* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK R. WARNER, Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Aug. 4, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022.

Table with columns: Name and country, Name of currency, Per diem (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Transportation (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Miscellaneous (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency), Total (Foreign currency, U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency). Lists various individuals and their travel expenses.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022.—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Total			28,333.92		174,866.73		6,096.60		209,297.25

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK R. WARNER,  
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, Oct. 26, 2021.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Robert Karem:									
United States	Dollar				8,850.07				8,850.07
Norway	Krone		990.19		1,273.78				2,263.97
Denmark	Krone		764.00		3,521.00				4,285.00
Belgium	Euro		819.50						819.50
Dr. Brian Monahan:									
United States	Dollar				3,032.07				3,032.07
Romania	Leu		1,042.75						1,042.75
United Kingdom	Pound		4,515.29		632.63				5,147.92
Total			8,131.73		17,309.55				25,441.28

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL,  
Republican Leader, Oct. 18, 2022.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JULY 1 TO SEPT. 30, 2022

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem		Transportation		Miscellaneous		Total	
		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Michael Kuiken:									
Finland	Euro		325.43						325.43
Sweden	Krona		581.00						581.00
Spain	Euro		1,785.10						1,785.10
Delegation expenses:*									
Finland	Euro					459.06			459.06
Sweden	Krona					688.33			688.33
Spain	Euro					2,073.87			2,073.87
Michael Kuiken:									
United Kingdom	Pound		4,149.59						4,149.59
Gary Myrick:									
United Kingdom	Pound		4,149.59						4,149.59
Delegation Expenses:*									
United Kingdom	Pound					4,869.64			4,869.64
Total			10,990.71			8,090.90			19,081.61

\*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES E. SCHUMER,  
Majority Leader, Oct. 24, 2022.

FIRST RESPONDER FAIR RETURN FOR EMPLOYEES ON THEIR INITIAL RETIREMENT EARNED ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 515, H.R. 521.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 521) to permit disabled law enforcement officers, customs and border protection officers, firefighters, air traffic controllers, nuclear materials couriers, members of the Capitol Police, members of the Supreme Court Police, employees of the Central Intelligence Agency performing intelligence activities abroad or having specialized security requirements, and diplomatic

security special agents of the Department of State to receive retirement benefits in the same manner as if they had not been disabled.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 521) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22 THROUGH MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. And, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, November 22, at 5:30 p.m., and Friday, November 25, at 8 a.m.

I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 25, it next convene at 3 p.m. on Monday, November 28; 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 resume consideration of Calendar No. 449, H.R. 8404; further, that the filing deadline for first-degree amendments to the substitute amendment No. 6487 and the underlying bill be 3:30 p.m. on Monday, November 28; and, finally, that the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 28.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks by the Senator from Delaware.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TUESDAY,  
NOVEMBER 22, 2022, AT 5:30 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 22, 2022.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:01 a.m., adjourned until Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

JEREMY A. KROHNGOLD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant colonel*

DUANE G. MCCROBY

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

ABIGAIL R. OSMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

MEDICAL CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

*To be major*

DANIEL P. MORGAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

THOMAS J. SOUZA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

JOSE A. QUINTERO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major*

JAVIER J. HERNANDEZ

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 8132:

*To be lieutenant commander*

MICHAEL J. ARNOLD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 8132:

*To be lieutenant commander*

PAUL T. HILL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 8132:

*To be lieutenant commander*

TAIBATU E. OBASI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 8132:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JENNIFFER M. RAJNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 605:

*To be lieutenant commander*

JOSE A. ARANDA  
KAWIKA K. BARABIN  
JEREMY J. BROWN  
JASON D. CALATA  
ZACHARY L. CALLAHAN  
KEVIN T. CHEN  
WILLIAM P. CHILTON  
TYLER D. COX  
VINCENT J. DEBENEDETTI

JUAN M. DIAZ  
DOUGLAS A. DIETRICH II  
CHRISTINA L. FARACI  
HARVEY FARMER, JR.  
BENJAMIN R. FIELD  
MATTHEW S. FISCHER  
BRENT T. GRENDA  
NICHOLAS A. HUBAN  
MITCHELL D. JONES  
THOMAS N. KELLY  
ROBERT C. KENT  
TRAVIS B. LAWRENCE  
VIGNESHWAR MANICKAM  
ANTHONY M. MATUS  
BENJAMIN P. MCFARLAND  
FORRES I. MCGRAW  
WESTON C. PATRICK  
JUSTIN A. PEABODY  
ANDREW M. PFAU  
STEVEN M. PUCHKOFF  
CHRISTOPHER M. REYNOLDS  
ST JOHN A. RICHARDSON  
WESLEY R. ROYSTON  
ROBERT P. SCHROER

STEPHEN R. SMITHERMAN  
RICHARD J. SUMMER  
MICHAEL J. URSIC  
MATTHEW T. VALCOURT  
DANIEL J. WILKINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be lieutenant commander*

PATRIC C. JANG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be captain*

CHARLES J. OSIER, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be captain*

JAMES C. HANLON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be commander*

JARRETT C. WATKE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

*To be lieutenant commander*

AMY M. RESPONDEK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS SENIOR MILITARY ACQUISITION ADVISOR IN THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 1725(A):

*To be captain*

ANDREW S. GIBBONS

##### IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10 U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

*To be captain*

AMBER S. WARD  
SHAWN J. NESSER  
JOHN A. BOLLER  
TODD P. BOZE  
MICHAEL S. STANLEY  
REBECCA L. ALBERT  
ALLISON L. DUSSAULT  
REGINA E. ADAMS  
CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate November 17, 2022:

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RHEANNE WIRKKALA, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

#### WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on November 17, 2022 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

NAVY NOMINATION OF AMY M. RESPONDEK, TO BE COMMANDER, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2022.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### MANUFACTURING.GOV ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Manufacturing.gov Act, H.R. 6290, a bill that would refine the Manufacturing.gov website to serve as the main source for key information regarding federal manufacturing programs.

Manufacturing.gov brings together industry, academia and federal partners within a network of advanced manufacturing institutes to increase U.S. manufacturing competitiveness and promote a robust and sustainable national manufacturing R&D infrastructure.

This legislation would specify improvements to the website to make it even more useful and valuable by requiring the inclusion of relevant contact information, opportunities for public input, and webpages focusing on topics related to the website.

Small and medium sized manufacturers are an essential part of the U.S. economy.

In Texas, they make up approximately 13 percent of output and employ just above 7 percent state's workforce.

Manufacturing companies need easy access to critical information within their industrial field to optimize their efficiency and ability to compete. To promote domestic production and provide job opportunities to hard-working Americans, these companies need real-time data on sourcing, markets, supply chains, and fulfillment.

As the U.S. elevates domestic manufacturing to a top economic priority, we must improve and update our systems to better equip these companies, and the public, with the resources they need to succeed.

This bill would establish a new section of the Manufacturing.gov website titled "Manufacturing.gov hub" to include federal manufacturing program information.

To ensure that the Manufacturing.gov hub serves the needs of the people, it is important that the public has the ability to suggest input and feedback.

Allowing the public to give feedback on the website's functionality, as well as its content, allows the site to better serve the needs of U.S. manufacturing while providing a safe, constructive environment to present concerns and solutions.

In order to support the interests of the free market, it is imperative that we make transparent the types of technologies and research that are being developed.

Texas is home to companies that manufacture a wide range of advanced and essential goods, including railcars and railways, clean energy equipment, and everyday household items such as backpacks, blankets, and towels.

Providing these companies with easily accessible sites that are dedicated to their re-

spective industries provides them with the necessary information they need to improve their production.

This bill would provide industrial sectors with accurate, up-to-date information webpages within each hub.

Finally, the Manufacturing.gov Act will utilize machine learning to highlight frequently asked questions and provide corresponding answers for such questions.

By introducing machine learning into the hub, we can refine the website to fit the needs of U.S. manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill dedicated to bolstering the U.S. manufacturing and production industry by establishing a hub that supplies U.S. small and medium manufacturing companies with recent technological and research developments.

### HONORING ANDREW "ANDY" CHESLEY FOR HIS DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE

### HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the public service and achievements of Andrew "Andy" Chesley, who recently retired from his position as Executive Director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments, or "SJCOG," after forty one years of service.

Andy graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and geography, after which he earned a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Iowa.

During his fifteen years as Executive Director of the SJCOG, Andy oversaw its rise to prominence among California's metropolitan planning agencies, standing alongside the Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Southern California Association of Governments, the San Diego Association of Governments, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments. Andy was responsible for the management of the SJCOG's transportation planning and other regional planning activities, including implementation of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan. He also authored and implemented San Joaquin County's "self-help" sales tax for transportation, which was passed by the county's voters, allowing vital improvements to the region's highway and passenger rail transportation system, thereby making this economically challenged region more attractive to future residents and employers.

In addition to his role at the SJCOG, Andy has been chair of the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies of California, is an officer of California's Self-Help Counties Coalition, and is a member of the Institute for Transportation Engineers, the American Planning Asso-

ciation, and the American Public Works Association. He has also been a speaker at state and national conferences of the American Planning Association, the American Society for Public Administrators, the National Association of Regional Councils, and the National Transportation Research Board.

Through changing and challenging times, Andy has provided constant and steady leadership and wise counsel to elected officials charged with managing San Joaquin County's growth and has been a leader among his planning agency peers. He has contributed his knowledge and experience to the California's Central Valley and beyond, and he has made a positive impact on our great state.

