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No. 52

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 22, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARCUS J. MOLINARO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, 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 1:50 p.m.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT TRIPLE-NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address an issue that impacts nearly 200,000 women each year. Triple-negative breast cancer, or TNBC, makes up 15 percent of invasive breast cancer cases in the United States. Unfortunately, this deadly disease often fails to show up on scans or even in biopsies.

This form of breast cancer can spread quickly. Sadly, because of the nature of the cancer cells involved, there are fewer treatment options available compared to the other forms of cancer that many patients face.

Studies have shown a geographic link to contracting TNBC, and 3 out of every 1,000 women in Pennsylvania will contract this form of breast cancer each year. That is why it is so critical that we raise awareness for this disease and encourage women to be screened, as catching this disease early can significantly improve patient outcomes.

Even if you are feeling well, talk with your doctor about being screened for cancer. These procedures are often noninvasive and can make the difference in your family and in your life.

Together, we can raise awareness and fight against deadly diseases like triple-negative breast cancer that claim far too many American lives.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we Celebrate National Agriculture Day, we recognize the farmers, growers, and producers that work to feed our families and provide our children with nutrient-rich foods that they so desperately need.

Dairy farmers in central Pennsylvania work hard to provide dairy products like milk, cheese, and yogurt that are essential to childhood and adolescent development. Bones, muscle, brain, and vital organs all rely on products like whole milk for healthy development—the whole milk that cannot be replicated by inadequate limitations that are found in plants and nuts.

Our students deserve better than these fraudulent products, and we cannot allow almonds or soy to be passed off as dairy to American families.

It is time to ensure that whole milk is once again available in every school cafeteria. It is time to pass legislation like the DAIRY PRIDE Act and the Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act that

will support families, support the growth of students, and support our dairy farmers.

PEOPLE OVER POLITICS

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, last term, when Democrats were in control, we put people over politics and passed a bipartisan infrastructure law to rebuild your roads, bridges, and highways; to take lead out of water pipes; and to put broadband internet everywhere, from rural areas to cities, suburbs, and everywhere in between.

This year, when Republicans took control of the House, what did they do? They spent the enormous resources of their committee staff and the time and attention of their Members to hold not one but two hearings complaining about Twitter. They also took turns reading the United States Constitution on the House floor.

How does that help you, the American people? It doesn't. But it is worse than that.

Republicans are actually trying now to pass extreme bills that are going to actively harm American families. This week, we are going to vote on a bill that is going to make it easier for books to be banned at schools. It is also going to violate the privacy rights of students. If your child, unfortunately, has an eating disorder or is cyberbullied or is harassed or bullied, that information is going to have to be posted on a public website that the school has. Every other student and every parent is going to know that this is happening at the school. That is an outrageous violation of privacy.

Let me tell you about the amendments that Republicans rejected when Democrats tried to make this extreme bill better. Here are some amendments the Republicans rejected.

☐ 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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H1303

Republicans voted no on an amendment to remove lead pipes from schools.

Republicans voted no on an amendment to ensure kids had access to healthy meals.

Republicans voted no on an amendment to help keep firearms out of schools.

Republicans voted no on an amendment to prevent schools from monitoring students' menstrual cycles.

Republicans also voted no on an amendment to prevent the censorship of the teaching of the Holocaust.

This extreme bill is going to do horrible things to students' privacy, and it is going to increase books that are banned at schools.

In addition to doing stupid stuff and trying to pass extreme bills, Republicans have now gone on a rampage about what the Manhattan district attorney is doing without even knowing what the purported charges are or what the grand jury evidence is.

What if the evidence is overwhelming? What if it is rock solid that an American by the name of Donald Trump committed crimes? How do Republicans know? They don't.

Do you know what else they cannot explain? When Trump's former attorney, Michael Cohen, was arrested, indicted, convicted, and went to prison for participating in an illegal hush money payment scheme to Stormy Daniels, not a single Republican leader complaining now said a thing about what happened to Michael Cohen.

They cannot explain why they are holding Donald Trump to a different standard. Michael Cohen served prison time for participating in an illegal hush money payment scheme to Stormy Daniels.

In America, we should apply the same standard to all Americans. No one is above the law—not the former President's enablers, not the former President's attorneys, and not the former President himself.

Let's let law enforcement do their work. Let's let the judicial process do its work. Let's wait to see if there are going to be any charges, what those charges may be, and what the evidence is.

A jury or judge will get to hear this evidence, and the American people will see it. The prosecution will have to show beyond a reasonable doubt what their evidence is.

Let me conclude with this: Every American, including Donald Trump, is entitled to the presumption of innocence in a court of law, and that presumption will also be applied.

Let's apply the law equally, the way our Founders wanted it to be done.

SUPPORTING THE BERING RIVER COALFIELD ACQUISITION

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the commitment of the United States Forest Service to see through the protection of the Bering River coalfield in Alaska.

According to the Forest Service, the Copper River watershed, in which the Bering River lies, is one of the largest and most biologically intact places on Earth.

Mineral rights to the Bering River coalfield are currently owned by a Korean company, which means almost 12,000 acres of coalfields in the Copper River watershed remain vulnerable to mining.

Coal from the Bering River has no value in the U.S. coal market. We have plenty in the lower 48. An extraction would only serve to benefit the Asian markets at the cost of decimating one of the few untouched places left in America. The current owner of the mineral rights expressed that they are willing to sell the rights, and the bid for appraisal opened last week.

It is my hope that we are approaching the finish line of the conservation of the Bering River, an effort that has been ongoing for 100 years. Forty-six conservation organizations have voiced their support for the protection of this invaluable natural resource.

If a purchase of the Bering River coalfield is successful, all future generations of American sportsmen and -women and outdoor recreationists can experience the magnificent wild country the way it emerged from our creator.

I will take a brief moment to thank the late Representative Don Young from Alaska for his help and support of this issue to get it to this point.

I also thank the Exxon Valdez trust for extending a boundary so that money could be leveraged to help set aside for future generations this important national asset.

IGNITING CULTURE WARS AT THE EXPENSE OF TRANS LIVES

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

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in both sadness and anger.

I know how painful life can be as an openly gay person. Like so many in our community, I have also experienced harassment because of who I am, but these challenges pale in comparison to the onslaught of attacks against the trans community in this country today.

House Republicans attack trans people as threats to kids, religious liberty, and our local schools, but that just isn't true. The true threats are the discriminatory proposals against trans Americans that are being made in chambers and statehouses across the country.

Sports bans, bathroom bills, and healthcare restrictions demonize and

dehumanize trans people. With higher rates of depression, anxiety, and suicide, these bills literally mean the difference between life and death for so many in this community, but many in this Chamber don't seem to care.

It is part of a plan to ignite culture wars at the expense of trans lives. As an immigrant embraced by this country, I believe that being a true patriot means advocating for all of our people across the country. That is why I will do everything in my power to ensure and safeguard the rights of all Americans, and that includes our transgender community.

The trans community has been at the front lines of the struggle for justice and equality. Please know that we will be there right beside you, fighting against these cruel and un-American attacks.

Trans rights are human rights. We will continue to fight until we win.

RECOGNIZING CAL STATE LONG BEACH'S 50TH ANNUAL POWWOW

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cal State Long Beach's 50th annual powwow. Specifically, I recognize the First Nations and first stewards of the land where this event is held every single year.

The Cal State Long Beach powwow is the longest running and largest social celebration west of the Mississippi River honoring Native and indigenous peoples.

I had the pleasure of attending this event just recently and was incredibly impressed by the skill and love shared with this community event. This year's celebration was especially important. It was the first time it was held since the pandemic.

Established by American Indian students in 1969, the powwow includes Native dancers from across the State, the Pacific Northwest, and even parts of Canada.

Events like this are important to highlight our Native American culture and presence within our country. It also serves to educate and develop the next generation of Native American leaders while bringing Tribes together to highlight art and unity.

In commemoration of the 50 years of the powwow, we congratulate and thank Cal State Long Beach.

HONORING INFLUENTIAL ARTIST DAVE VAN PATTEN

Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support art in all its mediums. From paint to dance to music to story writing, our lives are enriched with the appreciation of the arts.

Today, I rise to recognize someone who has been an amazing and influential artist in the city of Long Beach, and that is Dave Van Patten.

Just last month, Dave topped his tremendous career by winning a Grammy for his work as artistic director of the box set album of Grateful Dead concerts titled: "In and Out of the Garden."

Dave Van Patten's work is iconic. You can see it all across the city of Long Beach, the city of Bellflower, and across the State and beyond. His ability to blend surrealism with comic book designs makes him a unique artist with a distinctive style across southern California. I am honored to know Dave. He is a constituent. He is a friend, and amazing artist transforming people's lives.

Dave, congratulations.

□ 1215

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE DAY

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

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was National Agriculture Day, a day to celebrate the contributions of America's farmers, growers, and ranchers.

These hardworking men and women provide our families with the food, fuel, and fiber we need each and every day. According to the USDA, the agriculture sector contributed nearly \$1.3 trillion to our GDP in 2021 and accounted for a tenth of all U.S. employment.

My district in southern Illinois is home to more than 10,000 producers, and one of the most diverse agricultural districts in the region.

In addition to corn and soybean, southern Illinois produces rice, specialty crops, livestock, dairy, wine, and more than one-half of the horseradish in the United States.

But these aren't easy jobs. Farmers are often at the mercy of the weather and other factors well beyond their control.

As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I believe that the new farm bill provides us a critical opportunity to put farmers first and support programs like crop insurance to strengthen our food security.

I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 235 designating March 21, 2023, as National Agriculture Day, and I will continue to fight for our southern Illinois farming families every day that I serve in Congress.

WORLD WATER DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, on World Water Day, I rise on behalf of every American who lacks access to the most basic necessity of human survival.

Mr. Speaker, 4 years ago, 15,000 households in Newark, New Jersey, were forced to rely on bottled water due to the lead in the city's supply. As lead contamination levels approached record highs, residents of my State's largest city were forced to reckon with the reality that access to safe drinking water would not be and could not be taken for granted.

I am grateful that Newark has since replaced nearly all of its lead pipes, and their residents can once again trust that their tap water is safe to drink.

In fact, had this emergency been unique to one city at one time, I probably wouldn't have been compelled to speak here today.

However, the year after Newark put an end to its emergency, infrastructure failures in Jackson, Mississippi, cut off residents' access to safe water. Mississippi's capital city still lacks the resources to support residents in need.

Let me be clear. This is not a Newark crisis or a Jackson crisis, or for that matter, even a Flint, Michigan, crisis. It is an American crisis.

Due to climate change, outdated infrastructure, and systemic disinvestment in our most vulnerable communities, millions of Americans risk losing access to water.

As the wealthiest Nation on Earth, we have the resources—not to mention the moral imperative—to change that situation. Safe, clean water is a human right. If we continue to ignore the water crisis, communities across the country will face dire consequences for their health, safety, and well-being.

Mr. Speaker, I am introducing the WATER Act because the time to act is now. In addressing water scarcity, we must revitalize our failing infrastructure, remove dangerous contaminants from our water supplies, and reinvest in the communities that have been hit hardest by decades of privatization and austerity. The WATER Act tackles the crisis on all three fronts.

My legislation would provide \$35 billion annually to modernize our Nation's water and sewer infrastructure. Cities like Newark are not outliers. Lead pipes are used in every single State. By overhauling our infrastructure, we can remove these dangerous components and eliminate the threat of lead contamination.

My legislation would also clean up other contaminants, as well, including PFAS, "forever chemicals." New Jersey has some of the highest PFAS levels in the country and Black, Brown, and low-income communities suffer disproportionately from this contamination.

