be covered in whole or in part by television, Internet, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming or broadcasting equipment in any position that may require some accommodation so as not to interfere with the sight, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting are prohibited.

AUTHORIZING SUBPOENAS

Rule 12. The Chairman may, with the agreement of the Vice Chairman, or the Committee may, by majority vote, authorize the issuance of subpoenas.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 13. These rules may be amended only by a vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee. Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of such meeting.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate requires each committee to adopt rules to govern the procedure of the committee and to publish those rules in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not later than March 1 of the first year of each Congress. Today, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs adopted committee rules of procedure.

Consistent with Standing Rule XXVI, I ask unanimous consent to have a copy of the rules of procedure of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS Pursuant to Rule XXVI, Sec. 2, Standing Rules of the Senate

RULE 1. MEETINGS AND MEETING PROCEDURES

A. Meeting dates. The Committee shall hold its regular meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, when the Congress is in session, or at such other times as the Chair shall determine. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as the Chair deems necessary to expedite Committee business. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Calling special Committee meetings. If at least three Members of the Committee desire that the Chair call a special meeting, they may file in the offices of the Committee a written request therefor, addressed to the Chair. Immediately thereafter, the clerk of the Committee shall notify the Chair of such request. If, within 3 calendar days after the filing of such request, the Chair fails to call the requested special meeting, which is to be held within 5 calendar days after the filing of such request, a majority of the Committee Members may file in the offices of the Committee a written notice that a special Committee meeting shall be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the Committee shall meet on that date and hour, immediately upon the filing of such notice, the Committee chief clerk shall notify all Committee Members that such special meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Meeting notices and agenda. Written notices of Committee meetings, accompanied by an agenda indicating the nature of business to be considered, shall be sent to all Committee Members at least 5 calendar days in advance of such meetings, excluding Saturday, Sunday, or legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session. The written notices required by this Rule may be provided by electronic mail. In the event that unforeseen reasons prevent the Committee from preventing sufficient notice of either the meeting or agenda, the Committee shall communicate such notice and agenda, or any revisions to the agenda, as soon as practicable by telephone or otherwise to Members or appropriate staff assistants in their offices.

D. Open business meetings. Meetings for the transaction of the business of the Committee shall be conducted in open session. Meetings on series of meetings on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded on the floor. A motion to close a meeting shall only whether the matters enumerated in clauses (1) through (6) below would require the meeting to be closed, followed immediately by a roll call vote by a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee Members when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings—

1. will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States; or
2. will relate solely to matters of Committee or Subcommittee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure; or
3. will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise cause an individual to public contempt or obloquy or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;
4. will disclose the identity of an individual or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement; or
5. will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person—
   (A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential; or
   (B) an Act of law or Government regulations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 3(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

E. Prior notice of first degree amendments. It shall not be in order, in Committee, or in a Subcommittee thereof, to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless a written copy of such amendment has been delivered to each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, and to the Chairman of the Committee, by no later than 4:00 p.m. two calendar days before the meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee at which the amendment is to be proposed, and, in the case of a first degree amendment in the nature of a substitute proposed by the manager of the measure, by no later than 4:00 p.m. five calendar days before the meeting. The written copy of amendments in the first degree required by this Rule may be provided by electronic mail. This subsection shall apply only when at least 5 calendar days written notice of a session to mark-up a measure is provided to the Committee or Subcommittee.

F. Meeting transcript. The Committee or Subcommittee shall prepare and keep a complete transcript or electronic recording adequate to enable each Member to determine whether or not such meeting or any part thereof is closed to the public, unless a majority of the Committee or Subcommittee Members vote to forego such a record. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(e), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 2. QUORUMS

A. Reporting measures and matters. A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(1), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

B. Transaction of routine business. One-third of the membership of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of routine business; provided that one-tenth of the Members of the Minority is present. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term “routine business” includes the convening of a meeting and the consideration of subpoenas or any business of the Committee other than reporting to the Senate any measures, matters or recommendations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a)(1), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Taking testimony. One Member of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for taking sworn or unsworn testimony. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(c)(1) and (2), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

D. Subcommittee quorums. Subject to the provisions of sections 3, 4, and 5 of this Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Subcommittees of this Committee are authorized to establish their own quorums for the transaction of business and the taking of sworn testimony.