Please join me in recognizing Andrew "Andy" Chesley for his distinguished service and in wishing him well on his much-deserved retirement.

### HONORING THE CAREER OF FRANK ONGARO

### HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Ongaro's successful career of advocating for and protecting Minnesota mining, and to celebrate his well-deserved retirement after serving as the Mining Minnesota executive director for 15 years.

Frank is a born and raised Iron Ranger from Hibbing who has spent a majority of his career working in or around mining.

Starting with his grandparents, who immigrated to the United States and worked in mines, Frank and his family truly have embodied what the legacy of Iron Range mining means.

In northern Minnesota, mining is our past, present, and future, and Frank worked tirelessly every day to protect what so many of us hold near and dear to our hearts. Mining isn't just a career; it is a community that he continuously uplifted. That is why when I think of American exceptionalism, I think of Frank Ongaro.

Frank has been a champion for promoting and protecting the Iron Range every day of his career. I thank Frank for his decades of service to our communities and wish him nothing but happiness as he begins this new phase of life.

### HONORING SENATOR PATRICIA TORRES RAY

### HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished 16-year career of Minnesota Senator Patricia Torres Ray.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

Throughout her five terms of dedicated service to our community, Senator Torres Ray has always served her constituents with the kindness, compassion, and representation they deserve. Beyond her exceptional constituent service, she has had a transformative impact on the Minnesota legislature and the lives of Minnesotans alike. She came to the Senate in with keen values-driven policymaking experience that she has utilized to raise up the voices of those who are too often unheard. A shining example of this is her hard-fought victory to enshrine the Minnesota Homeowner's Bill of Rights, which she authored, into Minnesota law in 2013.

Patricia has been—and always will be—a trailblazer. In 2006, she became the first Latina ever elected to the Minnesota Senate. Never shying away from leadership positions, she has been Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Parks and Trails Legacy Committee, New Immigration Policy Commission, People of Color and Indigenous Caucus, and was Majority Whip in her first term. Ever since she pushed through the door of the Minnesota legislature, she has been steadfast in her efforts to keep it open for future generations of leaders—especially other women of color who have been historically excluded from the representational opportunities afforded to others. I am one of those leaders.

Her legacy is a testament to what is possible when someone like Patricia's diverse, bold leadership shatters glass ceilings. During her tenure, has encouraged countless women of color to embrace their power, their stories, and their voices to influence the political process as both advocates and as elected representatives. Her passion for increasing diverse representation has been continually recognized throughout her career; just last month she was a recipient of the CLUES 2022 Latino Trailblazer Leadership Award for her years of outstanding leadership, and her advocacy for access and opportunities for the Latino community. This recognition extends far beyond Minnesota, including as Chair of the Latinas Lead Initiative of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators.

I have been honored to call Senator Torres Ray an inspiration, colleague, and friend. I wish her the very best for her retirement and look forward to seeing her impact unfold for generations to come. The Minnesota legislature is a better place because of her efforts and I know her fellow colleagues will cherish their memories of serving with her, as do I.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Senator Patricia Torres Ray for her hard work as a Senator, and to wish her well for her well-deserved retirement.

ENSURING PHONE AND INTERNET  
ACCESS THROUGH LIFELINE AND  
AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY  
PROGRAM ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4275, the "Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act of 2022."

This bill would increase internet and communications access for low-income consumers by promoting enrollment in the Lifeline Program and Affordable Connectivity Program.

In today's technological age, internet and phone communications have become integral to the ever-growing United States economy and to society overall. Having access to the internet is crucial for all Americans, whether that be for educational purposes, business usage, or contacting friends and family.

Given the rapid development in the technological sector, one might be inclined to believe that high-speed internet access has become even more widespread and easily available to all Americans. However, despite critical developments in high-speed data, the U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that 2.8 million households and 7 million individuals in Texas lack broadband access.

Lack of access to broadband internet has impeded not only Texans, but also Americans nationwide from attending classes, filling job forms, and seeing healthcare providers. For low-income families, lack of internet and communication access acts as an economic barrier, impeding opportunities, furthering the socioeconomic gap, and elevating the risk of eventual poverty.

The Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act intends to promote access to broadband internet and phone connectivity by proactively providing low-income Americans the information they need to enroll into either of the two programs.

The Lifeline program helps bring phone service to low-income consumers at a heavily discounted price, allowing them to connect with family, job opportunities, and emergency services. This bill aims to increase enrollment of millions of eligible Americans who suffer from financial barriers.

The Affordable Connective program, like the Lifeline program, helps bring fast, reliable internet access to low-income consumers at discounted prices. After the COVID-19 pandemic, it is obvious how essential online communication has become for modern society to function. Providing access to internet allows for low-income individuals the freedom to explore more opportunities to develop their lives via online education and jobs.

Furthermore, this bill also plans to provide oversight of the enrollment numbers by requiring the Commission to submit annual reports to Congress with enrollment statistics for both programs.

Finally, the Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act of 2022 requires that the Comptroller General submit annual reports identifying outreach initiatives that aim to increase awareness of both programs so that potential beneficiaries will take advantage of them.

With this data, Congress can look to refine and expand both programs, creating innovative ways to circumvent lack of internet and phone access.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to support this bill that is dedicated to the principles of equity and opportunity for all Americans.

Since internet access and phone connectivity are crucial for success and advancement in today's society, we must ensure that everyone is aware of resources that pro-

vide these services at subsidized prices, so that, ultimately, internet and phone access are available to everyone.

RECOGNIZING DR. PRESTON KING

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a social science educator, prolific writer, political philosopher, and African American Civil Rights Activist, Dr. Preston King.

Dr. King was born in Albany, Georgia on March 3, 1936, to the union of Clennon Washington King, Sr., and Margaret Slater King.

Dr. King obtained his bachelor's degree from Fisk University in 1956. He went on to obtain his Master of Science in 1958 from the London School of Economics and his PhD in 1966. Dr. King was subjected to the draft board process and after the board refused to address him as Mr. King, he refused to respond. He was charged with draft evasion and went into exile in the United Kingdom because of the unjust charges that were levied against him.

His exile began his storied career in Academia as he has served at many institutions of higher learning in England and Africa to include Keele University, The University of Ghana, The University of Sheffield, the University of East Africa and as department Chair at the University of Nairobi.

Dr. King moved to Australia in 1976 where he served as Chair of the School of Economics until 1986, when he returned to the United Kingdom and Lancaster University, resuming his position as Chair.

During his extraordinary career, Dr. King has published many books. His first book was published in 1967, *Fear of Power*. Other dynamic publications included *Politics and Experience*, as well as multiple editions of *The Ideology of Order* in 1974 and 1999 and *Tolerance* in 1978 and 1998. Other books include *An African Winter*, *Socialism and the Common Good: New Fabian Essays and Friendship and Politics*. Additionally, Dr. King has authored, narrated, and edited the *Critical Review International Social and Political Philosophy*.

Despite his numerous commitments in academia, Dr. King has found time to share his talents as a visiting professor at multiple institutions of higher learning to include McGill University in Canada, Auckland University in New Zealand, Australian National University in Australia, Macquarie University in Australia and Birkbeck College, a part of the University of London System.

Dr. King's philosophy in academia and activism has always been centered around social issues, especially as they relate to scientific matters. He has extensively studied the structure of societies and how they function and evolve, and he has played an integral role in tying questions of history and the philosophy of history to questions of tolerance and the ways societies may or may not be managed.

Dr. King was pardoned by President Bill Clinton in 2000. He has been active as a scholar-in residence at the leadership center of Morehouse College in Atlanta since 2006.

Shirley Chisholm once said that “Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth.” Through much adversity, Dr. Preston King has paid his rent and he has paid it well.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in honoring Dr. Preston King for his many years of service to academia and humankind.

HONORING 150 YEARS OF INOVA  
ALEXANDRIA HOSPITAL

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Inova Alexandria Hospital’s 150th years of providing world-class healthcare to the Northern Virginia Community. In 1872, fearing a typhoid epidemic among crew on board a ship in Old Town Alexandria’s harbor, Julia Johns calls upon a group of “charitably disposed” female friends at St. Paul’s Church and formed the Alexandria Infirmary Association.

Now, 150 years later, Inova Alexandria Hospital is the oldest continuously operating community hospital in Virginia and provides high-quality medical care and innovative technology. During their rich history, they have continuously enhanced their facility and services to offer the latest treatments and technologies, earning them recognition for many “firsts” in patient care to include: the nursing school in Virginia in 1895, the first movable X-ray table in Northern Virginia in 1937, the first lung chamber in Northern Virginia in 1949, the first on the East Coast to use epidurals in obstetrics in 1953, and the first in the nation to staff the emergency department around the clock—known nationally as the Alexandria Plan in 1961.

Inova’s Mission is to provide world-class healthcare—every time, every touch—to each person in every community we have they have a privilege to serve, and as our community’s need for health care continues to grow, Alexandria residents can continue to rely on Inova as they build a brand-new hospital campus at the former Landmark Mall location, where we will continue taking care of their community for many years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GREG PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I am not recorded for Roll Call votes No. 481, No. 482, No. 483, No. 484, and No. 485. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes on Roll Call No. 481 En Bloc Suspensions (H.R. 5721, H.R. 7299, H.R. 7277, H.R. 4275, H.R. 6290, H.R. 5502, H.R. 8416); Yes on Roll Call No. 482 (S. 3369); Yes on Roll Call No. 483 (S. 4359); Yes on Roll Call No. 484 (H.R. 2250); and Yes on Roll Call No. 485 (H.R. 3630).