Everyone, regardless of their race, their income, or their ZIP Code deserves reliable water access. That is why, in addition to cleaning up contamination, my legislation will provide grants to low-income communities to stop water shutoffs due to unaffordable bills.

With these long-overdue investments, we can prevent further water shortages, protect our current supply, and make emergencies like those in Flint, Jackson, and Newark a thing of the past.

Water is the essence of human life, and as public servants, we must ensure that every family in every community has reliable access to it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge this Chamber to take up the WATER Act and pass it without delay.

PUBLIC SCHOOL RADICAL GENDER IDEOLOGY

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about an extremely important topic that is very current and very disturbing in our Nation, in our Nation's schools, and the relationship of parents and their kids.

Mr. Speaker, during the COVID lockdowns, schools were closed, and much of the learning was conducted online, except for those courageous schools that did manage to stay open and teach their kids the normal way.

During this time, parents gained a valuable opportunity to see firsthand what their children were being taught in public schools, and in some cases, what is in their libraries.

What they found was very shocking to them. We heard a conversation a bit earlier about, Oh, this is banning books.

If you see the content that is in some of the books, some of the so-called educational materials, it is really nothing short of pornography that is being allowed to be in there.

Mr. Speaker, when did it become okay for kids to be subject to that kind of material or the performances that are being brought to their libraries under the guise of openness where it wouldn't be really any different than what is going on in a strip club?

You would get in big trouble should you take your kid to one of those. How is that allowed to be normalized these days?

Rather than teaching children the skills that they need and the knowledge to become successful adults, these activists, whether it is teachers, counselors, superintendents, they are filling their heads with this woke far-left propaganda and pushing radical gender ideology on children as young as elementary age.

In response to the backlash, teachers and public school administrators have attempted to keep this indoctrination and these agendas secret from their parents. Unbelievable.

This included helping encourage students to keep secrets from their parents, hiding their lesson plans and curriculums, trying to ban recording in the classroom, obfuscating what materials are being shown to students, and shutting down parents who spoke out at public school meetings when they heard about this, even so far as having the U.S. Department of Justice refer to them as terrorists.

They asserted time and again that parents did not have the right to be involved in their children's education. They claimed that once children walked through the schoolhouse door, those children belonged to the State.

What is that? Where are the echoes of that coming from?

In 2021, parents across the country revolted at school board meetings and

gathered to make their concerns heard in free assembly, a First Amendment protection.

In Loudoun County, Virginia, a father of a young girl who had been assaulted by a biological male was arrested for speaking out against the school board's decision to hide the perpetrator's history of assault against young girls. That decision put his innocent daughter and countless other students at risk.

In my own district in Northern California, a school district was caught secretly changing a young girl's name and pronouns and even encouraging that something was wrong with her body—she was in the wrong body—filling her head with falsehoods. The counselor who encouraged this activity allegedly manipulated the young girl to keep her transitioning secret from her own mother.

In both cases, parents rightfully pushed back against these assiduous attempts of public schools to force woke gender ideology on their children.

Unfortunately, parents across the country have been met with State force when they have tried to assert their rightful place as the supreme authority in their children's lives.

The Department of Justice infamously circulated a memo calling parents who exercise these rights as “domestic terrorists.”

As Americans gradually become aware of the rotten corruption that permeates so much of our public school system, it became clear that Congressional Republicans needed to take action to support parents across the Nation and enshrine protections against government retaliation.

Last Congress, I introduced two bills: one that prohibits doctors from performing gender reassignment surgeries on minors and another allowed victims of these life-altering procedures to sue those who pushed these surgeries on them as minors.

These permanent, life-altering surgeries are being forced onto vulnerable children by radical activists. Mutilating a child's body is not medicine. It is not science. It is not affirming, nor is it care.

As we have seen in the recent exposure of the inside workings of a Missouri clinic, children manipulated into undertaking these surgeries are not informed about the life-altering damage being done to their bodies. They are being rushed through the process, and in the worst cases are outright lied to by the people who are somehow going to make their lives better or more in order, and that they know better who should be taking care of them instead of their parents when this harm is being caused.

Doing this to a child is immoral, and it should be punished with the full force of the law. Children whose lives are permanently altered due to these surgeries should be allowed to sue for damages and put parents back at their rightful place, their God-given right to

oversee their children's education, their well-being, their health, and their bodies.

OUR NATION'S SMALL COMMUNITY BANKS

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

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to defend our community banks. For decades, we have had leftwing, out-of-control Federal administrations that have been hammering on our community banks to put them out of business. You take Sarbanes-Oxley, Dodd-Frank, or the Federal agencies who have been regulating and regulating these small community banks to the point where they either have to sell, close up, or worst, being taken over.

You see, these community banks, they are the lifeblood of small businesses, and small businesses, they are the backbone to this economy.

These community banks, they are a part of our community. They are out there in your civic and social organizations leading. Their kids go to school with your kids. They are out there on the ball fields helping coach. They are even going to church with you on Sunday.

You see, they have a vital interest in seeing the community succeed. That way they succeed. Yet, now we have this extra-woke, leftwing administration that has decided to pick winners and losers and take a different tactic.

The tactic they are taking now is to try to scare the consumer to where they will take their deposits from the community bank and move it over to one of the big banks, to where they can achieve that Big Government, be all, end all for every need and everything you ever need, and that is not America.

As a matter of fact, Mr. Speaker, I wouldn't be standing here, and I wouldn't be where I am today, if it weren't for my community bank.

So I have two things, Mr. Speaker: Federal Government get off the backs of these community banks. Take your leftwing ideology somewhere else.

To my fellow Americans out there: Continue to support your community bank out there. Continue to do business with them.

□ 1230

RECOGNIZING FLAU'JAE JOHNSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Flau'jae Johnson, a Savannah native and member of the LSU women's basketball team.

Flau'jae was recently named the SEC Freshman of the Year and was also selected to the 2023 SEC All-Freshman Team. She is the fourth LSU player to earn SEC Freshman of the Year honors, the first since 2009.

Flau'jae came to LSU as a highly talented freshman ranked as the No. 26 player in the Nation. She made an immediate impact in Baton Rouge, scoring 11.6 points per game and bringing down 5.9 rebounds per game. She was named SEC Freshman of the Week three times.

In her collegiate debut, she scored 14 points and grabbed 8 rebounds. She also recorded two assists, two blocks, and one steal. Through her first week of college basketball, Flau'jae scored in double figures all three games.

I congratulate Flau'jae on all of her success so far. We are excited to see everything that she will achieve.

RECOGNIZING NAT LEGREE

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nat Legree for his retirement from Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church.

For the last 42 years, Nat has been a fixture at Wesley Monumental for his constant service to the church. Most of his work was behind the scenes but certainly did not go unnoticed as he helped prepare Wesley for worship, study, and fellowship week after week for many decades.

Nat oversaw the grounds and in recent years was responsible for maintaining the beautiful garden at Oliver Hall. Nat's dedication to his church community is admirable and has helped create a wonderful, welcoming environment for many. Wesley Monumental Church will never be the same without Nat.

On behalf of the Wesley Monumental United Methodist Church family, we are grateful to Nat for all that he has given to our church.

RECOGNIZING BART DAVIS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bart Davis, who was named the 2023 Georgia Farmer of the Year at this year's Georgia Ag Forecast.

Bart began farming 41 years ago in Doerun, Georgia, following the loss of his mother and father during his senior year of high school. Since then, he has grown the then 500-acre operation to encompass 5,000 acres. Today, he focuses on cotton, peanuts, and corn, while also managing a cattle operation.

Bart has made impressive strides in using precision agriculture technology to ensure the efficiency of his farm, including the use of soil moisture sensors and irrigation in the majority of his fields.

In addition to the work on his own farm, he has given back in various industry leadership roles. He has served on the Georgia Cotton Commission Board, the Georgia Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation, the National Cotton Council, and represents Georgia on Southern Cotton Growers and Cotton Incorporated.

I thank Bart for his continued dedication to his farm and to the agricultural industry.

RECOGNIZING TOM FANNING AND CHRIS WOMACK

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tom Fanning and Chris Womack of the Southern Company.

Tom is the current chairman of the board, CEO, and president of Southern Company. For more than 42 years, Tom's excellent leadership has helped mold Southern Company into the great company it is today. I thank Tom for his decades of service to Southern Company and the First District of Georgia.

On March 31, 2023, Chris Womack will become chairman of the board, CEO, and president of Southern Company. Chris currently serves as chairman, president, and CEO of Georgia Power. Prior to those positions, Chris worked for former Congressman Leon Panetta.

I congratulate Chris and wish him well as he prepares to lead Southern Company.

IN DEFENSE OF PARENTS

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

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of parents who have the right to guide their child's education and to know what is being taught in the classroom.

This body will soon vote on a great piece of legislation, H.R. 5, the Parental Bill of Rights. This bill puts parents in the driver's seat and makes students the priority, not bureaucrats or administrators.

It is hard to imagine who would fight against parental rights and school choice, but just the other day, Democratic legislators in my home State of Georgia were trying to stop several successful bills that expand education options for families.

Shockingly, their reasoning was that low-income families are too uneducated and poor to have a say over their own children's schooling.

If you don't believe me, here are the exact words of Georgia's 67th House District Representative just last week: "... they," meaning the parents, "are already in the lower 25th percentile, meaning a lot of those parents did not finish high school, cannot direct, and could not finish their own education."

She continues: "I am extremely concerned that we would put money in their hands, that entire piece of life in the hands of parents who are not qualified to make those decisions."

Well, I think that is nonsense. The vast majority of Americans—moms and dads and teachers and students—know that is nonsense.

History is littered by governments who thought they knew better, and that people and parents did not know better, much to the detriment of that culture and the ultimate failure of that government.

That is why I am offering two amendments to the Parental Bill of Rights.

The first one establishes the right of parents to be informed about, and consent to, participation in any non-curriculum events or activities.

We already do this for things that government schools deem important like field trips, gifted programs, individual education plans, and free and reduced lunches. I believe that parents' rights do not end at the discretion of the administration.

Unfortunately, in recent years, some school systems have used the classroom as a bully pulpit to push social engineering instead of learning environments. This is not a partisan issue, and this has got to stop. The way it stops is keeping parents informed of what happens at school.

My other amendment guarantees parents the opportunity to address their school boards regarding any violation of their rights. As we have seen too often across the country, concerned moms and dads have been silenced, thrown out, or threatened when standing up for their children. This is unacceptable.

Families need accountability in their schools and a place to make their voices heard. Fortunately, from Georgia to Virginia, from Texas to Idaho, and yes, even from California to New York, we are beginning to put students over systems and the people over a government, just like the Constitution intended.

This revolution of school choice and parental rights will help millions of families across America, and we are just getting started.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 37 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Hear the cries of Your people, O Lord.

Out of the depths of their suffering, hear their voices, pleading for rescue from the hands of their tormentors for an end to the violence they endure from the hands of their oppressors and relief from the poverty they experience in both body and spirit.

Let Your ears be attentive to the pleas that rise to You from across the globe from the innocent men, women, and children who are caught in the

crossfire of the war in Ukraine and from the enemy's conscripted soldiers who are forced to fight a war that is not of their own making.

Hear the voices of those who dare to speak words of peace and reconciliation into the winds of war and silence the rhetoric of false claims to the hegemony of property and the control of Your people.

We wait for You, O Lord, to speak Your word. Countless wait on You to reach into their souls and give them reason to hope. More than those who wait in the darkness for the dawn, more than these, do we wait for Your power to redeem Your children.

In Your steadfast love, save us from ourselves and from our inequities.