E. Proxies prohibited in establishment of quorum. Proxies shall not be considered for the establishment of a quorum. (Rule 2, Voting)

RULE 3. VOTING

A. Quorum required. Subject to the provisions of subsection (e), no vote may be taken by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, unless a quorum is present. A quorum consists of quorum, as prescribed in the preceding section, is actually present.
B. Reporting measures and matters. No measure, matter or recommendation shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of the Committee Members are actually present at the time the vote is taken. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, provided that—

(1) When the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, considers legislation that would name a post office at a location that is to be in the state in which the facility is located.

(2) Any subpoenas shall be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, as the case may be. All subpoenas shall be in writing and shall contain sufficient reference to the measure or matter as is necessary to identify it and to inform the Committee or Subcommittee as to how the matter is to be recorded thereto. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a) and 7(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Announcement of vote. (1) Whenever the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, is voting to report a measure or matter, proxy votes shall be included only if the absent Committee or Subcommittee Member has been informed of the matter on which the Member is being recorded and has affirmatively requested that the vote be so recorded.

(2) All proxies shall be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee or Subcommittee thereof, as the case may be. All proxies shall be in writing and shall contain sufficient reference to the measure or matter as is necessary to identify it and to inform the Committee or Subcommittee as to how the matter is to be recorded thereto. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(a) and 7(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

D. Announcement of hearings. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall announce all meetings and hearings except that the Chair shall designate a temporary Chair to act in the Chair's place if the Chair is unable to be present or is voting, if the Chair is absent for a period of time.

E. Polling. (1) The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, may poll (a) internal matters; (b) the votes cast in favor of and in opposition to each measure and amendment thereto, or matter, the results thereof shall be announced in the Committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the Committee, and such announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to such measure and amendment thereto by each Member of the Committee who was present at the meeting. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(2) Whenever the Committee by roll call vote reports any measure or matter, the report of the Committee upon such a measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to such measure or matter by each Member of the Committee. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(3) In any case in which a roll call vote is announced, the tabulation of votes shall be state separately the proxy vote recorded in favor of and in opposition to that measure, amendment thereto, or matter. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(b) and (c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

F. Naming postal facilities. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall name a postal facility for a living person and the exception of bills naming facilities after former Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States, former Members of Congress over 70 years of age, former State or local elected officials over 70 years of age, former judges over 70 years of age, or wounded war veterans.

G. Technical and conforming changes. A Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the Committee Chair and Ranking Member by mutually agreement to make any required technical and conforming changes to the measure.

RULE 4. PRESIDING AT MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

A. Announcement of hearings. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall make public announcement of the date, time, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted on any measure or matter at least 5 calendar days in advance of such hearing, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session.

B. Open hearings. Each hearing conducted by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, shall be open to the public, except that a hearing or series of hearings on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters are to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States.

(1) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of foreign relations of the United States;

(2) will relate solely to matters of Committee or Subcommittee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(3) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise expose an individual to public contempt or ridicule on a complaint and an investigation of an unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(4) will disclose the identity of an informant or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is not, under the laws of the United States, the State, or other political subdivision in which the offense is alleged to have been committed, clearly in the public interest.

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information that is not pertained specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept secret by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, communicated through a representative of a person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of the person or company and is not, under the laws of the United States, the State, or other political subdivision in which the information pertains, to be kept secret.

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever disorder arises during a Committee or Subcommittee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any persons in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair of the Committee, or any Subcommittee, to maintain order in the Chair's own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Member of the Committee or Subcommittee; provided, furthermore, when the Chair determines that it is necessary to maintain order, the Chair shall have the power to clear the room, and the Committee or Subcommittee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(d), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Full Committee subpoenas. The Chair, with the approval of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses at a hearing or deposition or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials. The Chair may subpoena attendance or production without the approval of the Ranking Minority Member where the Chair has not received a letter of disapproval signed by the Ranking Minority Member within 3 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session.

D. Witness counsel. Counsel retained by the Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, may poll (a) internal matters; (b) the votes cast in favor of and in opposition to each measure and amendment thereto, or matter, the results thereof shall be announced in the Committee report on that measure.

(2) Whenever the Committee by roll call vote reports any measure or matter, the report of the Committee upon such a measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to such measure or matter by each Member of the Committee. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(3) In any case in which a roll call vote is announced, the tabulation of votes shall be state separately the proxy vote recorded in favor of and in opposition to that measure, amendment thereto, or matter. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 7(b) and (c), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

(4) will disclose the identity of an informant or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is not, under the laws of the United States, the State, or other political subdivision in which the offense is alleged to have been committed, clearly in the public interest.

(5) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets of financial or commercial information that is not pertained specifically to a given person if—

(A) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept secret by Government officers and employees; or

(B) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, communicated through a representative of a person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of the person or company and is not, under the laws of the United States, the State, or other political subdivision in which the information pertains, to be kept secret.