RECOGNIZING DR. KENNETH  
KATZMAN

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Kenneth Katzman and his more than twenty years of contribution to the Congressional Research Service and his work on behalf of the American people. Dr. Katzman’s reputation as a foremost Middle East analyst is widely recognized, and this body has relied on his knowledge and expertise at pivotal points in recent history. Having served CRS since 1991, Dr. Katzman will retire on November 19, 2022.

Dr. Katzman is one of the most prolific authors and contributors for the Congressional Research Service, having written hundreds of memoranda, reports, and other products in the service of Congress and the advancement of the understanding of the Middle East for its members and staff. His work for Congress has covered such critical foreign policy issues as the wars in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq; U.S. sanctions policies; and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), otherwise known as the “Iran Deal”. His writings have been read tens of thousands of times by congressional clients and have served as foundational analysis for legislation, hearings, and oversight.

Over the course of his career, Dr. Katzman routinely testified before subcommittees and committees of Congress on issues facing Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. In 1996 and again in 2001, he was assigned to the staff of the then House International Relations Committee where his deep knowledge of Middle East issues proved instrumental.

Dr. Katzman personified the mission of the Congressional Research Service, helping members and staff to understand unfolding events, their historical context, and the potential implications of congressional decisions.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Kenneth Katzman for an exemplary career at the Congressional Research Service. I join with Dr. Katzman’s family, friends, and colleagues in extending my gratitude to him for his tireless commitment to our community and to thank him for his role in keeping this body informed for over two decades. Though we will miss his insight and seeing Dr. Katzman’s familiar face in the halls of Congress, we wish him the very best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING MASJID  
MUHAMMAD

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Masjid Muhammad, the Nation’s Mosque, as they celebrate their 85th year of establishment.

Representing one of the oldest established Muslim communities in the country and the first mosque built in the District of Columbia, Masjid Muhammad has long been a beacon

for community service, religious freedom, and human rights.

With their motto of “Our Community, Our Responsibility,” Masjid Muhammad has been a central force in their service to the people of DC. They frequently distribute hundreds of pounds of food each month to those in need. They work to build affordable housing and develop programs to address violence, substance abuse, recidivism and countless other social justice issues. They also sponsor several programs including senior citizen support, after school youth activities, vocational training, job placement and more.

Masjid Muhammad has been a pioneer in breaking down barriers for the Muslim community across this country. They established the nation’s first Muslim American Veterans Association (MAVA) over 25 years ago with several chapters growing around the nation. They produced the first Islamic Chaplains in the U.S. Military and Department of Justice, the first Muslim Judge for the State of Maryland, the first Muslim Woman to work on a White House Staff, and the first Muslim Boys and Girls Scouts programs in DC.

In addition to their work domestically, Masjid Muhammad has facilitated and participated in numerous conferences and forums on human rights, interfaith peacebuilding, and international religious freedom in over a dozen countries—cementing them as an international voice for peace and justice for all.

Please join me in recognition of Masjid Muhammad’s 85 years of service and their contributions to this city, this country, and the world.

HONORING DR. THOMAS  
ZACHARIA’S RETIREMENT

**HON. TIM BURCHETT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Oak Ridge National Laboratory Director Thomas Zacharia, who announced his intent to retire after 35 years at our nation’s largest science and energy laboratory.

Dr. Zacharia joined ORNL in 1987 as a postdoctoral researcher, then accepted a staff position a couple years later and quickly became a key player in spurring innovation in new and creative ways. To name just a few of his accomplishments, he established the Materials Modeling and Simulation Group, served as Deputy Associate Laboratory Director for High Performance Computing, and led the creation of the Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility, which recently helped build the world’s fastest supercomputer. His impressive career and leadership skills launched him to the top position as director of ORNL in 2017, where he has served faithfully ever since.

He has also played an instrumental role in expanding collaborative efforts between ORNL and the University of Tennessee. In 2007, he oversaw a new partnership between ORNL and the University of Tennessee to establish the National Institute for Computational Sciences, and in 2019 he helped establish the UT-Oak Ridge Innovation Institute to help the great minds at these institutions work together on scientific research and innovation.

Throughout his career, Dr. Zacharia played a crucial role in advancing major scientific research and development. He’s made East

Tennessee proud with all he's accomplished, and I wish him the best as he begins this next chapter in life.

HONORING THE WORK OF MR.  
TROY HEITHECKER

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the exemplary work of Mr. Troy Heithecker of the U.S. Forest Service and to thank him for his service to the great state of Arkansas. For 25 years, Troy has dedicated his life to protecting our beautiful national forests, and we were privileged to have him for the last three years as the Forest Supervisor for the Ouachita National Forest in Hot Springs, AR.

As the only licensed forester in Congress, I can confidently say that Arkansas is blessed with one of the most beautiful, well-managed national forests in the country, and that would not be possible without leadership from individuals like Troy. Throughout the course of his career, Troy has achieved many major accomplishments through his work in national forests across the country. Notably, he worked with the State of Arkansas and other partners towards co-managing both forest and recreation resources on the Ouachita National Forest. He also led efforts to successfully restore the Red Cockaded Woodpecker habitat, established national hiring reform for the USDA Forest Service, and completed two collaborative landscape scale project decisions on the Tongass National Forest in Alaska.

Troy was recently selected to serve as the Associate Deputy Chief for the National Forest System in the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service in Washington, D.C. Arkansas's loss is certainly Washington's gain. I am grateful for Troy's service to the Ouachita National Forest, and I look forward to working with him in the future. I thank Troy for his dedication to leaving our forests better than he found them, so that they may be enjoyed by all Americans for generations.

RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS 22q  
DELETION SYNDROME AWARE-  
NESS MONTH

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, today I recognize DiGeorge Syndrome, or 22q Deletion Syndrome, awareness day and month.

22q Deletion Syndrome is a genetic syndrome caused by the deletion of a small part of chromosome 22 during a pregnancy, resulting in a wide-ranging scope of physical health issues and developmental delays for the child and leading to ongoing challenges for individuals diagnosed with 22q throughout their lives.

I would like to thank my constituent, Ms. Rebecca Osberg, for her impactful work on raising awareness for 22q Deletion Syndrome and for bringing this important issue to my attention. Ms. Osberg and so many families around

the country are leading the charge to shine a light on 22q Deletion Syndrome and related rare diseases. Thank you for your tireless advocacy.

This month is a time to celebrate individuals with 22q and their often-overlooked contributions to our communities.

HONORING STOCKTON FIRE  
CAPTAIN VIDAL "MAX" FORTUNA

**HON. JERRY McNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Stockton Fire Captain Vidal "Max" Fortuna, who was tragically killed in the line of duty while responding to a fire in Stockton, California, on January 31st.

A beloved husband and father of two, Captain Fortuna was a 21-year veteran of the Stockton Fire Department. He was an active member of his local church and helped coach youth sports in his free time.

Captain Fortuna was known for his selflessness and dedication to the community he served. He loved his job and went out of his way to work with and mentor young firefighters, and he has been praised by many within the Stockton Fire Department as a model firefighter who inspired others. His colleague, Fire Chief Rick Edwards, fondly remembers him as having an addictive smile and the ability to make anyone laugh when they were feeling down.

Sadly, this is a tragic reminder of the dangers emergency responders face every day. Captain Fortuna's courage will not be forgotten, and I ask that you join me in honoring his life, his service, and his memory.

RECOGNIZING EMMA WHITE

**HON. BRETT GUTHRIE**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Emma White, who was my legislative assistant, for her service to Kentucky's Second District.

Emma, a native of London, Kentucky, graduated from Western Kentucky University with degrees in Criminology, Arabic, and Political Science. After graduating from college, Emma moved to D.C. to work as a staff assistant in my Washington office. Emma's extensive knowledge of Kentucky and strong work ethic made her a valuable member of the team. After a brief hiatus as a legislative staffer for another congressional office, Emma rejoined my office as a legislative assistant. Her ability to excel in many subjects in college was evident in how she excelled in handling her diverse legislative portfolio, including education and labor, transportation and infrastructure, small business, and natural resources policy. As my education staffer and as a proud Hilltopper, Emma worked with her alma mater and other education institutions in my district.

I want to thank Emma for her work for Kentucky's Second District through the multiple

roles she held in my office. I wish her the best in the next chapter of her career.