In Your most holy name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

S. 30.—An act to authorize major medical facility projects for the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 101-509, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, announces the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress:

Denise A. Hibay of New York.

NATIONAL AG WEEK

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Ag Week. It is a time where America honors and gives thanks to her farmers, ranchers, and ag workers. Without their hard work, dedication, and ingenuity, our Nation would not enjoy the rich bounty of food they grow.

However, there are daunting issues that face our agricultural sector: Fuel, water supply—especially in my home State of California; although right now, we are very grateful for the massive rain—market conditions, and the trade commitments being enforced, such as the deficit we have with China.

Agriculture is essential to the economic well-being of my district, northern California, and the West.

California farmers rely on an abundance of water and low fuel prices to grow the crops we eat.

The last several years have seen fields go fallow because California's broken water management system has not been able to deliver the water that was needed.

Indeed, if we don't have the water supply, these crops that America receives so much of from California would not be grown, they would need to be imported or not have them at all.

It is in America's best interest to pursue permitting reform and unleash our domestic energy potential.

We celebrate National Ag Week in order to keep Americans working, fed, and our farmers in the fields.

HAYFIELD BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a team of high school athletes from Virginia's Eighth Congressional District.

Two weeks ago, Hayfield Secondary School's boys basketball team defeated the Patriot Pioneers to win Virginia's Class 6 basketball title for the second consecutive season.

Their hard-fought win was a testament to their collective work and to the energetic, orange-out crowd that traveled down from Fairfax to cheer them on.

Hayfield Secondary students, teachers, and administrators are the best of our future. They are diverse, brilliant, and creative. It takes the whole Hayfield community to build the past two seasons where they had a 62-1 record in addition to back-to-back State championships.

Hayfield's win reflects their courage, discipline, and excellent sportsmanship.

Congratulations to Coach Carlos Poindexter, to everyone who made this success possible, and to the Hayfield players who brought this championship home.

Daryl Holloway, Jr., David King, Gregory Jones, Donovan Bass-Briscoe, Yohanse Awoke, Jahleel Jackson, Braelen Cage, Phenix Card, Andrew Ramirez-Novas, Owen Pottenburgh, Ryan Payne, Isiah Blue, Sean Burton, Parker Cage, Evan Sussin, Landon Judy, Jaylen Lemon, and Damarius Duncan.

Go Hawks!

AMERICAN FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as revealed by The Wall Street Journal on March 10:

The Pentagon's budget request seems large, but the figure is only a 3.2 percent increase, and with inflation at 6 percent it means a decline in buying power. Compare the growth to the double-digit increases for domestic accounts: 19 percent for the Environmental Protection Agency; 13.6 for both Education and Energy Departments; 11.5 percent for Health and Human Services.

Defense in 2022 was only 3 percent of GDP, down from 6 percent during the Cold War, even though America's challenges today are more numerous and acute.

Mr. Biden's largest failure is promising his budget will keep America safe instead of leveling with the public about the threats.

We should have a return of bipartisan support for defending American families.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the Global War on Terrorism continues moving from Afghanistan to the safe haven of America.

Thank you to the Prime Minister of Japan, Fumio Kishida, for the courage to visit Kyiv, Ukraine, this week as the democracies unite against war criminal Putin.

RECOGNIZING THREE NICARAGUAN PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to place in the RECORD the names of three Nicaraguan political prisoners who were among those released and sent to the United States on February 23, 2023.

Luis Carlos Valle Tinoco, Karla Vanessa Escobar Maldonado, and Yader Antonio Polanco Cisneros joined the massive protests in Nicaragua in April 2018. All were denied due process, imprisoned in deplorable conditions, and refused access to medical care as their health declined just because they disagreed with their government.

They were recognized as prisoners of conscience by the Defending Freedoms Project of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, and I was privileged to serve as their advocate.

Some Nicaraguan prisoners who arrived here are well-known leaders, but many are not. They have been stripped of their nationality, lost everything, and have a tough road ahead.

The Ortega government must be held accountable for its crimes.

SALUTE TO OUR FARMERS AND RANCHERS DURING NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

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

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute our farmers and ranchers as we celebrate National Ag Week.

In Nebraska, we grow the food, fuel, and fiber we need to feed the world.

We are known as the "Cornhusker State" and the "Beef State." We are number one for cattle on feed, number two for ethanol production, and number three for corn exports.

We are home to the four largest center-pivot irrigation manufacturers who help farmers efficiently apply water resources around the globe.

These are just a few of the things that make Nebraska the number one ag State and the number one in the Nation for ag receipts per capita.

We are also home to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Daugherty Water for Food Institute, which is leading the research we need to ensure that our world's natural resources support food security for years to come.

As we celebrate National Ag Week, I would extend a heartfelt thank you to the farmers and ranchers who work hard and sacrifice each day to feed the world.

PAKISTAN DAY

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

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my love and appreciation for the Pakistani-American community. I am proud to be introducing a resolution supporting a designation of March 23 as Pakistan Day.

The holiday of Pakistan Day, coming up tomorrow, marks the creation of the world's first Islamic Republic. Of course, Ramadan begins at sundown today, so I extend my best wishes for a happy Ramadan to Muslims around the world.

Pakistan Day is an opportunity for people of Pakistani heritage, wherever they live, to join with their neighbors in joy and celebration of their culture, their achievements, and their aspirations for the future. We are all enriched by this spirit.

I am deeply inspired by the contributions of Pakistani Americans who have given their brilliance to my district and our country as educators, innovators, public servants, organizers, and so much more.

Thank you to the American Pakistani Advocacy Group for your work which makes our democracy stronger.

I look forward to joining all those who will be observing Pakistan Day tomorrow, from Islamabad to Yonkers.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

CONGRATULATING THE FULLERTON COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fullerton College men's basketball team on winning the California Community College Athletic Association's State championship.

The Hornets beat the City College of San Francisco Rams by a score of 83-73.

The win marks the fifth time the Hornets have brought home the State title since the school basketball team was founded in 1927.

The game was an exciting one, rounding out the team's season record to 30-1 and concluding their 25-game win streak.

On behalf of the Fullerton community and the 45th Congressional District, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Hornets for this extraordinary accomplishment.

You make us all proud.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STRONG) at 5 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CAPABILITIES PILLAR OF THE TRILATERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1093) to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1093

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

SECTION 1. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CAPABILITIES PILLAR OF THE TRILATERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES.

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

(1) the enhanced trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States (in this section referred to as the “AUKUS partnership”) is intended to positively contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region through enhanced deterrence;

(2) to this end, implementation of the AUKUS partnership will require a whole-of-government review of processes and procedures for Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States to benefit from such partnership and, in particular, to support joint development of advanced capabilities;

(3) the Department of State plays a pivotal role in the administration of arms exports and sales programs under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.) and the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.);

(4) the Department of State should work in coordination with the Department of Defense and other relevant United States Government agencies to seek to expeditiously implement the AUKUS partnership; and

(5) the Department of State, in coordination with the Department of Defense, should clearly communicate any United States requirements to address matters related to the technology security and export control measures of Australia and the United Kingdom.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on efforts of the Department of State to implement the advanced capabilities pillar of the AUKUS partnership.

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

(A) For each of the calendar years 2021 and 2022—

(i) the average and median times for the United States Government to review applications for licenses to export defense articles or defense services to persons, corporations, and the governments (including agencies and subdivisions of such governments, including official missions of such governments) of Australia or the United Kingdom;

(ii) the average and median times for the United States Government to review applications from Australia and the United Kingdom for foreign military sales beginning from the date Australia or the United Kingdom submitted a letter of request that resulted in a letter of acceptance with; and

(iii) the number of applications from Australia and the United Kingdom for licenses to export defense articles and defense services that were denied or approved with provisos, listed by year.

(B) For each of the fiscal years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, the number of voluntary disclosures resulting in a violation of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) enumerated under section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780) or involving proscribed countries listed in section 126.1 of the ITAR, by persons, cor-

porations, and the governments (including agencies and subdivisions of such governments, including official missions of such governments) of Australia or the United Kingdom, including information with respect to—

(i) any instance of unauthorized access to technical data or defense articles;

(ii) inadequate physical or cyber security;

(iii) retransfers or re-exports without authorization; and

(iv) employees of foreign companies that are United States persons that provide defense services without authorization.

(C) The value of any civil penalties assessed from 2017 to 2022 for disclosures or violations described in subparagraph (B) on United States applicants that involved foreign persons, foreign corporations, and foreign governments in the United Kingdom or Australia.

(D) A list of relevant United States laws, regulations, and treaties and other international agreements to which the United States is a party that govern authorizations to export defense articles or defense services that are required to implement the AUKUS partnership.

(E) An assessment of key recommendations the United States Government has provided to the governments of Australia and the United Kingdom to revise laws, regulations, and policies of such countries that are required to implement the AUKUS partnership.

(F) An assessment of recommended improvements to export control laws and regulations of Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States that such countries should make to implement the AUKUS partnership and to otherwise meet the requirements of section 38(j)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(j)(2)), and the challenges Australia and the United Kingdom have conveyed in meeting these requirements including with respect to sensitive defense technology security controls.

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

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

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, as China continues its aggressive posture in the Indo-Pacific, strengthening partnerships to deter Chairman Xi are more important now than ever. I thank my good friend, Ranking Member MEEKS, for standing with me in support of this bipartisan measure.

The Australia-United Kingdom-United States partnership known as AUKUS is a long-term security pact to protect peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

The recent announcement on AUKUS implementation only addressed one piece of this partnership—cooperation on conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines, but there is much more to this partnership.

The second pillar of AUKUS is cooperation on advanced capabilities. The purpose is to collaborate on high-tech research and the application of systems, such as hypersonics, undersea capabilities, quantum technologies, artificial intelligence, and much more.

This legislation focuses on ensuring the State Department is authorizing technology transfers quickly to fully support implementation of this vital pillar.

We are facing a generational challenge from the Chinese Communist Party. We must bring all tools to bear in our effort to counter Chairman Xi's attempts to disrupt the global balance of power. With AUKUS, our three nations can achieve the shared strategic goal of defending the Indo-Pacific region while maintaining our technological and military superiority.

This bill presses the State Department to take action and account for our arms transfers with the U.K. and Australia so that we can address any hurdles and act seamlessly now and not wait for a time of crisis or even war.

For these reasons, I am proud of this bipartisan bill, which will begin to address numerous long-standing challenges in our arms exports to our closest allies and potentially serve as a roadmap for working with other close allies and partners.

I, again, thank Ranking Member MEEKS, his team, and our members for working with my staff to ensure that this bill in support of a new long-term security pact with our allies becomes a reality.

Mr. Speaker, this bill deserves our unanimous support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and his staff for working collectively on this bipartisan bill at this very important time. Clearly, making sure that we are working collectively together with one voice on this serious issue is of utmost importance to all of us in the United States of America.

The Biden administration, in coordination with Australia and the U.K., recently formalized the trilateral security partnership known as AUKUS, which aims to strengthen shared defense priorities in the Indo-Pacific. This new security framework represents an important step forward to the United States and the Indo-Pacific, and for strengthening our shared capabilities in the strategic competition defining our world today and for years to come.

Within this broader AUKUS agreement, Pillar 2 advances military capabilities with the intent of developing and enhancing joint capabilities between Australia, the U.K., and the United States to improve security and interoperability in the region. One aspect of this pillar is improving and synchronizing processes related to arms exports and sharing of sensitive defense technologies between participants. This includes encouraging and advising our partners on how to strengthen the regulatory frameworks to enable closer cooperation while maintaining appropriate safeguards.