(6) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under other provisions of law or Government regulations. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever disorder arises during a Committee or Subcommittee meeting that is open to the public, or any demonstration of approval or disapproval is indulged in by any persons in attendance at any such meeting, it shall be the duty of the Chair of the Committee, or any Subcommittee, to maintain order in the Chair's own initiative and without any point of order being made by a Member of the Committee or Subcommittee; provided, furthermore, when the Chair determines that it is necessary to maintain order, the Chair shall have the power to clear the room, and the Committee or Subcommittee may act in closed session for so long as there is doubt of the assurance of order. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(d), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

C. Full Committee subpoenas. The Chair, with the approval of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses at a hearing or deposition or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other materials. The Chair may subpoena attendance or production without the approval of the Ranking Minority Member where the Chair has not received a letter of disapproval signed by the Ranking Minority Member.
of interest, and that the witness may only be represented during interrogation by staff or during testimony before the Committee by personal counsel not from the Government, corporation, or by personal counsel not representing other witnesses. This subsection shall not be construed to ex- cuse a witness from testifying in the event the witness is ejected for conduct that prevents, impedes, disrupts, obstructs or interferes with the orderly administration of the hearings; nor shall this subsection be construed to exonerate counsel to any witness or answer for the witness. The failure of any witness to secure counsel shall not excuse such witness from complying with a deposition notice.

E. Witness transcripts. An accurate electronic or stenographic record shall be kept of the testimony of all witnesses in executive and public hearings. The record of a witness's testimony whether in public or executive session shall be made available for inspection by the witness and the witness's counsel under Committee supervision; a copy of any testimony given in public session or that part of the testimony given by the witness in executive session and subsequently quoted in the record in a public session shall be provided to any witness at the witness's expense if the witness so requests that the襄阳 time be set by the chief clerk of the Committee, a witness may request changes in the transcript to correct errors of transcription or clerical errors; the Chair or a staff officer designated by the Chair shall rule on such requests.

F. Impugned persons. Any person whose name is mentioned or is specifically identified or who believes that evidence presented, or comment made by a Member of the Committee or staff officer, at a public hearing is falsely charged with disregard or procedures which have been public reports, tends to impugn the person's character or adversely affect the person's reputation may:

(a) File a sworn statement of facts relevant to the evidence or comment, which statement shall be considered for placement in the hearing record by the Committee;
(b) Request the opportunity to appear personally before the Committee to testify in the person's own behalf which request shall be considered for placement in the hearing record by the Committee;

(c) Submit questions in writing which the person requests be used for the cross-examination of other witnesses called by the Committee. Such requests shall be considered for use by the Committee.

G. Radio, television, and photography. The Committee, or any Subcommittee thereof, may permit the proceedings of hearings which are open to the public to be photographed and broadcast by radio, tele Marine or electronic recordings. If it is transcribed, the transcript shall be made available for inspection by the witness and the witness's counsel under Committee supervision. The witness shall sign a copy of the transcript and may request changes to it, which shall be handled in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsection (E). If the witness fails to sign a copy, the staff shall note that fact on the transcript. The individual administering the oath shall note that the witness's counsel was duly sworn in their presence, the signature shall certify that the transcript is a true record of the testimony, and the transcript shall then be filed with the chief clerk of the Committee. The Chair or a staff officer designated by the Chair may stipulate with the witness whether the procedure; deviations from this procedure which do not substantially impair the reliability of the record shall not relieve the witness from the witness's obligation to testify truthfully. For purposes of the foregoing evaluation, the report shall include a statement of the reasons for failure by the
Committee to comply with these requirements as impracticable, in the event of inability to comply therewith. (Rule XXVI, Sec. 11(b), Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 7. COMMITTEE CONFIDENTIALITY

Any filed or employed by the Senate who shall disclose the secret or confidential business or proceedings of the Senate, including the business and proceedings of the Standing Committees and offices of the Senate, shall be liable, if a Senator, to suffer expulsion from the body; and if an officer or employee, to dismissal from the service and to punishment for contempt. (Rule XXIX, Sec. 5, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

RULE 8. SUBCOMMITTEES AND SUBCOMMITTEE PROCEDURES

A. Regularly established Subcommittees. The Committee shall have three regularly established Subcommittees. The subcommittees are as follows:

1. PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

2. SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND SPENDING OVERSIGHT

3. SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND BORDER MANAGEMENT

B. Ad hoc Subcommittees. Following consultation with the Majority Member, the Committee shall establish such ad hoc Subcommittees as the Chair deems necessary to expedite Committee business.