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT TARWATER

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Scott Tarwater, a man whose life was marked by excellence and deep influence within his community. Over the years, Tarwater developed a profound reverence for the state of Texas and committed his life to encouraging the growth of North Texas whilst preserving its storied past. During his childhood, Tarwater watched the land around him transform as the Army Corps of Engineers began the development of Lake Grapevine along his family farm property. Tarwater and his wife, Donna, were married on the third step of the family's historic farmhouse, which showcases not only the union of two individuals as one married couple, but the union of reverence for the past and hope for the future which defined Tarwater's life. He watched and participated as a young man alongside his family as they partnered with Peter Paul Stewart, a landman who developed the treasured family farm into Lakeside Village. The Tarwater family farm now also serves as the grounds for Lakeside Tower, which has facilitated travel and business to the Flower Mound community. In March 2020, the Tarwater farmhouse was transported from Flower Mound to Grapevine, to make room for the influential Lakeside Village and to be enshrined forever as a historical landmark and testament to the Tarwater's investment in North Texas. Mr. Tarwater's professional life began with picking tomatoes on the farm and as he furthered his career, he kept his family's joy of continually serving their community close at heart. Following his graduation from Stephen F. Austin State University, Tarwater pursued a series of remarkable business successes in the hospitality industry. He worked as Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing from 1982 to 1985 at American International Rent a Car, Inc., managing global accounts and developing his skills as a salesman of international renown. In the following years he became Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Windsor Hospitality Group, dedicating 10 years of his life to the company between 1990 and 2000. Tarwater spent the largest portion of his career with John Q. Hammons Hotels & Resorts. Hammons Hotels & Resorts was considered at one point to be the largest private owner and hotel management company in the U.S., due to John Hammons' skill as well as his foresight in selecting Scott Tarwater to work as his close associate and business partner. Tarwater spent the final part of his career as Executive Vice President of Development Services with New Stream Capital. In his collective professional life, Tarwater managed the sales and marketing efforts of over 101 upscale hotels over the course of 15 years with both Windsor Hospitality and Hammons Hotels & Resorts. Throughout this great international success, Tarwater also kept Grapevine and Flower Mound in mind. In his work at New Stream Capital and Hammons Hotels,



Tarwater established the first hotel in Flower Mound, the Flower Mound Courtyard River Walk, and Grapevine's Embassy Suites Hotel. Though Tarwater lived a life of travel and adventure, he never lost sight of North Texas and its rich history. Tarwater embodies the best of Texas as a trailblazer and dedicated family man. Acquaintances and coworkers of Tarwater alike have appreciated his sincere friendship and the joy with which he approached life and work. Scott Tarwater has fundamentally propelled Grapevine and Flower Mound into a force on the world stage and preserved its historical integrity for years to come. I am honored to recognize the life of Scott Tarwater and his exemplary service to North Texas. I thank Mr. Tarwater for his excellence and dedication to the community we all hold so dear. I offer my condolences to the Tarwater family and Scott's loved ones and hold his example close to my heart.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAUL LAMISON

**HON. KATHY CASTOR**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and contributions of Paul Lamison, a beloved member of the Tampa Bay community, who passed away on August 4, 2022. Raised in Lakeland, Florida as one of seven siblings, Paul took great pride in his roots. Paul's dedication to journalism and sharing moments in history, big and small, that chronicled and defined our Tampa community is worthy of recognition. His devotion to family also is a great example of the quiet heroes in our lives everyday who deserve praise and honor.

As Chief Photojournalist for Tampa's WFLA News Channel 8, Paul was a familiar voice and face for viewers and News Channel 8 staff alike throughout the course of his nearly 30-year career. Working firmly behind the camera for much of his career, Paul went on to be known as the man with 'the best seat in the house' when he transitioned to his integral role on the morning team and as News Channel 8's 'eye in the sky' in the Eagle 8 news helicopter. Reporting on events from the daily morning commute to celebrations of sports championships to the Gasparilla parade and special episodes in the lives of Tampa Bay area residents, Paul connected the community with professionalism and good cheer. Those who knew Paul loved him, describing him as a passionate, fun-loving person and a light that lifted up everyone around him. Paul's energy and joy was a constant, experienced both on and off screen. His authenticity and commitment have left an immensely positive impact on a generation of journalists, as well as his family and friends. Paul's legacy will continue to live through his siblings along with his wife, Nerissa, and their daughters Emily, Kate, Ava, and Emma.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor Paul Lamison for his lifelong dedication to journalism and to sharing stories of all the great people and places that make up our community. We are all eternally grateful for his immense contributions. His legacy

will live on and inspire many others in the Tampa Bay community and beyond for years to come.

HONORING SENIOR CHIEF  
MICHAEL BELINKIE

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Senior Chief Michael Belinkie after twenty years of service in the United States Navy. Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, Senior Chief Belinkie grew up in a musical family with generations of cantors leading religious services at prominent synagogues in Richmond and New York. He further refined his talents as a classical tenor while earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and economics at the University of Virginia where he also performed with the Virginia Glee Club, Coro Virginia, and in the university's renowned acapella group, the Virginia Gentleman. While in college, Operafestival di Roma invited Senior Chief Belinkie to spend a summer abroad training and performing with other promising young opera singers from around the world.

Acknowledging the challenges of pursuing a successful career in music, Senior Chief Belinkie graduated from George Mason University's School of Law. During his legal studies, he continued to perform locally in northern Virginia, and he ultimately auditioned for an opening for a tenor in the United States Navy Band. He learned he passed the Virginia Bar Exam a few weeks before shipping off to boot camp.

Senior Chief Belinkie enlisted in the United States Navy in 2002 and has had the honor of performing for presidential inaugurations, state dinners, state funerals, and for foreign dignitaries. An avid sports fan, the United States Navy Band also allowed him to sing at two Super Bowls, the World Series, and countless other professional sports events. Known by fans throughout the United States for his incredible vocal range and high falsetto, videos of his renditions of a "Jersey Boys" medley, "White Christmas," and others quickly went viral on social media, garnering more than 100 million views. In 2005, Senior Chief Belinkie sang the world premiere solo of "A Season of Miracles" by Marvin Hamlisch at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, with Hamlisch accompanying on piano.

I give my heartfelt congratulations to Michael Belinkie, a lifelong Virginian, on his distinguished career and retirement from the United States Navy Band. I wish him well in his next endeavors and hope he continues to lend his talents to the great state of Virginia.

HONORING STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE RANDY NIX

**HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, and a self-

less public servant, State Representative Randy Nix of LaGrange, Georgia. Representative Nix was born in Holtville, Alabama. He attended local schools and graduated from Troy State University with a degree in business. Following graduation, Randy served as a chaplain's assistant in the U.S. Army Reserve for five years. He went on to serve seven years in the Alabama Air National Guard, where his final assignment was a role as the weapons system officer flying the RF4-C Phantom aircraft. He was honorably discharged with the rank of captain.

Representative Nix also had a successful career in the financial services industry. He is currently a pastor at the Hillcrest United Methodist Church in LaGrange. Along with his service to the district in the Georgia General Assembly, Randy is very active in the local community. He previously served as president of both the Boys and Girls Club of West Georgia and the West Georgia Technical College Foundation Board, and is currently a Rotarian.

As Representative Nix approaches his retirement, I would like to recognize the sixteen years of unwavering service he has provided to the citizens of District 69. Serving his community is his passion, and his retirement is hard earned and well deserved. May God continue to bless Representative Nix and his wife, Debra, and their children, Julie and Jess, in the years to come.

WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
DAY 2022

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in honor of Women's Entrepreneurship Day, which is celebrated around the world each year on November 19th.

Women-owned U.S. firms make up nearly 20 percent of all firms that employ people and this number is growing. There are nearly 13 million women-owned firms in the U.S. alone and they employ close to 10 million people. As a testament to their success, women-owned firms reported revenues of nearly \$1.8 trillion. This is truly astounding and shows you how vital women are to the economy. I applaud these women entrepreneurs and their economically vital businesses.

I also applaud the Women's Entrepreneurship Day movement, which is spearheaded by Wendy Diamond. Since it launched in 2013, the Women's Entrepreneurship Day Organization has annually funded one thousand impoverished women with microloans to start their entrepreneurial journey, hosted a nationwide entrepreneurship training program for 60,000 female college students and early-stage entrepreneurs in Saudi Arabia, supported Restart Academy, which provides educational services for 13–21-year-old students in transitional settings, provided financial literacy education to one thousand rural women in the Philippines, and partnered with a Uruguayan university to offer scholarships to young women.

Women's Entrepreneurship Day is now celebrated in 144 countries and 65 universities and colleges internationally, with numerous global ambassadors. The Women's Entrepreneurship Day mission is to empower the nearly four billion women worldwide to be catalysts

of change and uplift the over 388 million women and girls living in poverty around the world.

As in past years, the Women’s Entrepreneurship Day Organization Pioneer Awards recognize and honor distinguished women who are leaders and innovators across multiple fields with inspiring accomplishments. This year’s honorees include:

Janice Bryant Howroyd—Founder and CEO of The ActOne Group of Companies—Business Pioneer

Lele Pons—Celebrity Influencer, NFT and Crypto Enthusiast, 100 million Followers—Influencer Pioneer

Beverly Johnson—Iconic Supermodel—Model Pioneer

Wendy Fisher—Artist, President of the Board of Trustees of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation—Art Pioneer

Neeti Mehta—Co-Founder and Chief Impact Officer of Automation Anywhere—Technology Pioneer

Amanda Feilding—Countess of Wemyss and March, Founder of the Beckley Foundation, and Psychedelics Pioneer—Science Pioneer

Mitzi Perdue—Founder of CERES Farms, Philanthropist, and Anti-Human Trafficking Advocate—Philanthropy Pioneer

Coco Rocha—Founder of the Coco Rocha Model Camp and Supermodel—Fashion Pioneer

Marta Belcher—Chair of the Filecoin Foundation and General Council and Head of Policy for Protocol Labs—Web3 Pioneer

Madam Speaker, I urge the entire House to recognize these role models, and to celebrate Women’s Entrepreneurship Day this year.

**RECOGNIZING THE NOTRE DAME ACADEMY BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Notre Dame Academy Boys Cross Country Team for winning their first Division 2 State Championship Title.

On Saturday, October 29th, the Notre Dame Boys Cross Country Team traveled to the Ridges Golf Course in Wisconsin Rapids to compete in the 2022 Wisconsin State Cross Country Championships. After an incredible season by both the Boys and Girls teams the Boys successfully secured the state title.

This state title is a remarkable achievement as the team has secured runner-up finishes in three of the last four seasons. Following a season full of hard work and determination, the Boys Cross Country Team has achieved greatness and will be remembered by the Green Bay community for years to come. Led by Isaac Nowak, who took fourth place and Joseph Stumpf, who took twentieth overall in the race this team was able to surpass the previous runner-up finishes. With the help of great runners Braeden Tilot, Joseph Hunt, Jackson Fogarty, Bryce Hawley, and Federrico Auricchio they were able to accomplish their

goal of a State Title. I commend them all for an outstanding performance at the state championships.