H.R. 1093 requires the State Department to report to Congress on its efforts toward implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of AUKUS, including International Traffic in Arms Regulations and improvements necessary in partner country regulations to enable secure and successful implementation.

As the United States looks to build on this important shared security partnership with Australia and the United Kingdom within the AUKUS framework, I am proud, again, to co-lead this bipartisan initiative with Chairman McCaul to ensure we move forward in a meaningful way.

As we engage in strategic competition, sharing our defense technologies and capabilities in a safe, secure, and regulated manner with our partners is absolutely critical. Therefore, I encourage my colleagues, all of my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans, to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCaul. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY), my friend from HASC.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to enthusiastically support H.R. 1093, a bill that will identify key parts of our Nation's system of export controls that should be amended and expedited to achieve the goals of the new Australia-U.K.-U.S. trilateral security agreement which, as the bill states, will "contribute to peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region."

Mr. Speaker, I salute and thank Chairman McCaul, Ranking Member MEEKS, and the members and staff of the House Foreign Affairs Committee for moving swiftly in the wake of last week's extraordinary joint appearance of President Biden, Australia's Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, and U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, publicly revealing our three nations' commitment to a specific, executable pathway to bolster much-needed deterrence in support of an international rules-based order, which today is increasingly under stress.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor to join these leaders on March 13 at Naval Base Point Loma in San Diego for this historic announcement. As was noted

repeatedly, it marked the first time since 1958 that the U.S. and the U.K. pledged to share critical technologies with another country.

In addition to sharing nuclear propulsion technology to recapitalize Australia's submarine fleet, the three governments also committed to sharing other security capabilities, including quantum computing, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and hypersonics.

Pooling these advanced capabilities will enhance our three nations' capability to protect maritime freedom of navigation and aviation, which have been the pillars of peaceful coexistence in the commons of the seas and the skies since the end of World War II.

To achieve the goals of the AUKUS plan, it will require all three countries to use laser-like focus to remove any barriers that might occur from our system of export controls that are not aligned with this new enhanced alliance.

Admiral Harry Harris, former commander of Indo-Pacific Command and former Ambassador to South Korea, said it best at a recent House Armed Services Committee hearing on the contested environment in the Indo-Pacific: "I can't emphasize enough how important it is to get through this export control issue with Australia. We could have every good intention in the world, but it will falter if we become bound up by our own regulation and our own regulatory policy."

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, this bill heeds that call by directing the State Department to inventory any and all administrative and statutory barriers to AUKUS implementation and report that back to Congress within 60 days. This is exactly what Congress needs to do.

Mr. Speaker, I will end by foot stomping the extraordinary bipartisan support that AUKUS enjoys in all three governments and was on full display last week in San Diego. Both the majority and opposition parties in the U.K. and Australia are rock solid in support of this agreement, and tonight's bill is a strong signal of bipartisan support in the U.S. Congress.

Indeed, in the last Congress, we overwhelmingly passed the first-ever congressional action related to AUKUS by authorizing Australian submariners to begin joint training at the moored training ship facility in Charleston, South Carolina, and those sailors are here today. Building on that effort, it is of utmost importance that we continue our efforts in Congress and identify opportunities to smoothly implement AUKUS.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Connecticut.

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, as the Australian Prime Minister very well described a week ago last Monday:

A new chapter in the relationship between Australia, the United States, and the United Kingdom is about to begin; a friendship built on our shared values, our commitment to democracy, and our common vision for a peaceful and prosperous future.

Mr. Speaker, that is a vision worth pursuing, and that is why I urge all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1093 is an important bipartisan measure which requires the State Department to report to Congress on its efforts toward implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of AUKUS and improvements necessary in partner country regulations to enable secure and successful implementation.

As we look to build on and implement our shared security partnerships with Australia and the United Kingdom encapsulated within the AUKUS framework, I am proud to co-lead this bipartisan framework with Chairman McCAUL.

In this strategic competition, the most important of our era, sharing our defense technologies and capabilities in a safe, secure, and regulated manner will only make us all stronger and more united.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in support of this very important bipartisan bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, with AUKUS, we seek peace through strength. The previous administration laid the groundwork to collaborate with our closest allies and partners in countering China's threat to peace. Our Nation stood alongside Australia and U.K. for the launch of the AUKUS trilateral partnership in September of 2021. Now, we are prepared to best implement this important program.

Through AUKUS, we are declaring that we will not stand idly by for Chairman Xi and other autocratic leaders to dictate when and under what circumstances the strength of our resilience is to be tested.

This bipartisan measure is a commitment to our partners. The American people stand with the U.K. and Australia in preserving freedom. Together we will uphold the international rules-based order and protect and preserve the right of sovereign nations to defend themselves.

In the Indo-Pacific, we have seen how one dictator, Chairman Xi, is defying the free world and threatening the open navigation and the free flow of trade. This week, Xi met with Putin in Moscow and afterwards possibly Iran.

Chairman Xi chooses to closely partner with Russia, who launched an

unprovoked war of aggression with Ukraine, where they are committing barbaric war crimes, as I just returned from Kyiv and Bucha, where I saw the mass graves.

Mr. Putin also has a long track record of war crimes in Mali, Syria, and Central African Republic.

Xi also chooses to associate with Iran, whose Revolutionary Guard Corps is a designated foreign terrorist organization. These alliances are a clear indication that Xi does not seek peace but chooses to work with those who wish to destroy it.

Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to speak in a unified voice, as we do so often on the Foreign Affairs Committee, with my dear friend Mr. MEEKS, in support of this great AUKUS partnership. Again, this measure deserves our unanimous support.

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

□ 1715

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1093.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PERIODIC REVIEWS AND UPDATED REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S TAIWAN GUIDELINES UNDER THE TAIWAN ASSURANCE ACT OF 2020

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1159) to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1159

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

SECTION 1. PERIODIC REVIEWS AND UPDATED REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S TAIWAN GUIDELINES UNDER THE TAIWAN ASSURANCE ACT OF 2020.

Section 315 of the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-260; 134 Stat. 3100) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by adding at the end before “; and” the following: “and any successor document or related document disseminating such guidance”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PERIODIC REVIEWS AND UPDATED REPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For as long as the Department of State's guidance that governs relations with Taiwan described in sub-

section (a) remains in effect, the Secretary of State shall conduct periodic reviews as described in subsection (a) and submit updated reports as described in subsection (c) not less frequently than every two years following the submission of the initial report described in subsection (c).

“(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—Such updated reports shall include—

“(A) a description of how the guidance meets the goals and objectives described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (b); and

“(B) an identification of opportunities and plans to lift self-imposed restrictions on relations with Taiwan.”.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Taiwan assurance implementation act, my bipartisan legislation to ensure the United States engages Taiwan in a way that deepens our relationship with this important partner.

Taiwan faces an unprecedented threat from an increasingly capable and erratic People's Republic of China. Xi Jinping has said that so-called reunification with Taiwan is a core goal of his great rejuvenation campaign, and Chinese Communist Party officials have made clear that they are not afraid to use force to achieve this goal.

Mr. Speaker, our own intelligence community has assessed that the PRC is investing in military capabilities that will enable it to take Taiwan by 2027, but we do not need intelligence to tell us what we already see. The PRC is flying bombers and fighter jets into Taiwanese airspace and waters, threatening to sanction Taiwanese businesses, and harassing Taiwanese Government officials.

If we are to defeat China's plan to replace the United States as the world's preeminent power, we cannot be ruled by fear. That means boldly standing by our friends and partners, particularly Taiwan.

We must increase our economic ties, defense relationship, and political support of Taiwan's democratic system. Unfortunately, our own State Department has often unilaterally censored or restricted its engagement with Taiwan.

Hiding behind opacity and red tape hurts our partnership with Taiwan at a moment when we need to be standing shoulder to shoulder with our allies and partners. Any waffling invites bullies like Xi and Putin to push the envelope.

This is why the Taiwan Assurance Act, or TAA, was enacted with strong bipartisan support in 2020, but the threat Taiwan faces has only grown since then. This bill amends the TAA to ensure that the State Department's policy of engagement with Taiwan is appropriate to today's geopolitical challenges. We must acknowledge the growing threat Taiwan faces and help build resilience to that threat.

I was proud to introduce this bipartisan bill along with the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), who has been an absolute champion for Taiwan for so many years.

It received unanimous support during markup by the Foreign Affairs Committee, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 1159.

This legislation introduced by Mrs. WAGNER, the vice chair of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and Messrs. CONNOLLY and LAWLER, House Foreign Affairs Committee members, showcases this body's steadfast, bipartisan commitment to Taiwan.

As a vibrant democracy and reliable partner of the United States of America, Taiwan has long been a force for good in promoting prosperity and development in the Indo-Pacific and beyond.

Our robust and longstanding friendship is built on our shared values of democracy and good governance, strong people-to-people ties, and ever-expanding commercial and economic engagement.

When I visited Taiwan with Speaker PELOSI last year, the reception we received from the people was nothing short of incredible. We were welcomed with open arms. Thousands of people greeted us as the plane landed. More than that viewed us as our trip took its way to Taiwan.

Our trip demonstrated that Members of Congress will not be dictated to by Beijing and that we will not sit idly by as Beijing attempts to intimidate and coerce our friend.

The people of Taiwan showed us tremendous respect and affection, so much so it was in a way that I believe demonstrates their confidence that the United States Congress will continue to stand up for them.

In acknowledgment of our deep and lasting friendship, the Biden administration took concrete steps to encourage greater engagement with Taiwan. In April 2021, the State Department revised its guidelines to liberalize executive branch interactions with Taiwan counterparts in a way that is consistent with our One China policy and honors our longstanding ties to Taiwan as enshrined in the Taiwan Relations Act.

This legislation amends the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to reauthorize regular reporting on the State Depart-

ment's Taiwan contact guidelines. This bill sends a strong message that Congress stands with our friends in Taiwan, supports greater engagement, and wants to have an active part in strengthening the United States-Taiwan relationship.

As the United States and Taiwan look to further enhance our cooperation, facilitating ways to bolster our ongoing people-to-people ties is vital. Not only have our two sides benefited tremendously from our close engagement, but the world stands to benefit, as well.

Again, I congratulate Representative WAGNER, the vice chair of the committee; Mr. CONNOLLY; and Mr. LAWLER for coming up with this bipartisan bill, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), my friend.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my dear friend, the former chair and now the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, for his leadership and friendship. I also thank my dear friend from Missouri, Congresswoman WAGNER, who has served America in many roles. I thank her for her leadership on today's legislation, a bipartisan piece of legislation that is very timely and important.

This legislation provides an update to the Taiwan Assurance Act, which I was proud to support in 2020 to underscore the importance of U.S. support for Taiwan.

The key piece of legislation Congress initiated back in 1979 is, as Chairman MEEKS indicated, the Taiwan Relations Act. It was passed when I was a young staffer in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and it originated out of that committee.

It was designed by Congress to help create unique architecture in the bilateral relationship between the United States and Taiwan. It followed immediately after normalization of relations with the People's Republic of China, and it was designed by Congress to make sure that no military solution would be available in the question of the status of Taiwan.

The Taiwan Relations Act was designed to put forth parameters and a roadmap to govern our bilateral relationship. Central to that roadmap is Taiwan's ability to defend itself with support from the United States. That is a promise we made then, and it is a promise we must keep today.

As an increasingly aggressive China threatens its neighbors throughout the South China Sea, as if it were its own private pond, and as it encroaches on territorial waters and airspace and asserts ludicrous claims that the South China Sea is its Chinese pond, this is the time for the United States and this Congress to reassert our support, our

unequivocal support, for the right of the Taiwanese people to decide for themselves how they will manage their affairs and their relationship with Beijing.