C. Subcommittee membership. Following consultation with the Majority Members, and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, the Chair shall announce selections for membership on the Subcommittees referred to in paragraphs A and B, above.

1. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member shall be ex officio members of the subcommittees.

2. Any Member of the Committee may attend hearings held by any subcommittee and question witnesses testifying before that Subcommittee, subject to the approval of the Subcommittee Chair and Ranking Member.

D. Subcommittee meetings and hearings. Each Subcommittee of this Committee is authorized to establish meeting dates and adopt rules of procedure consistent with the rules of the Committee except as provided in Rules 2(D) and 8(E).

E. Subcommittee subpoenas. Each Subcommittee is authorized to serve subpoenas on the Senate for the appearance of witnesses and the production of documents in investigations concerning such subpoenas which need not be consistent with the rules of the Committee provided:

1. A written notice of intent to issue the subpoena shall be provided to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, the Senate, and the Senate Committee Chair in writing within 2 calendar days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays in which the Senate is not in session, from delivery to the appropriate offices, unless the Chair and Ranking Minority Member waive the notice period or unless the Subcommittee Chair certifies in writing to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member that, in the Subcommittee Chair's opinion, it is necessary to issue a subpoena immediately.

2. The Senate Committee Chair may expedite the proceedings of the subcommittee.

3. The Senate Committee Chair shall have access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Subcommittees and shall have access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Senate Committee except as provided in Rules 2(D) and 8(E).

F. Subcommittee budgets. During the first year of its existence, each Subcommittee that requires authorization for the expenditure of funds for the conduct of inquiries and investigations, shall file with the chief clerk of the Senate a statement of its estimated expenditures for the current and succeeding fiscal years and a budget for the current fiscal year. A copy of the budget form prescribed by the Committee on Rules and Administration shall be provided to the Senate Committee Chair. The Committee shall review the expenditure of funds requested for the subcommittee.

4. The Chair, the Ranking Minority Member, other Members of the Committee, and designated investigators shall have access to all documents and information prepared by any Federal agency, including access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Committee may request information from the Senate Committee on Accountability and any other such expert opinion as may be necessary in conducting its review of information provided by the Senate Committee.

D. Report on the Nominee. After a review of all information pertinent to the nomination, a confidential report on the nominee shall be made in the case of judicial nominees and may be made in the case of non-judicial nominees by the designated investigator to the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member. The Chair, Ranking Minority Member, other Members of the Committee, and designated investigators shall have access to all documents and information prepared by any Federal agency, including access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Committee may request information from the Senate Committee on Accountability and any other such expert opinion as may be necessary in conducting its review of information provided by the Senate Committee.

E. Hearings. The Committee shall conduct a public hearing during which the nominee shall be called to testify under oath on all matters relating to the nomination and suitability for office, including the policies and programs which the nominee will pursue while in that position. No hearing shall be held until at least 3 calendar days after the following events have occurred:

1. The Senate Committee has responded to prehearing questions submitted to the Senate Committee; and, if applicable, the Report of the Senate Committee on Accountability has been made to the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, and is available to other Members of the Senate Committee, upon request.

2. The Senate Committee on Accountability may make an oral presentation to the Senate Committee at the mark-up, factually summarizing the nominee's background and the steps taken during the course of its inquiry.

3. The Senate Committee on Accountability shall have access to the report of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Senate Committee, except as provided in Rules 2(D) and 8(E).

G. Application. The procedures contained in subsections (C), (D), (E), and (F) of this rule shall apply to persons nominated by the President to positions requiring their full-time service. At the discretion of the Chair and Ranking Minority Member, those procedures may apply to persons nominated by the President to serve on the basis of part-time service.

RULE 9. PERSONNEL ACTIONS AFFECTING COMMITTEE STAFF

In accordance with Rule XLI of the Standing Rules of the Senate and the Congress, all personnel actions affecting the staff of the Committee shall be made free from any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or disability.
in connection with foreign travel shall be used solely for lodging, food, and related expenses and it is the responsibility of the Member of the Committee or staff of the Committee receiving such an allowance to return to the United States Government that portion of the allowance received which is not actually used for necessary lodging, food, and related expenses. (Rule XXXIX, Paragraph 3, Standing Rules of the Senate.)

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the lives lost during the tragic earthquake that shook southern Turkey and northwestern Syria and to reaffirm the American commitment to provide assistance to recover from this disaster. In the early morning hours of February 6, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake, one of the strongest quakes in the region’s history, struck near the city of Gaziantep, causing the deaths of thousands of innocent individuals and wreaking disaster and destruction on many communities that were already struggling from the effects of war.