Achieving the title of State Champion is a testament to the hard work and dedication that the coaches and athletes display every day of the season. Finishing at State with 81 points to secure the win, the Notre Dame Boys Cross Country team has shown consistent improvement and I wish them nothing but the best in seasons to come.

I extend my sincerest congratulations to Head Coach Gard and the entire Notre Dame Cross Country team for this outstanding accomplishment. It is my honor to recognize these young men and I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding their unwavering commitment and dedication to their sport.

**INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY REPORT ON MYANMAR**

**HON. ILHAN OMAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a member of the International Parliamentary Inquiry into the global response to the crisis in Myanmar. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the executive summary of our final report.

**“TIME IS NOT ON OUR SIDE”: THE FAILED INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE TO THE MYANMAR COUP (EXECUTIVE SUMMARY)**

Since the Myanmar military staged a coup on 1 February 2021, the situation in the country has steadily deteriorated. The military junta, led by Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, has waged a brutal war of attrition against its own people, committing countless atrocities and ruining the country’s economy. Military forces have killed at least 2,371 people and displaced hundreds of thousands, bringing the total number of internally displaced persons in the country to over 1.3 million. The junta has also jailed more than 15,000 political prisoners and made routine use of torture against those arrested, all while launching a far-reaching crackdown on freedoms of expression and association, including an intense repression of independent media and civil society.

Nevertheless, the people of Myanmar have resisted. The massive peaceful demonstrations in the coup’s immediate aftermath, as well as the Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) that saw hundreds of thousands join a general strike, including throughout the bureaucracy, demonstrated the population’s overwhelming rejection of a return to military rule. The coup has also inspired an unprecedented level of unity among those opposed to the military, including across ethnic lines.

In April 2021, the National Unity Government (NUG) of Myanmar was formed, bringing together parliamentarians ousted in the coup, ethnic minority representatives and civil society actors. The NUG rightly claims a mandate as the legitimate representative of the Myanmar people. It enjoys widespread popular legitimacy and support, especially in the country’s heartland, and represents the most inclusive government in Myanmar’s history. The NUG has expressed a commitment to establishing a new constitution and a genuine federal democracy in Myanmar, which would represent a major step toward

fulfilling the aspirations for autonomy of the country’s ethnic minorities.

The junta’s attempts to subdue the resistance with extreme violence failed dramatically, and only served to exacerbate existing tensions and drive some anti-junta activists to turn to armed struggle to defend themselves. Anti-military militia groups known as people’s defense forces (PDFs)—some under the command of the NUG—have been established across the country, including in areas that had been relatively peaceful before. The coup has also triggered a new wave of violence between the military and ethnic armed organizations (EAOs), which have been fighting for autonomy for decades in the country’s borderlands. Some of these EAOs, such as the armed wings of the Karen National Union (KNU) and the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO), have allied themselves with the NUG. Not all EAOs have formally joined the anti-military struggle, as Myanmar’s political landscape remains extremely complex and fractured.

The escalating violence has precipitated the near collapse of the economy and an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Myanmar’s GDP has dropped 13 percent since 2019, and 40 percent of the country’s population now lives below the national poverty line. Despite the increased needs, humanitarian actors have struggled to reach vulnerable and remote populations, as the military has placed severe limitations on humanitarian access.

The international community has proven largely unable to respond effectively to the crisis. The junta’s international allies—most prominently Russia and China—have emerged as steadfast and uncritical supporters, supplying both weapons and legitimacy to an otherwise isolated regime. Foreign governments that profess support for democracy have not backed up their rhetoric with the same force of action, however. While a number of countries have imposed sanctions targeting junta leaders and their personal assets, these efforts remain uncoordinated and have failed to successfully target key revenue-generating entities, such as the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE). The United Nations has been particularly hampered by internal divisions and has proved to be unable to project influence. The NUG has attracted supporters globally and continues to occupy Myanmar’s seat at the UN, but most governments have been hesitant to formally recognize it, despite calls from parliaments and advocates to do so.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), of which Myanmar is a member, has been similarly plagued by internal divisions and unable to respond effectively. The bloc’s “Five-Point Consensus,” signed in April 2021 and aimed at addressing the crisis, has utterly failed, hampered by a lack of will on the part of all ASEAN member-states to enforce it, and a military leadership in Myanmar that did not show any intention of implementing it from the beginning. While some member-states, such as Malaysia, have called for a new approach, including direct engagement with the NUG and other pro-democracy forces, others, including Thailand or Cambodia, have persisted as junta enablers.

As Myanmar slides into civil war, the possibility for a negotiated solution to the conflict has all but closed completely. The dialogue prescribed in ASEAN’s Five-Point Consensus is impossible under the current conditions. Responsibility lies with the junta, which has shown no willingness to engage with those who oppose it and has instead relied exclusively on brute force in its attempt to stamp out any opposition. The execution of four political prisoners in July 2022, the

country's first judicial execution since 1988, highlighted both the military's brutality and its complete disinterest in negotiations. The coup brought the previous power-sharing arrangement with the civilian leadership to an unceremonious end. Now the vast majority of the Myanmar people have expressed a clear desire not to return to the status quo ante.

Nineteen months after the coup, the military junta has been unable to consolidate its power. Wide swaths of Myanmar's territory are contested between the military and forces associated with the NUG or EAOs, and it can be stated that the coup has failed. In areas along the Thai border, EAOs like the KNU and the Karenni National Progressive Party (KNPP) are working together, providing basic services to the population, and showing what a future Myanmar, in which different groups cooperate rather than fight amongst themselves, could look like if the country is able to shake off the tyranny of the military.

As Myanmar's future hangs in the balance, external pressure on the military and support for the resistance may well be the deciding factor in the course of the conflict. The international community can, and should, do more to help the Myanmar people to send the military to the barracks and establish a federal democracy. It should start with substantially increasing its efforts to address the worsening humanitarian crisis, intensifying its pressure on the illegal junta through coordinated sanctions and arms embargoes, and recognizing the NUG as the legitimate authority in Myanmar. The NUG, as well as aligned EAOs, should be provided with funding and capacity building programs on governance and federalism. But action should be taken urgently. As Khin Ohmar, Myanmar activist and Chair of Progressive Voice said during one of the IPI oral hearings, "time is not our side".

RECOGNIZING STATE REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT SANFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize and salute State Representative Scott Sanford, a steadfast leader who has faithfully served the constituents of Texas' House District 70 over the past decade.

A proud Texas native, Mr. Sanford earned his Bachelor and Masters degrees from Baylor University prior to beginning his career as a certified public accountant. In 1997, Scott heeded a new calling by joining the ministry at Cottonwood Creek Church in Allen, Texas, where he currently serves as the Executive Pastor.

In 2012, Sanford undertook a new mission of service after being elected to Texas House District 70, which encompasses the rapidly growing Collin County cities of McKinney, Melissa, Celina, Prosper, Anna, Princeton, and Weston.

During his time in the Texas Legislature, he has proudly held the positions of Texas GOP Caucus Policy Chair during the 86th and 87th Legislative Sessions and also served as the Chairman of the Texas Prayer Caucus. Notable past committee assignments include the House Public Education Committee, Health & Human Services Committee, Urban Affairs

Committee, Land & Resource Management Committee, Juvenile Justice & Family Issues Committee, and the Corrections Committee. Rep. Sanford also currently serves on the prestigious Ways & Means Committee, Insurance Committee, and the House Administration Committee.

His proudest legislative achievements include the Pastor Protection Act, the Bonton Farms Act, the Don't Pass the Trash Bill, and the Freedom to Worship Act. For his many efforts, he was recognized by Texas Values as a "Faith & Family Champion," by Texas CASA with the "Big Voices for Little Texans" Award, and by the Texas Conservative Coalition as a "Courageous Conservative."

Representative Sanford's deep commitment to his community and constituents is evidenced by his work as a member of the board for Smiles Charity and Collin County Meals on Wheels, as a member of the Rotary Club of McKinney and the McKinney Chamber of Commerce, and as a mentor to students in McKinney Independent School District through the REACH program.

Representative Sanford has truly fostered a tremendous legacy of servant leadership. Now as he prepares to begin a new season of life alongside his wife, Shelly, it is with gratitude that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing his many contributions throughout his career in public service while wishing him and his family all the best in this next chapter.

RECOGNIZING COLIN CARR

**HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today with mixed emotions as I recognize the incredible contributions made to my office, and this body, by a dedicated member of my staff. Mr. Colin Carr was one of the first to join my office in 2015 when I was a newly elected member of Congress. At that time, Colin came onboard as my first Legislative Correspondent, where he excelled. I quickly recognized not only his talents, critical thinking, and grasp of the issues, but also his keen interest and in-depth knowledge of legislative policy, especially in economics and the financial services realm. As a result, he was soon promoted to Legislative Assistant and then to Legislative Director.

Colin's deep interest in the financial services sector proved to be crucial in 2017 when I joined the House Financial Services Committee. As my legislative liaison on the Financial Services Committee, Colin not only helped me to navigate the complexity of issues, but he also inspired new legislative initiatives. Colin led the effort to pass several bills in the financial services sector, as well as those of specific importance to the people of Georgia's 11th Congressional District. Two of the bills Colin helped champion were eventually signed into law by the President, the Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield Boundary Act and the Building Up Independent Lives and Dreams (BUILD) Act. Colin's natural aptitude and thorough understanding of the vital aspects of our financial systems are surpassed only by his vigilant commitment to his faith, his family, and

our country. He is a wonderful role model for young Americans willing to work hard to be the best at what they do.