As president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly for the last 2 years, I was proud to partner with my colleagues in this body and on both sides of the aisle to put China on the NATO agenda for the first time in its 70-year history, believe it or not.

This is a crucial moment for the U.S.-Taiwan relationship. It requires a sober and comprehensive understanding of the challenge China can pose to the United States and its security and prosperity, as well as that of the people of Taiwan.

In this moment, our support for Taiwan, its people, and its democratic structure is paramount in the face of Chinese aggression. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Again, I thank my colleague from Missouri and the distinguished former chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee for their leadership.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1159 is an important bipartisan measure that reauthorizes regular reporting on the State Department's Taiwan contact guidelines to Congress and encourages greater engagement with our friends in Taiwan, consistent with our One China policy.

As a vibrant democracy, a force of good will, and a model for the world, Taiwan is, indeed, a key part of the Indo-Pacific region. It is vital that we find concrete ways to expand and deepen interactions at every level and work together to advance our mutual priorities based on our shared values, strong people-to-people ties, and common vision for the region.

Again, I thank Vice Chair WAGNER, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. LAWLER for coming together with this strong bipartisan bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to join us and support this very important bill.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, the geopolitical situation surrounding Taiwan is changing rapidly. Our relationship with Taiwan must be flexible enough to meet these new challenges.

Unfortunately, the State Department's classified Taiwan contact guidelines are often not conducive to a robust relationship with Taiwan, and Congress has little insight into the decisionmaking behind these guidelines.

□ 1730

Mr. Speaker, the bottom line of this legislation is this:

H.R. 1159 would reauthorize the bipartisan Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020, strengthen its reporting requirements, and require greater transparency from the State Department.

It would ensure the United States is approaching its relationship with Taiwan in a manner that strengthens our

relationships with democratic partners who are under threat by aggressive dictatorships, and it would ask the administration to identify opportunities to lift remaining self-imposed restrictions on engagement.

Mr. Speaker, I urge each of my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill. I thank the ranking member, Mr. MEEKS, and I thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) for joining me in supporting this unanimously out of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1159.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

PROVIDING APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT NEEDED TO ENHANCE RELATIONS WITH ASEAN ACT

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 406) to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 406

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 “Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations with ASEAN Act” or the “PARTNER with ASEAN Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION TO THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS.

The provisions of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288 et seq.) may be extended to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same conditions as such provisions may be extended to a public international organization in which the United States participates pursuant to any treaty or under the authority of any Act of Congress authorizing such participation or making an appropriation for such participation.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, is of immense strategic and economic importance to the United States of America.

This powerhouse region joins the Indian and Pacific Ocean regions and serves as a conduit for global trade. Southeast Asian states are increasingly vital to the prosperity of the U.S. economy, generating hundreds of thousands of American jobs and investing more in our economy than China and India combined.

Home to one of the world's largest and youngest populations and numerous key shipping routes, ASEAN represents the future of growth in the Indo-Pacific. It is an important region that cannot be forgotten and is certainly not forgotten by the People's Republic of China.

The PRC is actively looking for ways to expand their footprint in ASEAN, whether it be through infrastructure projects, predatory lending, or police training. A growing number of Southeast Asian countries no longer believe that China's intentions are benign. Our partners are seeking assurance of U.S. support as they try to maintain economic independence from China and defend their territorial claims in the South China Sea.

To strengthen our relationship with Southeast Asian Governments and counter PRC influence, we must find ways to deepen our relationship with the ASEAN.

The United States has worked closely with ASEAN for more than four decades, and 15 years ago, we became the first nonmember to name an ambassador to ASEAN.

This bill will build on that legacy of cooperation and will enhance ties between the United States and this critical region of the world. It will accord ASEAN representatives in the United States the same diplomatic immunities we provide other regional organizations, such as the EU or the Organization of American States. This is a tangible demonstration of our commitment to that organization.

I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO). I would also thank my good friend from California, YOUNG KIM, for introducing this important bill. I have the great privilege of being co-chair and cofounder with Mr. CASTRO of the ASEAN Caucus.

I am very sorry that Mr. CASTRO is unable to join us on the floor today but want to convey our prayers and very best wishes for his full and speedy recovery, Mr. Speaker.

This bill received unanimous bipartisan support during committee mark-up and deserves our full support today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 406, the PARTNER with ASEAN Act, introduced by Mr. CASTRO and Mrs. KIM.

Of course, I join with Mrs. WAGNER in wishing Mr. CASTRO a speedy recovery and return to this body very soon.

This legislation will solidify this body's strong bipartisan commitment to deepening our longstanding cooperation with Southeast Asia and facilitate stronger people-to-people ties with this vast, diverse region.

Southeast Asia is vital to the United States national interests and strategic priorities. The 10 Southeast Asian nations that comprise the important regional body of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, have an outsized role in shaping crucial political, economic, and security developments in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond.

The United States has long recognized ASEAN's central role in promoting peace, security, and stability in the region. This bill would allow us to deepen our collaboration and partnership on shared challenges.

H.R. 406 underscores the importance of the United States and ASEAN's partnership by authorizing that ASEAN be designated as an international organization with diplomatic privileges and immunities consistent with the International Organizations Immunities Act.

The IOIA, which was enacted in 1945, is how the United States extends the rights and treatment generally accorded to embassies of countries that have diplomatic relations with the United States to international organizations.

This is a long-overdue change that our partners in ASEAN and the Biden administration strongly support. With the passage of this legislation, the United States would affirm our longstanding relationship and upgrade our capacity to collaborate with ASEAN. Robust and consistent engagement with Southeast Asia is critical to realizing our Indo-Pacific strategy. This measure ensures that America remains a Pacific power and a critical player in Southeast Asia as we address the challenge of China.

We need to work collectively with ASEAN so that we can tackle shared challenges such as economic resiliency, global health, climate change, and attacks against the rules-based international order. Our partnership with ASEAN will be essential in delivering sustainable solutions to our combined 1 billion people.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs.

KIM), my good friend and colleague, who chairs the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific and is the Republican coauthor of this bill.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman ANN WAGNER for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 406, the Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations, PARTNER, with ASEAN Act.

This is a bill that I introduced with my colleague, Representative CASTRO. I thank Ranking Member MEEKS, and my colleague, and chairwoman of one of our committees, ANN WAGNER, but more importantly, for her leadership on the ASEAN Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, much has been talked about with the importance of this legislation, but I think it is worth repeating that this bipartisan legislation extends the diplomatic privileges and immunities to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations under the International Organizations Immunities Act.

Similar international organizations such as the European Union, the Organization of American States, and the African Union currently enjoy these diplomatic privileges, but not ASEAN.

As chairwoman of the Indo-Pacific Subcommittee, I believe this legislation is a step in the right direction for improving America's standing in the Indo-Pacific and addressing the economic and security threats posed to the region by the CCP and their Belt and Road Initiative. To counter the Belt and Road Initiative, we must prioritize trade, economic, and diplomatic relations with Southeast Asian countries.

Without meaningful U.S. engagement and presence in the region, we will leave the region little choice but to turn to the CCP, whose conditions for these countries are erosion in democratic institutions and threats to their sovereignty.

This bill, while simple in scope, will signal to the region that the United States stands ready to engage in meaningful trade and have more discussions about security and human rights.

I thank my colleague, Representative CASTRO, coauthor of this bill, for his work on this legislation.

I join with my colleagues in saying that I am sorry that he could not be here to witness this legislation pass the House. I wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to getting back to work with him once he returns to the House.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 406 is a very important, bipartisan measure that affirms the importance of the United States and ASEAN's partnership by extending privileges and immunities under the International Organizations Immunities Act to ASEAN.

In fact, Mr. Speaker, I recall myself going to Cambodia to attend the session with ASEAN where they extended the opportunity for us to be official observers at their annual meetings and conferences.

This just emphasizes how the United States has long recognized and—ASEAN also—appreciates our engagement with this diverse regional body and demonstrated strong support for ASEAN centrality. This measure demonstrates our commitment to this organization and pivotal region.

Mr. Speaker, there is no better way to honor over 45 years of the United States-ASEAN's relations and build upon our partnership than passing this important bipartisan legislation so they know that jointly the United States Congress recognizes the significance and importance of our partnership.

□ 1745

Again, I thank Mr. CASTRO—we want him back here soon—and Representative YOUNG KIM for their hard work on this bill to send the appropriate message. I hope that all of my colleagues will join us in support of this very important bipartisan bill.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, in closing, we have a national interest in sustaining U.S. leadership in Southeast Asia, supporting human rights and respect for democratic freedoms, and articulating our strategic priorities.

We will find willing partners in our many friends and allies in the region who share our grave concerns regarding China's growing power, but we must demonstrate that these partnerships are a key U.S. priority.

H.R. 406 sends an important message to the region: The United States values its important relationship with ASEAN, and we strongly support its mission to promote stability and growth in Southeast Asia.

I urge my colleagues to join me, Representative YOUNG KIM, Representative CASTRO, and Ranking Member MEEKS, along with Chairman MCCAUL, in supporting H.R. 406.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 406.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 25) authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 25

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL FOR A CEREMONY AS PART OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST.

(a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center is authorized to be used on April 20, 2023, for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

(b) **PREPARATIONS.**—Physical preparations for the ceremony described in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

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

Every year, the United States joins the world in observing days of remembrance in connection with victims of the Holocaust.

The United States Holocaust Museum has organized and led the national Days of Remembrance ceremony in the United States Capitol since 1982. This event brings together Holocaust survivors, liberators, Members of Congress, White House officials, and community leaders.

As with previous years, the Museum is again requesting access to utilize the House's Emancipation Hall.

Today, the House will consider a resolution led by my colleague, Congressman DAVID KUSTOFF, that authorizes the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony on April 20.

As part of the Days of Remembrance of victims of the Holocaust, their planned programming in our Halls will be dedicated to the millions of voices, hopes, and dreams that were silenced by Nazi Germany.

Their programming will reflect the struggle to retain dignity and humanity in the face of unimaginable terror and violence. It will also highlight their stories of defiance, resistance, resilience, that remind us of what is possible in moments of unfathomable crisis.

I hope that today we can unanimously pass this legislation and approve their use of the Emancipation Hall.

I commend the continuous efforts of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and I can think of no better space to honor the lives lost and the battles fought than here in the people's House. We must never forget.

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

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

I thank my friend and colleague, Chairman STEIL, for his comments.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 25. Historically, this resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for a ceremony to honor victims of the Holocaust has been considered and agreed to by the House with unanimous consent because there was universal agreement that debate on this issue was unnecessary. I don't know what has changed necessitating the debate in the 118th Congress, but I fully support the measure, nonetheless.

We are considering this legislation at a time when acts of hatred and anti-Semitism are on the rise, not just around the world but here in the United States.

Perhaps even more troubling, anti-Semitism has begun an insidious creep into what was once considered mainstream ideologies and institutions.

On January 6, in a failed attempt to disrupt the peaceful transfer of power and to subvert democracy and the rule of law, violent insurrectionists stormed the halls of the Capitol, some wearing clothing emblazoned with vile anti-Semitic slogans and imagery.

This is not some distant memory that happened in a faraway country. It happened right here in this very building, in this very Chamber, just 2 years ago. That is why it is so important we reject hate and authoritarianism at every turn to prevent its malignant spread.

This resolution does just that by allowing us to honor the memory of more than 11 million people, including 6 million Jews killed in the Holocaust. It affirms our commitment to combating anti-Semitism in all its forms and ensures that we never forget the atrocities of the past lest they are repeated.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 25, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I would note to my colleague and the ranking member on the Committee on House Administration, Mr. MORELLE, I appreciate his work on this.