I am devastated by the growing loss of life and injuries in Turkey and Syria. As of today, the earthquake has left over 10,000 dead in Turkey and Syria and over 50,000 injured. Rescue missions continue to search for scores more that remain missing. In this great time of sadness for their countries, the United States will stand in humanitarian solidarity to provide relief, recovery, and efforts to build back even stronger.

Within hours, the U.S. Agency for International Development activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team—DART—to lead the U.S. Government’s humanitarian response to the disaster. The DART is working closely with Turkish authorities on the frontlines and will continue provide search and rescue support and identify priority humanitarian needs in the days to come.

In theней, the outpouring of support in resources and rescue workers has been encouraging. The White Helmets, a volunteer organization that has assisted in the rescue of the many civilians suffering from attacks by the Syrian regime, has sprung into action. The internationally renowned group is currently working around the clock and has sent out over 300 search and rescue teams—several times their normal operating capacity.

Over 20 NATO allies and partners have provided more than 1,400 emergency response personnel, including firefighters, engineers, search-and-rescue and medical teams. I am heartened by the generosity of individuals, countries, and organizations, which include the Catholic Relief Services—CRS—a humanitarian agency based in Baltimore, MD. CRS is supporting emergency relief efforts by local partners in Turkey and Syria, including partner organizations Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria, and Caritas Anatolia.

Today, we honor those lost and injured in this week’s disaster. We will continue to provide rescue support, and send our thoughts and prayers to the people of Turkey and Syria.

REMEMBERING ROBERT “BOBBY” SILVERSEIN

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the life of Robert “Bobby” Silverstein, a leader in the disability rights movement, who passed away on November 17, 2022.

Bobby was a true public servant having worked in the Department, the Health, Education, and Welfare Department, the House of Representatives, and the Senate, including as staff director and chief counsel for the Subcommittee on Disability Policy of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources—now the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. He was known as the “behind-the-scenes architect” of the Americans with Disabilities Act and served as a consensus-builder making bipartisan disability legislation a reality.

Bobby changed the lives of millions of people with disabilities by his work in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. I join former chairs of the HELP Committee in honoring his contributions to the disability and civil rights movement.

Bobby was steadfast in many roles fighting for disability rights after his time working in Congress. He will be remembered for the significant impact his work made to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

Finally, all who worked with Bobby tell of how kind and humble he was. He was beloved by all who knew him.

May the memory of Bobby Silverstein be for a blessing.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OHIO UNIVERSITY SCRIPPS CENTENNIAL

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the Ohio University E.W. Scripps School of Journalism on their centennial. One hundred years ago, Scripps first opened its doors and, since then, has shaped generations of journalists and reporters and writers.

The E.W. Scripps School of Journalism is one of our Nation’s best journalism schools and provides a unique experience where faculty empower students to think critically, write clearly, and expand their horizons. The curriculum extends far outside of the classroom with student newspapers, internship opportunities, and student-run media platforms to ensure that students have the skills necessary to excel after graduation.

Scripps students go on to do great things. Scripps alums are leading their industries, whether it is broadcast, print, or digital media. They are producing award-winning content, reporting at the national, State, and local level and delivering the stories that matter most to Ohioans and Americans.

Scripps journalists tell the stories that impact our daily lives and dig for those that might not be told otherwise. They are tenacious and dedicated in their pursuit of knowledge. They ask tough questions, challenge conventional wisdom, and connect us all with our communities and our world. That wouldn’t be possible without their time at Ohio University.

Most importantly, Scripps is rooted in the values essential for a democratic society, the values of truth, accuracy, and independence. I can’t think of better values to instill in the next generation of journalists.

In recent years, we have seen attacks on the free press, making it even more important that the journalists of today and tomorrow are prepared to fight for truth and transparency. A free, independent press is vital to our democracy. It is enshrined in our Constitution. And Scripps journalists uphold it daily. To the faculty and staff at Scripps, the students, and the alumni: Thank you for all you do to make Scripps the institution what it is today, an institution respected around the world for its ability to create the leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you for your commitment to journalism and dedication to the college. And thank you to Dr. Hugh Sherman and Dean Scott Tilton for your leadership.

I am proud that Scripps calls Ohio home, and I look forward to its next hundred years. Congratulations on the centennial.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:07 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID–19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 299. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 185. An act to terminate the requirement imposed by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for proof of COVID–19 vaccination for foreign travelers, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with