Colin is leaving the House of Representatives to take a job in the private sector. As Colin steps into the next part of his journey, he will be greatly missed as a leader on our team but will always remain a member of our office family. We will carry a sense of pride in knowing that he will undoubtedly build on the foundation established over his years of service in the House of Representatives. I am blessed to have had such a dedicated and motivated member of my team; and, while I am happy for the success that awaits him in the private sector, he will be greatly missed by me, my office, and many others in the House of Representatives.

I thank Colin for his service, and God speed.

STRENGTHENING VA  
CYBERSECURITY ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7299, the Strengthening VA Cybersecurity Act of 2022, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

According to the Department of Defense, cyber criminals target victims in order to weaken U.S. supply chains, threaten national security, and endanger the American way of life.

Although cyberattacks can potentially harm all Americans, attacks against veterans are especially problematic because of the vast population of veterans and the amount of data that is maintained about their service and benefits.

In the United States, there are an estimated 18.5 million veterans.

Currently, there are 1.2 million active-duty military members and 778,000 reserve forces. More than half of active-duty personnel have family member dependents.

Because there are so many veterans—and future veterans—the data systems that manage their service records, salaries, health conditions, and benefits provided to them and their families must be maintained securely and insulated from risk of being exposed, corrupted, deleted, or held for ransom.

Just as veterans have served America, protecting our safety and freedoms, it is vital that we protect veterans when they complete their service, start a new chapter of their life, and depend on our government to protect their personal information and privacy.

The Department of Veterans Affairs stores important material such as social security numbers, health records, financial information, and more. It is the Department's responsibility to protect and preserve veterans' data for future use and needs that the veterans may have.

In 1973, a firestorm at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri

destroyed the records of veterans that served from 1912 to 1964. Almost 18 million records went up in flames. Up to 80 percent of veterans who discharged during this time had their records destroyed.

We learned from that conflagration, and since 1973, we have become increasingly reliant on technology, although that, too, creates exposure to potential vulnerabilities.

If cybersecurity is not protected appropriately, then millions of records could be at risk just like they were in 1973.

Strengthening information systems at Veterans Affairs will protect against cybersecurity threats, ransomware, insider threats, threats from foreign actors, phishing, and any other attacks that seek to cause harm.

Congress must require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems at the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that this fragile information is protected.

This bill should be extremely important to all of us because it is personal. Many of our colleagues in Congress are veterans. Many of our neighbors are veterans or have family and friends who are veterans. They are our constituents, our community leaders, and often, our heroes and heroes.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this critical bill that will safeguard the information of millions of veterans and their families.

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HONORING WORLD TURKISH  
COFFEE DAY

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of World Turkish Coffee Day, recognizing a living world heritage of humanity listed on UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Admitted to UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage list on December 5, 2013, Turkish coffee culture has a universal value that must be conserved and passed onto future generations. Symbolizing hospitality and peace for centuries, Turkish coffee is the world's first coffee brewing method. The coffee culture was introduced to Europe by Turks in the 17th century and later was spread to the Americas.

Led by the Turkish Coffee Lady Foundation (TCLF), Assembly of Turkish American Associations (ATAA), and American Turkish Association of Washington DC (ATA-DC), Turkish Americans throughout Virginia and across the country will recognize December 5th as the World Turkish Coffee Culture Day on December 5, 2022. From Alexandria to New York City, from Michigan to Cleveland, from Fort Lauderdale to Los Angeles, Turkish Americans contributing culturally, socially, and economically to their local communities will foster friendships between societies through cultural and social activities.

Please join me in thanking Turkish Americans for their community service and gastro diplomacy mission of bridging cultures through civic engagement in the U.S.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS.  
CAROL SARGANIS

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, today, I honor the life and memory of Ms. Carol Sarganis, a teacher, a role model for people with Muscular Dystrophy, and a champion for the inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace.

When she was diagnosed with Limb-Girdle Muscular Dystrophy as a young child, Carol's doctors told her parents that she would never accomplish anything in her life. However, her parents disagreed, and they instead encouraged her—and fought for her right—to receive a solid public-school education.

Carol was a successful student, and she defied the expectations of her counselors who thought she wouldn't be able to handle a rigorous academic environment. After graduating from East Providence High School, Carol attended Salve Regina University in Newport, RI to pursue her dreams of becoming a teacher.

By the time she earned her Bachelor's Degree in elementary education, the progressive nature of the disease had made her almost entirely dependent on a manual wheelchair. This came long before the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed into law, so she had to rely on others, such as her brother or nursing students, to carry her up multiple flights of stairs just to attend class.

In 1968, she graduated from Salve Regina and joined the Newport Public School System as a remedial reading specialist, where she taught until her retirement in 1996. Always seeking to redefine any limit, she went on to earn a Master's Degree from the University of Rhode Island while teaching fulltime. During her tenure as a teacher, she was recognized as Teacher of the Year. Eventually, Carol learned to drive using an adaptive vehicle to accommodate her disabilities. After retiring from teaching, Carol worked as an employment specialist and job coach with Project: Return to Work, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with the mission of providing employment services and placement opportunities for Americans with disabilities, including veterans.

Carol was a role model, not just through her personal experience with overcoming barriers in the workplace, but through her relentlessly positive attitude. She believed life was a gift and refused to be defined by either her physical limitations or the biased perceptions of others. Instead of growing bitter about increasing limitations presented by the disease, she chose instead to be grateful for all of the blessings that she had. Near the end of her life, when she was almost entirely paralyzed, she was grateful for the staff of the nursing home who brought her outside to feel the sun on her face and helped her by writing cards she dictated for friends and loved ones. Always one to share her blessings, Carol would decorate the rooms of other residents with cards she had received to brighten up their living arrangements.

On October 25, 2022, Carol passed away at Rhode Island Hospital. Carol left behind her brother George Sarganis and his wife Claire McWilliams, her beloved niece Zoe Sarganis of Central Falls, and her beloved cousins

Elaine and Dick Bianco of Barrington, Rhode Island.

HONORING THE CAREER OF TODD  
HAUGEN

**HON. PETE STAUBER**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Todd Haugen's retirement after his 42-year long broadcasting career in Bemidji, Minnesota. Todd's last show will be November 18, 2022.

Todd has been a member of the Bemidji community since he attended Bemidji State University, where he later went on to be honored with the Outstanding Alumni Award.

For nearly the entirety of his 42-year career in Bemidji, Todd was on air with KBUN/KB101.

As the long-time host of the popular daily public affairs show Chatabout, Todd helped his station, KB 101, earn a record number of six National Association of Broadcasters Crystal Awards, a Crystal Heritage Award, and two NABEF Service to America Awards. He also a two-time National Association of Broadcasters Marconi award finalist for Small Market Personality of the Year.

During his time as a broadcaster, Todd did so much more than hosting shows and entertaining and informing his community. He hosted hundreds of community events, fundraisers, and participated as a host for Hubbard Bemidji's annual Radiothon to End Child Abuse that raised over \$1 million since it began in 1988.

After a successful career in broadcasting and serving his community, I wish Todd nothing but happiness in this new stage of life. I Hope he enjoys retirement.

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RECOGNIZING THE WORLD DAY OF  
REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC  
VICTIMS

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims.

Every third Sunday in November, the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is a chance to remember the millions of lives lost or injured due to road crashes. On this day we also pay tribute to emergency responders and medical professionals who deal with the trauma of road death and injury daily.

According to the Association for Safe International Road Travel an estimated 1.35 million people around the world die in road crashes each year. This is a public health crisis that continues day in and day out in all countries of the world. Affecting primarily our most vulnerable communities and our young. Therefore, during the new Decade of Action 2021–2030 the World Day will have the important role of helping to achieve the 50 percent road casualty reduction target.

Madam Speaker, please join me today as we remember the victims of road traffic collisions and their families. Ultimately, we should

do everything in our power to protect the lives of all road users, and I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do that.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSOR  
CHARLES CRAWFORD ON 60  
YEARS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MEMPHIS

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great professor, historian and my friend, Charles W. Crawford, who was recently recognized by the University of Memphis for teaching 60 years in its History Department. Professor Crawford, whose Tennessee: Land, History and Government (1984) and its 1990 update, Dynamic Tennessee, served as high school textbooks for most students across our state for decades, also has the distinction of having taught Tennessee history to future Tennessee Congressman, Senator and Vice President Al Gore in the summer before Gore's senior year at Harvard. Professor Crawford's first of 20 published books was an illustrated history of his adopted city, Yesterday's Memphis (1976) and he wrote the history of the local National Bank of Commerce on its 120th anniversary. Professor Crawford was a favorite interview for many journalists and authors and he served as a consultant on many media projects, including the 1984 documentary film "The Old Forest" and commentary on the local public television station, WQED. A native of rural north-central Arkansas, where he still has a home, Professor Crawford, 91, received a bachelor's degree from then-Harding College (now University) in Searcy, Arkansas, a master's from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi, all in history. He started teaching as a graduate assistant at Ole Miss and began as an assistant professor at then-Memphis State (now the University of Memphis) in 1962. In 1967, the university's president, Cecil C. Humphreys, asked him to start its Oral History Project, and he has subsequently conducted or overseen more than 2000 interviews, including with military veterans, experts on the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Mississippi River flood of 1937, and a lot of politicians, and served as president of the national Oral History Association. As a professor, he has directed students in completing 38 doctoral dissertations and 68 students in the completion of M.A. theses. Among those who have benefitted from his work are local groups such as the Memphis Arts Council, Leadership Memphis, the Shelby County Historical Commission, the West Tennessee Historical Society, the Tennessee Historical Society, and the Tennessee Humanities Council. At the national level, besides the Oral History Association, he has been involved with the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Organization of American Historians. He has put in many hours as an editor or reader for university presses in Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, and Georgia. He also served as a consultant to the American Red Cross when it undertook an oral history of its

beginnings. I have known Professor Crawford since the beginning of my political career and have been the beneficiary of his wisdom and friendship. I congratulate him on his long, distinguished and continuing career as an historian and wish him all the best when and if he ever retires.