In regards to the question why we are bringing this to the floor for a vote, I think it is just a moment in time to reflect on the importance of the issue at hand and to really appreciate and understand the horrors that occurred during the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. KUSTOFF).

Mr. KUSTOFF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for allowing me to speak today.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of this resolution that would authorize the use of Emancipation Hall by the United States Holocaust Museum for the Days of Remembrance commemoration event on April 20 of 2023.

The Days of Remembrance was established by Congress as the Nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. Since 1982, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has worked tirelessly to organize and lead this vital and meaningful ceremony in the United States Capitol.

I think it is imperative that we honor the memory, the bravery, the spirit of 6 million Jewish victims of the Holocaust, and the millions of others who perished at the hands of the Nazi regime.

We must continue to listen and share the survivors' stories so that we never forget the heinous atrocities that took place.

With each passing year, Mr. Speaker, we have fewer and fewer firsthand witnesses and individuals who were there and lost a family member or a friend. Now, more than ever, it is critical that we educate the next generation and teach them about the horrors that occurred during the Holocaust so that we never forget.

To honor the victims of the Holocaust and pay tribute to the liberators, we work and we must continue to work to keep their stories alive. Hosting the Days of Remembrance commemoration event here in the Halls of Congress does exactly that.

As we all know, anti-Semitism, as well as hateful rhetoric and incidents continue to grow here across the country, frankly, across the world.

As Members of Congress, we have the ability and the responsibility to combat anti-Semitism and ensure that our children, tomorrow's leaders, are taught about the cruelties that took place years ago. The way that we can do this and to prevent atrocities like the Holocaust from happening again is through education.

As Elie Wiesel once said: "For the dead and the living, we must bear witness."

I thank Representatives BRAD SCHNEIDER, MAX MILLER, and GREG LANDSMAN for working with me on this important measure, and, as such, I urge all my colleagues to support this crucial resolution that will honor the victims of the Holocaust by authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall for the Days of Remembrance commemoration.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the Chair's explanation of why we are doing this. I certainly appreciate the gentleman from Tennessee and his hard work.

I represent a community, Rochester, New York, which has a significant Jewish population I have worked with for

decades, and I talked just a couple of weeks ago at Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester about the rise of anti-Semitism in communities across the United States, so I appreciate the opportunity for us to talk about the increase; how we must do everything we can to make sure that we not only remember the past, but are cognizant in the present of all the challenges.

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

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I agree with my colleague, the ranking member. As we see a rise in anti-Semitism, now is the time to remember how that can take us in this world down a dark path, and no darker path than the Holocaust.

I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, as the Representative of one of the largest Jewish populations in the State of New York, I rise today to voice my support for H. Con. Res. 25, which would authorize the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony remembering the victims of the Holocaust.

It is vitally important that this legislative body and the Federal Government at large do everything possible to ensure the horrors of the Holocaust are never forgotten and the victims are always remembered.

Holding a ceremony right here in the Capitol's Emancipation Hall demonstrates this Nation's unified commitment to honoring those who fell victim to an evil ideology of racism, anti-Semitism, and thorough hatred.

These ceremonies of remembrance are particularly important now as the generation that survived the Holocaust continues to dwindle in numbers. We must do everything possible to make sure those survivors' stories are told, and their perseverance celebrated for years to come.

I personally will be observing Yom HaShoah this year by pausing to remember the millions of lives senselessly taken during the Holocaust, and thanking those survivors who continue to keep alive their stories.

The memories of 6 million murdered Jews and countless other victims of the Holocaust serve as a reminder that evil exists, and we must always stand guard against it and all hatred.

Let this Congress always stand firm as a force of good and forever act justly to prevent such evils from ever being carried out again.

We must never forget the Holocaust, and this ceremony at Emancipation Hall will keep that spirit of remembrance alive here in our Nation's Capitol and across this Nation.

□ 1800

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I will close by again thanking the chairman for bringing the resolution forward and thanking my colleagues for offering it. We stand in strong support of it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 25, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I urge strong bipartisan and unanimous support for H. Con. Res. 25 today on the House floor, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 25.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STRONG) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1093; and

H.R. 1159.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADVANCED CAPABILITIES PILLAR OF THE TRILATERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AUSTRALIA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES

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. 1093) to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, 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 Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) 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 393, nays 4, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 144]

YEAS—393

Adams	Crow	Higgins (NY)
Cuellar	Himes	
Curtis	Hinson	
Alford	D'Esposito	Horsford
Allen	Dauids (KS)	Houchin
Allred	Davidson	Houlahan
Amodei	Davis (IL)	Hudson
Armstrong	Davis (NC)	Huffman
Arrington	De La Cruz	Huizenga
Auchincloss	DeGette	Hunt
Babin	DeLauro	Issa
Bacon	DelBene	Ivey
Baird	Deluzio	Jackson (IL)
Balderson	DeSaulnier	Jackson (NC)
Balint	DesJarlais	Jackson (TX)
Banks	Diaz-Balart	Jackson Lee
Barr	Dingell	Jacobs
Barragán	Doggett	James
Bean (FL)	Donalds	Jayapal
Beatty	Duarte	Jeffries
Bentz	Duncan	Johnson (GA)
Bera	Dunn (FL)	Johnson (LA)
Bergman	Edwards	Johnson (OH)
Beyer	Elizy	Johnson (SD)
Bice	Emmer	Jordan
Biggs	Escobar	Joyce (OH)
Bilirakis	Eshoo	Joyce (PA)
Bishop (GA)	Espallat	Kamlager-Dove
Bishop (NC)	Evans	Kean (NJ)
Blunt Rochester	Ezell	Keating
Boebert	Fallon	Kelly (MS)
Bost	Feenstra	Kelly (PA)
Boyle (PA)	Ferguson	Khanna
Brecheen	Finstad	Kildee
Brown	Fischbach	Kiley
Brownley	Fitzgerald	Kilmer
Buchanan	Fitzpatrick	Kim (CA)
Buck	Fleischmann	Kim (NJ)
Budzinski	Fletcher	Krishnamoorthi
Burchett	Flood	Kuster
Burgess	Foster	Kustoff
Burlison	Foushee	LaHood
Bush	Fox	LaLota
Calvert	Franklin, C.	LaMalfa
Cammack	Scott	Landsman
Caraveo	Frost	Langworthy
Carbajal	Fry	Larsen (WA)
Cárdenas	Fulcher	Larson (CT)
Carey	Gaetz	Latta
Carl	Gallagher	LaTurner
Carson	Galleo	Lawler
Carter (GA)	Garamendi	Lee (CA)
Carter (LA)	Garbarino	Lee (FL)
Carter (TX)	Garcia (IL)	Lee (NV)
Cartwright	Garcia (TX)	Lee (PA)
Casar	Garcia, Mike	Lesko
Case	Garcia, Robert	Letlow
Casten	Gimenez	Levin
Castor (FL)	Golden (ME)	Lieu
Chavez-DeRemer	Goldman (NY)	Lofgren
Cherfilus-	Gonzales, Tony	Loudermilk
McCormick	Gonzalez,	Luetkemeyer
	Vicente	Luna
Chu	Good (VA)	Luttrell
Cicilline	Gooden (TX)	Magaziner
Ciscomani	Gosar	Malliotakis
Clark (MA)	Granger	Mann
Clarke (NY)	Graves (LA)	Manning
Cline	Graves (MO)	Massie
Cloud	Green (TN)	Mast
Clyburn	Greene (GA)	Matsui
Clyde	Griffith	McBath
Cohen	Grijalva	McCaull
Cole	Grothman	McClain
Collins	Guest	McClellan
Comer	Guthrie	McClintock
Connolly	Hageman	McCollum
Correa	Harder (CA)	McCormick
Courtney	Harris	McGarvey
Craig	Harshbarger	McGovern
Crane	Hayes	McHenry
Crawford	Hern	Meeks
Crenshaw	Higgins (LA)	Menendez
Crockett		

Meng	Reschenthaler	Strong
Meuser	Rodgers (WA)	Swaiwell
Mfume	Rogers (AL)	Sykes
Miller (IL)	Rogers (KY)	Takano
Miller (OH)	Rose	Thanedar
Miller (WV)	Rosendale	Thompson (CA)
Miller-Meeks	Ross	Thompson (MS)
Mills	Rouzer	Thompson (PA)
Molinaro	Roy	Tiffany
Moolenaar	Ruppersberger	Timmons
Moore (AL)	Rutherford	Titus
Moore (UT)	Ryan	Tlaib
Moore (WI)	Salazar	Tokuda
Moran	Salinas	Tonko
Morelle	Sánchez	Torres (CA)
Moulton	Santos	Torres (NY)
Mrvan	Sarbanes	Trahan
Murphy	Scalise	Trone
Nadler	Scanlon	Turner
Neal	Schakowsky	Underwood
Neguse	Schneider	Valadao
Nehls	Scholten	Van Drew
Newhouse	Schrier	Van Dyne
Nickel	Schweikert	Van Orden
Norcross	Scott (VA)	Vargas
Norman	Scott, Austin	Vasquez
Nunn (IA)	Scott, David	Veasey
Obernolte	Self	Velázquez
Owens	Sessions	Wagner
Pallone	Sewell	Walberg
Palmer	Sherman	Waltz
Panetta	Simpson	Wasserman
Pappas	Slotkin	Schultz
Pascarella	Smith (MO)	Watson Coleman
Payne	Smith (NE)	Weber (TX)
Pelosi	Smith (NJ)	Webster (FL)
Peltola	Smith (WA)	Wenstrup
Pence	Sorensen	Soto
Perez	Spanberger	Westerman
Perry	Stansbury	Wild
Peters	Stanton	Williams (GA)
Pettersen	Staubert	Williams (NY)
Pfleger	Steel	Williams (TX)
Phillips	Stefanik	Wilson (FL)
Pingree	Stell	Wilson (SC)
Pocan	Steube	Wittman
Porter	Stevens	Womack
Posey	Stewart	Yakym
Quigley	Strickland	Zinke
Raskin		

NAYS—4

Bowman	Omar
Kaptur	Ramirez

NOT VOTING—37

Blumenauer	Hoyer	Ocasio-Cortez
Bonamici	Hoyle (OR)	Ogles
Bucshon	Kelly (IL)	Pressley
Castro (TX)	Kiggans (VA)	Ruiz
Cleaver	Lamborn	Schiff
Costa	Leger Fernandez	Sherrill
Dean (PA)	Lucas	Smucker
Estes	Lynch	Spartz
Frankel, Lois	Mace	Tenney
Gomez	Mooney	Waters
Gottheimer	Moskowitz	Wexton
Green, Al (TX)	Mullin	
Hill	Napolitano	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1850

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I regret to inform you that I missed the vote on rollcall No. 144. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 144.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 144.

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been

present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 144.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 144 on H.R. 1093, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “no” when I should have voted “yes”.

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 144.

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not able to be present for rollcall No. 144, the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1093. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 144.