HONORING K. DONALD  
NICEWONDER

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 17, 2022*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor K. Donald Nicewonder of Bristol, Virginia, who passed away on November 12, 2022, at the age of 84. Mr. Nicewonder was a businessman whose success in the coal business provided the resources for his philanthropy.

Mr. Nicewonder was born to John and Lena Nicewonder on November 13, 1937. He attended Emory and Henry College for two weeks before going to work at a surface coal mine owned by his older brother, J.D. After two years at his brother's companies, he began two of his own companies in Kentucky. He later sold these to McCulloch Oil Corporation and in 1974 purchased land in Buchanan County, Virginia, and McDowell County, West Virginia, with a small group of partners. In the 1980s, he sought new coal reserves and started four new surface mining companies in West Virginia with his sons, operations that produced approximately four million tons of marketable coal per year at their peak. In 2005, Mr. Nicewonder and his family sold their mining operations to Alpha Natural Resources.

His interest in coal extended to reclaiming old mining properties and reusing them for different purposes, including an airport, a portion of the King Coal Highway, and the Twisted Gun Golf Course of Wharcliffe, West Virginia. He told the Golf Channel, "Being in West Virginia in mining for ten years, I thought it would be a great gesture to give the people in southern West Virginia a nice place to come play golf and let people see what can be done with some of this abandoned mine land."

Coal constituted just one part of Mr. Nicewonder's business legacy. The Nicewonder Group he launched with family and other partners controls multiple businesses. The Virginian is a golf course built near his home in 1992, later accompanied by a vineyard and a resort. The group is involved in shopping centers, office buildings, and condos in Virginia and Florida and owns clay deposits in Virginia and Vermont.

Mr. Nicewonder's business success empowered him to give generously to causes in his home region. He supported educational institutions such as Virginia Tech, the University of Virginia's College at Wise, Sullins Academy, and the Morrison School. Mr. Nicewonder and his brother J.D. have also supported health care providers in Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee, contributing to the well-being of the region's people.

Mr. Nicewonder is survived by his wife of 65 years, Etta Nicewonder; two sons, Kenny Nicewonder of Bristol, Virginia, and Kevin Nicewonder and his wife, Kim Grace Nicewonder of Abingdon, Virginia; one daughter,

Kim Nicewonder Johnson of Bristol, Virginia; seven grandchildren, Reid Nicewonder of Los Angeles; California, Paulena Johnson of the Netherlands, Ross Nicewonder of Denver, Colorado, Nick Nicewonder of Asheville, North Carolina, Carly Nicewonder of Bristol, Virginia, Lexi Johnson of Alexandria, Virginia, and Steven Johnson of Bristol, Virginia; and brother, J.D. Nicewonder and his wife Loraine Nicewonder of Bristol, Virginia. I offer them my condolences on the loss of a great Bristol businessman and philanthropist.

VA INFRASTRUCTURE POWERS EXCEPTIONAL RESEARCH ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 14, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5721 the "VA Infrastructure Powers Exceptional Research Act of 2021" or "VIPER Act."

As a senior member of the House Committees on Judiciary and Homeland Security, I care deeply about our veterans.

I offer my deepest gratitude to our nation's troops and reservists, their families, and the 21.6 million veterans, including 29,126 in the 18th Congressional District of Texas that I proudly represent.

In Congress, I have sponsored many legislative proposals and co-sponsored well over 50 pieces of legislation that will positively benefit our veterans and their families.

Of all veterans, 50 percent use at least one VA benefit or service. Majority of those using health care benefits.

H.R. 5721 addresses the misguided legal reinterpretation that eliminated a 75-year long allowance of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to accept grant money through private universities.

Over the past 75 years, the VA has developed the most sophisticated and powerful research enterprises in the United States.

It is extremely important that we pass this bill because it would give critical resources and tools to better serve our nation's veterans by further improving its groundbreaking research program.

The VIPER Act would:

Ensure program continuity by authorizing the VA's Office of Research and Development; Eliminate burdensome paperwork requirements for VA scientists and administrators;

Allow VA to recruit and retain data scientists and researchers on loan from other federal agencies more efficiently;

Create opportunities for researcher at smaller universities to expand the STEM pipeline serving veterans;

Grant VA transactional authority in line with 11 other federal agencies; and

Mandate a Government Accountability Office study on the retention of VA clinician-scientists and the productivity of their research.

H.R. 5721 would benefit our veterans and the global community as VA-funded research has led to medical breakthroughs such as the first pacemaker, the first successful liver transplant, effective treatments for PTSD, and prosthetics that enhance mobility for amputees.

VA research is key to the world-class care it delivers to its nine million patients.

I hope you will join me in passing this legislation, to ensure VA researchers can be on the forefront of health research and novel discoveries.

Without H.R. 5721, thousands of veterans and civilians will be impacted.

The great state of Texas is home to over 1.4 million veterans, the most out of any state.

The debt we owe our veterans is immeasurable. Their sacrifices and those of their families are freedom's foundation.

Without the brave efforts of all the soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and Coast Guardsmen and their families, our country would not live so freely.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6749–S6803*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-eight bills and thirteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2–3, 5–10, 5115–5134, S. Res. 837–848, and S. Con. Res. 49. **Pages S6778–80**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 2130, to modify the disposition of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues and to open Federal financial sharing to heighten opportunities for renewable energy, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–200)

S. 2996, to provide for the distribution of certain outer Continental Shelf revenues to the State of Alaska, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 117–201)

S. 3997, to amend the Land Between the Lakes Protection Act of 1998 to clarify the administration of the Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–202)

S. 4227, to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 117–203)

S. 1330, to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–204)

S. 1877, to modify eligibility requirements for certain hazard mitigation assistance programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–205)

S. 3423, to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills-and competency-based hiring, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–206)

S. 4167, to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government. (S. Rept. No. 117–207)

S. 4243, to establish the Department of Homeland Security Trade and Economic Security Council and the position of Assistant Secretary for Trade and Economic Security within the Department of Home-

land Security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–208)

S. 4623, to advance Government innovation through leading-edge procurement capability. (S. Rept. No. 117–209)

S. 4629, to amend the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 to modify requirements relating to data centers of certain Federal agencies, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 117–210)

S. 4828, to provide consistent leadership, purpose, and administrative support for the primary governmentwide executive councils, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–211)

S. 4893, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to require certain disclosures by registrants regarding exemptions under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended. (S. Rept. No. 117–212)

H.R. 3175, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 135 Main Street in Biloxi, Mississippi, as the “Robert S. McKeithen Post Office Building”. **Page S6778**

#### Measures Passed:

**National American Indian Veterans:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 1725, to grant a Federal charter to the National American Indian Veterans, Incorporated, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S6760–62**

**Violence Against Women Act:** Senate passed S. 7, to make a technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act of 1994. **Page S6762**

**National Character Counts Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 848, designating the week beginning October 16, 2022, as “National Character Counts Week”. **Page S6768**

**Stomach Cancer Awareness Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 839, expressing support for the goals of Stomach Cancer Awareness Month. **Page S6768**

**Lights On Afterschool:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 840, supporting afterschool programs and Lights On Afterschool, a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 20, 2022. **Page S6768**

**National Principals Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 841, recognizing October 2022 as “National Principals Month”. **Page S6768**

**American Diabetes Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 842, supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month. **Page S6768**

**National School Psychology Week:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 843, expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on November 7, 2022 as “National School Psychology Week”. **Page S6768**

**Congratulating the Houston Astros:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 844, congratulating the Houston Astros for winning the 2022 Major League Baseball World Series. **Page S6768**

**National Native American Heritage Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 845, recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States. **Page S6768**

**National College Application Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 846, designating November 2022 as “National College Application Month”. **Page S6768**

**Waukesha Christmas Parade Attack:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 847, recognizing the 1-year anniversary of the tragic attack at the Waukesha Christmas Parade on November 21, 2021, and honoring the 6 individuals who lost their lives and the 62 others who were injured. **Page S6768**

**Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation 100th Anniversary:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 800, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6768–69**

Schumer (for Hyde-Smith) Amendment No. 6484, to amend the preamble. **Page S6768**

**Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge and Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary:** Committee on Environment and Public Works was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 801, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge and Pearl Harbor National Wildlife Refuge in the State of Hawaii, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6769**

**PRECIP Act:** Senate passed H.R. 1437, to amend the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 to direct the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to provide comprehensive and regularly updated Federal precipitation informa-

tion, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6769–70**

Schumer (for Wicker) Amendment No. 6485, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6769–70**

**Safe Connections Act:** Senate passed H.R. 7132, to preserve safe access to communications services for survivors of domestic violence and other crimes. **Page S6770**

**First Responder Fair RETIRE Act:** Senate passed H.R. 521, to permit disabled law enforcement officers, customs and border protection officers, firefighters, air traffic controllers, nuclear materials couriers, members of the Capitol Police, members of the Supreme Court Police, employees of the Central Intelligence Agency performing intelligence activities abroad or having specialized security requirements, and diplomatic security special agents of the Department of State to receive retirement benefits in the same manner as if they had not been disabled. **Page S6802**

#### Measures Considered:

**Respect for Marriage Act—Agreement:** Senate began consideration of H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S6749–55, S6763–68, S6770–72**

Pending:

Schumer (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 6487, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6770–71**

Schumer Amendment No. 6488 (to Amendment No. 6487), to add an effective date. **Page S6771**

Schumer Amendment No. 6489 (to Amendment No. 6488), to add an effective date. **Page S6771**

Schumer motion to refer the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions, Schumer Amendment No. 6490, to add an effective date. **Page S6771**

Schumer Amendment No. 6491 (to (the instructions) Amendment No. 6490), to add an effective date. **Pages S6771–72**

Schumer Amendment No. 6492 (to Amendment No. 6491), to add an effective date. **Page S6772**

A motion was entered to close further debate on Schumer (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 6487 (listed above), and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, November 17, 2022, a vote on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m., on Monday, November 28, 2022. **Page S6772**

A motion was entered to close further debate on 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 Schumer (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 6487. **Page S6772**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 53 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. 357), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S6770**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 3:00 p.m., on Monday, November 28, 2022, Senate resume consideration of the bill; that the filing deadline for first-degree amendments to Schumer (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 6487, and to the bill be at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, November 28, 2022; and that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Thursday, November 17, 2022, ripen at 5:30 p.m., on Monday November 28, 2022. **Pages S6802–03**

**Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.; and Friday, November 25, 2022, at 8 a.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 25, 2022, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Monday, November 28, 2022. **Page S6802**

**Velez-Rive Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Camille L. Velez-Rive, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico. **Page S6772**

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 H.R. 8404, to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage. **Page S6772**

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 S6772**

**NARDACCI NOMINATION—CLOTURE:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Anne M. Nardacci, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York. **Page S6772**

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 Camille L. Velez-Rive, of Puerto Rico, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico. **Page S6772**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6772**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6772**

**Nomination Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nomination: Rheanne Wirkkala, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense. **Page S6755**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations: Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, and Navy. **Page S6803**

**Nomination Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination: A routine list in the Navy. **Page S6803**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S6774**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S6774**

**Measures Placed on the Calendar:** **Page S6774**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S6774–78**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S6778**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S6780–81**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S6781–87**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S6773–74**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S6787–89**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S6789**

**Privileges of the Floor:** **Page S6789**

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—357) **Page S6770**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 17, 2022 and adjourned at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, November 18, 2022, until 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S6802–03.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

**Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:** Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of David Crane, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary, Jeffrey Matthew Marootian, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), and Gene Rodrigues, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary (Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability), all of the Department of Energy, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**NOMINATIONS**

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Stephen A. Owens, of Arizona, to be Chairperson, and Catherine J.K. Sandoval, of California, to be a Member, both of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

**THREATS TO THE HOMELAND**

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine threats to the homeland, after receiving testimony from Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security; Christopher A. Wray, Director, Federal Bu-

reau of Investigation, Department of Justice; and Christine Abizaid, Director, National Counterterrorism Center, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of McLain J. Schneider, to be United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota, David C. Davis, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Illinois, Peter D. Leary, to be United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia, and Leigha Simonton, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, all of the Department of Justice.

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# House of Representatives

**Chamber Action**

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 26 public bills, H.R. 9324–9349; and 13 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 115–117; and H. Res. 1482–1491, were introduced. **Pages H8586–88**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Page H8589**

**Report Filed:** A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 2626, to redesignate the Pullman National Monument in the State of Illinois as the Pullman National Historical Park, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–582). **Page H8586**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Kuster to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8545**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:59 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H8554**

**Suspension:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure: FEMA Improvement, Reform, and Efficiency Act of 2022: S. 3092, amended, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance. **Pages H8557–60**

**Guidance Clarity Act:** Agreed by unanimous consent that the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill S. 533, to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, be vacated, to the end that the motion be considered as withdrawn. **Page H8566**

Suspending the Rules and passing bills en bloc: Pursuant to section 2 of H. Res. 1464, Representative Carter (LA) made a motion to suspend the rules and pass the following bills en bloc, and therefore the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions would be vacated to the end that all such motions would be considered as withdrawn: H.R. 4275, amended, H.R. 5502, amended, H.R. 5721, amended, H.R. 6290, amended, H.R. 7277, amended, H.R. 7299, amended, and H.R. 8416, amended, by a yea-and-nay vote of 381 yeas to 39 nays, Roll No. 481. **Pages H8560–66, H8566–74**

**Suspensions-Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, November 14th. Max Cleland VA Medical Center Act: S. 3369, to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia, as the “Joseph Maxwell Cleland Atlanta Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 359 yeas to 62 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 482; **Page H8574**

**Senator Johnny Isakson VA Regional Office Act of 2022:** S. 4359, to designate the regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs in metropolitan Atlanta as the “Senator Johnny Isakson Department of Veterans Affairs Atlanta Regional Office”, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas to 2 nays with two answering “present”, Roll No. 483; **Page H8575**

**Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Reform Act:** H.R. 2250, amended, to

amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the management of information technology projects and investments of the Department of Veterans Affairs, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 414 yeas to 2 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 484; and

**Pages H8575–76**

***Lymphedema Treatment Act:*** H.R. 3630, amended, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 402 yeas to 13 nays, Roll No. 485.

**Pages H8576–77**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Cherfilus-McCormick wherein she resigned from the Committee on Education and Labor.

**Page H8577**

**Senate Message:** Message from the Senate received today appears on page H8579.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Five yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8573–74, H8574, H8575, H8575–76, and H8576–77.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

## Committee Meetings

### BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Full Committee held a business meeting to approve new subcommittee assignments. Subcommittee assignments were approved.

### UNSAFE AND UNTENABLE: EXAMINING WORKPLACE PROTECTIONS FOR WAREHOUSE WORKERS

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Unsafe and Untenable: Examining Workplace Protections for Warehouse Workers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### ASSESSING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S U.S. STRATEGY TOWARD SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Assessing the Biden Administration’s U.S. Strategy Toward Sub-Saharan Africa”. Testimony was heard from Molly Phee, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of African Affairs, Department of State; and Monde Muyangwa, Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Africa, U.S. Agency for International Development.

### PUERTO RICO’S POST-DISASTER RECONSTRUCTION AND POWER GRID DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Office of Insular Affairs Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Puerto Rico’s Post-Disaster Reconstruction and Power Grid Development”. Testimony was heard from Pedro Pierluisi, Governor, Puerto Rico; Manuel Laboy, Executive Director, Central Office for Recovery, Reconstruction, and Resiliency, Puerto Rico; William Rodriguez, Secretary, Department of Housing, Puerto Rico; and public witnesses.

### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Oversight and Reform:* Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 1283, the “CONTRACT Act of 2021”; H.R. 1307, the “Vote by Mail Tracking Act”; H. Res. 1412, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the projected inflationary impact of the implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the Build Back Better Act, and the Infrastructure and Jobs Act in conjunction with the Build Back Better Act; 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. 9308, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6401 El Cajon Boulevard in San Diego, California, as the “Susan A. Davis Post Office”; 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. 6661, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1663 East Date Place in San Bernardino, California, as the “Dr. Margaret B. Hill Post Office Building”; H.R. 6725, to change the address of the Marilyn Monroe Post Office, and for other purposes; 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. 7638, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6000 South Florida Avenue in Lakeland, Florida, as the “U.S. Marine Corporal Ronald R. Payne Jr. Post Office”; 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. 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. Peirson 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 Mitchell 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”; H.R. 8944, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1 East Main Street in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, as the “Harold Billow Post Office Building”; and H.R. 8959, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at N4805 State Highway 32 in Krakow, Wisconsin, as the “Romuald ‘Bud’ Brzezinski Post Office”. H.R. 1283, H.R. 1307, and H. Res. 1412 were ordered reported, as amended. H.R. 7832, H.R. 8025, H.R. 8630, H.R. 9308, H.R. 6630, H.R. 6631, H.R. 6661, H.R. 6725, H.R. 7082, H.R. 7638, H.R. 7873, H.R. 7988, H.R. 8026, H.R. 8217, H.R. 8218, H.R. 8226,

H.R. 8248, H.R. 8370, H.R. 8944, and H.R. 8959 were ordered reported, without amendment.

#### ACCESSIBLE AIR TRAVEL: ADDRESSING CHALLENGES FOR PASSENGERS WITH DISABILITIES

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled “Accessible Air Travel: Addressing Challenges for Passengers with Disabilities”. Testimony was heard from Representative Langevin; Heather Krause, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

#### MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress:* Full Committee held a markup on the Committee Report containing the following seven approved recommendations: Requiring Data to be Entered into Committee Scheduling Tool; Report on Members Voting Late; Opportunities to Learn from other Legislatures; Bipartisan New Member Update Seminar; Align the Treatment of Member Travel-Related Expenses with the Private Sector and Federal Agencies; Modernization Subcommittee on the Committee on House Administration; and Regular Modernization Select Committees; and the Committee’s Final Report for the 117th Congress containing the 104 recommendations this Committee has passed in total. The Reports were ordered reported, without amendment.

### *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

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#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

##### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

##### House

No hearings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

5:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 22

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

11 a.m., Friday, November 18

## Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Senate will meet in pro forma session.

## House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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