PERIODIC REVIEWS AND UPDATED REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S TAIWAN GUIDELINES UNDER THE TAIWAN ASSURANCE ACT OF 2020

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. 1159) to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) 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 404, nays 7, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 145]

YEAS—404

Adams	Bush	Dauids (KS)
Aderholt	Calvert	Davidson
Aguilar	Cammack	Davis (IL)
Alford	Caraveo	Davis (NC)
Allen	Carbajal	De La Cruz
Allred	Cardenas	Dean (PA)
Amodei	Carey	DeGette
Armstrong	Carl	DeLauro
Arrington	Carson	DelBene
Auchincloss	Carter (GA)	Deluzo
Babin	Carter (LA)	DeSaulnier
Bacon	Carter (TX)	DesJarlais
Baird	Cartwright	Diaz-Balart
Balderson	Case	Dingell
Balint	Casten	Doggett
Banks	Castor (FL)	Donalds
Barr	Chavez-DeRemer	Duarte
Barragan	Cherfilus-	Duncan
Bean (FL)	McCormick	Dunn (FL)
Beatty	Cicilline	Edwards
Bentz	Ciscumani	Ellzey
Bera	Clark (MA)	Emmer
Bergman	Clarke (NY)	Escobar
Beyer	Cline	Eshoo
Bice	Cloud	Espallat
Biggs	Clyburn	Estes
Bilirakis	Clyde	Evans
Bishop (GA)	Cohen	Ezell
Bishop (NC)	Cole	Fallon
Blunt Rochester	Collins	Feenstra
Boebert	Comer	Ferguson
Bonamici	Connolly	Finstad
Bost	Correa	Fischbach
Boyle (PA)	Courtney	Fitzgerald
Brecheen	Craig	Fitzpatrick
Brown	Crane	Fleischmann
Brownley	Crawford	Fletcher
Buchanan	Crenshaw	Flood
Buck	Crockett	Foster
Budzinski	Crow	Foushee
Burchett	Cuellar	Foxx
Burgess	Curtis	Frankel, Lois
Burlison	D'Esposito	

Franklin, C.	LaTurner	Ryan
Scott	Lawler	Salazar
Frost	Lee (CA)	Salinas
Fry	Lee (FL)	Sanchez
Fulcher	Lee (NV)	Santos
Gaetz	Lesko	Sarbanes
Gallagher	Letlow	Scalise
Garamendi	Levin	Scanlon
Garbarino	Lieu	Schakowsky
Garcia (TX)	Lofgren	Schiff
Garcia, Mike	Loudermilk	Schneider
Garcia, Robert	Luetkemeyer	Scholten
Gimenez	Luna	Schrier
Golden (ME)	Luttrell	Schweikert
Goldman (NY)	Mace	Scott (VA)
Gomez	Magaziner	Scott, Austin
Gonzales, Tony	Malliotakis	Scott, David
Gonzalez,	Mann	Self
Vicente	Manning	Sessions
Good (VA)	Massie	Sewell
Gooden (TX)	Mast	Sherman
Gosar	Matsui	Simpson
Granger	McBath	Slotkin
Graves (LA)	McCaul	Smith (MO)
Graves (MO)	McClain	Smith (NE)
Green (TN)	McClellan	Smith (NJ)
Green, Al (TX)	McClintock	Smith (WA)
Greene (GA)	McCollum	Smucker
Griffith	McCormick	Sorensen
Grothman	McGarvey	Soto
Guest	McGovern	Spanberger
Guthrie	McHenry	Spartz
Hageman	Meeks	Stansbury
Harder (CA)	Menendez	Stanton
Harris	Meng	Staubert
Harshbarger	Meuser	Steel
Hayes	Mfume	Stefanik
Hern	Miller (IL)	Steil
Higgins (LA)	Miller (OH)	Steube
Higgins (NY)	Miller (WV)	Stevens
Hill	Miller-Meeks	Stewart
Himes	Mills	Strickland
Hinson	Molinaro	Strong
Horsford	Moolenaar	Swalwell
Houchin	Moore (AL)	Sykes
Houlahan	Moore (UT)	Takano
Hoyer	Moore (WI)	Tenney
Hoyle (OR)	Moran	Thandard
Hudson	Morelle	Thompson (CA)
Huffman	Moulton	Thompson (MS)
Huizenga	Mrvan	Thompson (PA)
Hunt	Murphy	Tiffany
Issa	Nadler	Timmons
Ivey	Neal	Titus
Jackson (IL)	Neguse	Tlaib
Jackson (NC)	Nehls	Tokuda
Jackson (TX)	Newhouse	Tonko
Jackson Lee	Nickel	Torres (CA)
Jacobs	Norcross	Torres (NY)
James	Norman	Trahan
Jayapal	Nunn (IA)	Trone
Jeffries	Obernoite	Turner
Johnson (GA)	Owens	Underwood
Johnson (LA)	Pallone	Valadao
Johnson (OH)	Palmer	Van Drew
Johnson (SD)	Panetta	Van Dwyne
Jordan	Pappas	Van Orden
Joyce (OH)	Pascarell	Vargas
Joyce (PA)	Payne	Vasquez
Kamlager-Dove	Pelosi	Veasey
Kaptur	Peltola	Velazquez
Kean (NJ)	Pence	Wagner
Keating	Perez	Walberg
Kelly (MS)	Perry	Waltz
Kelly (PA)	Peters	Wasserman
Khanna	Pettersen	Schultz
Kiggans (VA)	Pfluger	Watson Coleman
Kildee	Phillips	Weber (TX)
Kiley	Pingree	Webster (FL)
Kilmer	Pocan	Wenstrup
Kim (CA)	Porter	Westernman
Kim (NJ)	Posey	Wexton
Krishnamoorthi	Quigley	Wild
Kuster	Raskin	Williams (GA)
Kustoff	Reschenthaler	Williams (NY)
LaHood	Rogers (AL)	Williams (TX)
LaLota	Rogers (KY)	Wilson (FL)
LaMalfa	Rose	Wilson (SC)
Lamborn	Rosendale	Wittman
Landsman	Ross	Womack
Langworthy	Rouzer	Yakym
Larsen (WA)	Roy	Zinke
Larson (CT)	Ruppersberger	
Latta	Rutherford	

NAYS—7

Bowman	Ocasio-Cortez	Ramirez
Casar	Omar	
Lee (PA)	Pressley	

NOT VOTING—23

Blumenauer	Gottheimer	Mullin
Bucshon	Grijalva	Napolitano
Castro (TX)	Kelly (IL)	Ogles
Chu	Leger Fernandez	Rodgers (WA)
Cleaver	Lucas	Ruiz
Costa	Lynch	Sherrill
Gallego	Mooney	Waters
Garcia (IL)	Moskowitz	

□ 1900

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall No. 144, the vote today on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1093, I would have voted “yea.”

Additionally, had I been present for rollcall No. 145, the vote on H.R. 1159, a bill to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines, I would have voted “yea.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes due to a family issue. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 144 and “yea” on rollcall No. 145.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent due to representing the United States government at the United Nations 2023 Water Conference. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following way: “yea” on rollcall No. 144, suspending the rules and agreeing to H.R. 1159, and “yea” on rollcall No. 145, suspending the rules and agreeing to H.R. 1159.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE PAT SCHROEDER

(Ms. DEGETTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEGETTE. Madam Speaker, Colorado mourned one of its finest public servants this week when we lost former Congresswoman Pat Schroeder.

Pat was a pioneer for women's rights, and she was the first woman ever elected to represent the State of Colorado in the U.S. House. For 24 years, she fought tirelessly in this Chamber to expand the rights of women, families, and children across this country.

She cofounded the Congressional Women's Caucus, and she was the first woman ever selected to serve on the House Armed Services Committee. She championed legislation to protect pregnant workers and women in the military, and she was the driving force behind the Family and Medical Leave Act.

What made Pat so unique, though, wasn't just the brilliance that she had or her passion for public service. It was her razor-sharp wit.

Pat could trade barbs with anybody at a moment's notice on any subject. She could disarm her most harsh critics with humor and grace, and she had

an unrivaled ability to light up almost any room she walked into. We can all agree there will never be another Pat Schroeder.

I am grateful for the time I got to spend with her and for the friendship and mentorship she provided to me over the years.

This is something that doesn't happen very often: Pat was elected to Congress when I was in high school; I never voted for anybody for Congress except for Pat Schroeder and myself.

She is a giant whose shoulders we all stand on today, and she will be missed by everybody here, by everybody in the First Congressional District of Colorado, and by millions of people whose lives have been made better because of the legacy of Pat Schroeder.

Madam Speaker, I thank you for helping me honor the memory of Pat Schroeder by observing a moment of silence.

CELEBRATING PENNSYLVANIA 4-H WEEK

(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 the thousands of Pennsylvania youth who participate in 4-H and celebrate Pennsylvania 4-H Week, March 12 through March 18.

Last week, counties across the Commonwealth, including McKean and Jefferson in Pennsylvania 15, celebrated the youth development program and the important role that it plays in our communities.

4-H is the well-known educational youth development program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture administered in Pennsylvania by Penn State Extension. It is the largest youth organization in the State, with over 77,000 members from each of Pennsylvania's 67 counties.

In celebration of local 4-H clubs, Jefferson County youth were invited to Brookville's Penn State Extension office for 4-H-related goodies and program information.

McKean County youth promoted their 4-H clubs by decorating window displays in local storefronts, and they also held their annual 4-H benefit dinner and auction.

4-H provides a continuing service to Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District, the Commonwealth, and the Nation, and I commend the thousands of youth and adult volunteers who comprise this outstanding program for their club, community, country, and world.

HONORING NEW JERSEY STATE SENATOR RONALD RICE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of one of New Jersey's most distinguished State senators.

New Jersey State Senator Ronald Rice passed away on March 15. He spent more than 35 years serving the people of New Jersey's 28th District, and he was the longest serving Black legislator in our State's history.

Senator Rice started as a Newark City Council member before he became a State senator, but his service to our community and our country extended beyond politics. Senator Rice was a sergeant in the Marine Corps and a decorated Vietnam veteran. He spent 8 years as a police detective and 4 years as Newark's deputy mayor.

As a State senator, he was known for his strong advocacy for social justice and civil rights. His dedication to equality was known throughout the State.

Senator Rice was an exceptional public servant, and I know his work for Newark and the people of New Jersey will be missed.

COMMENDING GEORGIA SOUTHERN ON ITS LEARNING CENTER IN IRELAND

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, this past Friday in Savannah, Georgia, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with over 400,000 people lining the streets of Savannah.

Today, I rise to highlight the efforts that have been made by Georgia Southern University to strengthen U.S.-Irish relations.

In 2019, the university established a learning center in Wexford, Ireland. The new learning center allows students at Georgia Southern to study abroad in Ireland. It allows them to take classes, experience the culture of Ireland, and examine the longstanding connection between Savannah, Georgia, and Ireland.

In addition to aiding students at Georgia Southern, efforts made by the university have strengthened the Georgian economy. Efforts by the university's Center for Irish Research and Teaching have led the Savannah Economic Development Authority to select Ireland as a partner for various trade and investment delegations.

The initiative also helped secure a Southeast U.S. distribution deal for Survipod, an Irish manufacturer of innovative surveying tools, and a broad-based distribution deal for the Savannah Bee Company in Ireland.

I congratulate Georgia Southern University on its accomplishments and thank the university for its efforts to improve U.S.-Irish relations.

□ 1915

HONORING AMERICORPS WEEK

(Ms. HOULAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to honor the AmeriCorps, to honor AmeriCorps week, and the AmeriCorps members who have dedicated their lives or part of their lives to serving others.

I have experienced firsthand the unifying power and impact of national service, during both my own service first in the Air Force and then later as a chemistry teacher through the AmeriCorps, Teach for America.

It was life changing, I hope not just for me. I was honored this week to be able to visit with AmeriCorps senior volunteers who work in our schools as foster grandparents to see that service is still indeed alive and thriving in the hearts of so many Americans.

In fact, since 1994, 57,000 residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have volunteered over 79 million hours of time. Service is a critical component in addressing many of the challenges we face as a Nation today, including how divided we feel from one another.

Please join me in expressing our gratitude to the AmeriCorps members, both past and present, who commit themselves to serving others.

Let's embrace national service and challenge ourselves and one another to serve whenever and wherever we are able.

IN MEMORY OF FRED T. MACEDO

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

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Fred T. Macedo. Fred was born in Carlsbad, California, on May 14, 1944, and attended Carlsbad High School where he helped to win his school's first football CIF championship.

In 1965, Fred joined the Laborers' International Union of North America, LIUNA, Local 89. Fred enjoyed a 37-year-career at LIUNA, building numerous high-profile projects that had lasting impact on the San Diego region. His legacy can be seen today through his work on the Coronado Bay Bridge, Units 2 and 3 of the San Onofre Power Plant, the San Elijo Water Reclamation Plant, and the Point Loma Water Filtration Plant.

After retiring from LIUNA, Fred continued his service as president of the Advisory Council, where he was active in community service activities.

He has helped to provide a space for retiring members to give back to their union and the broader community. Fred will be remembered for his contributions to the County of San Diego where he was a friend and mentor to many. His family and community are

forever grateful for the contributions he has made in our region.

San Diego lost a giant when we lost Fred T. Macedo.

REALITIES OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS

(Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the realities of the climate crisis as seen in my district and across the State of California.

Earlier this year, Los Angeles County issued its first blizzard warning since February 4, 1989.

Unfamiliar wintry conditions resulting in up to a foot of snow with 80-miles-per-hour winds overtook many parts of Los Angeles County, leaving Californians with flooded homes and no power.

In my district, the Baldwin Hills neighborhood was hit with a local state of emergency as a disastrous rainstorm demolished daily rain records from over 100 years ago causing fatal mudslides. Today in Los Angeles, we suffered a tornado.

This is not normal.

Madam Speaker, I cannot stand idly by while Republicans continue to deny the validity of the crisis before us, seen firsthand by my district experiencing disastrous weather patterns not seen for over three decades.

I have fought for the protection of our environment my entire life and will do everything in my power to work against the actions taken in this very room by my colleagues across the aisle to propagate the climate crisis that, if not addressed, will destroy Mother Earth and her inhabitants.

We must take the lessons we are learning in California to heart because this is only the beginning.

Madam Speaker, if this isn't a wake-up call, I don't know what is.

FIVE YEARS OF MFOL AND PERSISTENCE OF GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to declare that our calls for gun violence prevention will not stop until we see real action to keep our kids and communities safe from senseless shootings plaguing our Nation.

Madam Speaker, ten years ago, after Sandy Hook, grieving parents came to this place and called for urgent action.

Five years ago this Friday, student survivors of the shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School led millions of fellow students in the first March for Our Lives calling for urgent action.

Yet still here we are, after Pulse, after Las Vegas, Buffalo, Uvalde, High-

land Park, Monterey Park, and literally countless other shootings and so many beautiful lives cut short.

This morning, my sister texted me, "two teachers shot" at the Denver school my niece and nephews attend. It was their second shooting this year, in addition to four other lockdowns.

Enough is enough. Together with March for Our Lives, Moms Demand Action, Everytown, Sandy Hook Promise, Giffords, and every other concerned American, we will not stop our calls for action until our families feel safe in our schools, in our pews, at our stores, at our Fourth of July parades.

COMMEMORATING THE 9TH ANNIVERSARY OF OSO LANDSLIDE

(Ms. SCHRIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHRIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 9th anniversary of the Oso landslide. On that tragic day, 43 people lost their lives when an entire hillside collapsed, smothering the town and burying it in mud.

Washington State was forever changed.

Among the victims were a nurse, veterans, even elementary school students. There were parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, and children—all beloved members of their community. We remember them today.

On this anniversary, I would extend my condolences to the friends and family members of those victims. While we cannot change the past, we can honor those who passed away by working toward a safer future.

As a Representative of this resilient community, I have worked to increase funding for emergency communications and services and supported the National Landslide Preparedness Act, all of which help ensure that we are ready if such a disaster strikes again.

People of Oso, my heart is with you today.

WHAT AMERICA MAKES AND GROWS, MAKES AND GROWS AMERICA

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, domestic manufacturing has always been a foundation stone of American prosperity and innovation. That remains true today.

I hail from America's industrial heartland, the Great Lakes and Midwest. Our people know firsthand how essential manufacturing is for the long-term health and growth of our country.

What America makes and grows, makes and grows America.

When manufacturing is at the forefront, working-class families and communities succeed. Together, invention

and production lift up economic growth and build a middle class. That is why I am proud to reintroduce the Bipartisan Office of Manufacturing and Industrial Innovation Policy Act of 2023.

This legislation will create an Office of Manufacturing and Industrial Innovation to elevate at the highest levels manufacturing policy.

This office will ensure that voices from the manufacturing sector, small business, and labor unions are heard.

It is time for the Federal Government to put American manufacturing and workers first.

This bipartisan legislation does exactly that.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I rise to celebrate Women's History Month and its 2023 theme: Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories.

This year, I recognize a woman who tells the stories of Gary, Indiana: Ms. Dorothy Leavell, the editor and publisher of the Gary Crusader for more than 50 years.

Throughout her career, Dorothy remained grounded in her purpose to serve as an advocate for the African-American community. Under her leadership, the Crusader Newspaper Group became a voting member of the National Newspaper Publisher's Association, a federation of the African-American-owned newspapers in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Women's History Month, please join me in recognizing the dedication, perseverance, and contributions that Ms. Dorothy Leavell and so many other extraordinary women have made to improve our communities through the stories they tell.

FEED AMERICA

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, the agricultural community is the backbone of eastern North Carolina.

Back home, I constantly hear about the barriers to our farmers' success, which is why during this National Agriculture Week, I proudly introduced the Promoting Precision Agriculture Act with Representative TRACEY MANN of Kansas.

Precision agriculture includes the use of devices like robotics, sensors, monitors, drones, and more to help our growers increase efficiency, boost crop yields, and lower costs.

Madam Speaker, we must deliver for our farmers in rural America to ensure our growers have the resources and

tools they need to do what they do best: feed America.

THE PAST AND FUTURE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY

(Ms. CLARKE of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today at a moment when, tragically, women's rights in the United States have been greatly diminished since last year's Women's History Month was commemorated.

While we will continue our month-long celebration in observance of women's history, it is just as important for us to focus on the future that women will face as it is for us to reflect on the achievements of the past.

Access to abortion is no longer a constitutional right. Full stop.

Access to lifesaving abortion medication, even in States where abortion is legally protected is under threat.

Teenage girls and young women are facing unprecedented rates of trauma, violence, suicide, and maternal mortality.

We still have not achieved equal work for equal pay. Yet, we continue our celebration this month all the same. That is in part what makes this month so special.

From Harriet Tubman liberating the enslaved to Vice President HARRIS inspiring women and girls across the Nation that they too can dream with ambition, lead with conviction, and see themselves in a way that others may not, we are making progress and our work is not yet finished.

In closing, Happy Women's History Month.

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL BOARD DISTRICT THREATENED TAKEOVER

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, we can honor Women's History Month in many different ways, and I rise today to acknowledge women in all walks of life and around the world.

I particularly want to mention a crisis that involves women in my Congressional District.

Can you imagine the State of Texas attempting to take over the largest school district in our State, and the seventh or eighth largest school district, the Houston Independent School District.

Why women? Because parents, many of them single household, women. Teachers, women. Support staff, women. Cafeteria workers, women—women who love the children and wonder why a State would eliminate the school board—which by the way, has the largest number of women as school board members on the Houston Independent School Board District.

There is no definable reason to take over a district that has a C rating for one school, an overall B plus, a Chinese immersion school, a Arabic immersion school, an art and professional school, virtual arts, and as well children performing after the pandemic.

When I met with the parents at this meeting that was being held, they asked why. They were women.

Madam Speaker, I stand with them.

We will fight against the takeover, and I will listen to the women, the parents of the children of the Houston Independent School District.

□ 1930

CALIFORNIA'S WATER CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, we have had a series of very heavy storms in California. We have gotten a lot of water, and I wanted to take a moment to talk about what is happening to that water.

This is a photo I took a few days ago at the Folsom Dam; 20,000 cubic feet is being released per second where it is sent on its way to the Pacific Ocean. That staggering amount of water is not available to California farmers, businesses, or residents.

Meanwhile, State-sponsored billboards tell people to put a bucket in their shower so they can save that water for gardening. Restaurants are prohibited from serving their customers drinking water unless the customer specifically asks for it.

Here are some of the other emergency drought restrictions that have been in effect: Turn off decorative water fountains. Use an automatic shutoff nozzle on your water hose. Use a broom, not water to clean sidewalks and driveways. Commercial, industrial, and institutional decorative grass should not be watered; same for the common areas in homeowner associations.

Down here you can see all the enforcement, all the penalties if you don't follow this. It says here, for local jurisdictions, for urban water suppliers, if needed, exercise authority to adopt more stringent local conservation measures. Some local authorities have done just that.

The Las Virgenes Municipal Water District began sending government employees into residents' homes to install flow restrictors. Once installed, you are also barred from watering anything outside, and you are not able to use two appliances needing water at once.

One resident said: "You have to take what's called a Navy Shower . . . 2 minutes. . ."

In Los Angeles, they have the water police, where municipalities pay indi-

viduals to drive around and check for leaky swimming pools, green lawns, or other signs of water use.

This is just the beginning. In 2018, the California Legislature adopted a statewide limit of 55 gallons of indoor water use per person per day; so a single person living alone can't take a shower and do a load of laundry in the same day. Yet, last year, the legislature decided even this was too generous and reduced the allotted water to 42 gallons per day.

Then, of course, there is the impact on farmers. For both 2021 and 2022, surface water deliveries dropped by 43 percent. An estimated 752,000 acres lay idle in 2022.

The general manager of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District said: "We typically plant 100,000 acres of rice in our district. And this last year we planted 1,000 acres. It is just a massive, massive impact," he said.

As a result, \$1.7 billion in crop revenues were lost in 2022, and an estimated 19,400 jobs.

These drastic sacrifices have been required of Californians because of a supposed lack of water. We prayed for rain, and then the rain comes, and this happens.

Here is the overall impact of this image and others like it throughout the State. So far this year, October through mid-March, the net outflow, this is after pumping, from the delta into the San Francisco Bay is 11.6 million acre-feet.

Meanwhile, the State has only pumped 1.0 million acre-feet into the California Aqueduct, and the Federal Bureau of Reclamation has only pumped 826,000 acre-feet into the Delta Mendota Canal.

With this record precipitation, that means 13 percent of delta outflows have been captured. The rest is squandered.

If we were able to capture this water, we wouldn't have to worry about floods, and we wouldn't have to worry about droughts. Communities wouldn't be put at risk. Farmers wouldn't have to fallow their fields. Citizens wouldn't have to take shorter showers.

The reason we aren't capturing it isn't because this water is somehow inherently elusive. It is because there is simply no place to put it.

California has not seen a new water storage project in at least 30 years, despite many promising potential projects that have been in the planning stages since the 1950s.

In 2014, California voters said enough is enough and passed a \$7.5 billion water bond. Build water storage, the voters said. Yet, nothing has been built. In the 9 years since, no significant project has materialized. Endless litigation, mind-numbing bureaucracy and, most of all, a lack of political will have been a recipe for inaction.

The executive director of the most significant project, Sites Reservoir, said: My experience is that for every 1 year of construction, you have about 3 years of permitting.

It doesn't need to be this way. The massive Folsom Dam, of which this is the auxiliary spillway, holds about a million acre-feet of water and took less than a decade in the late 1940s and early 1950s to build.

In addition to failing to build any new in-stream or off-stream reservoirs, California has also rejected all but one proposed desalination plant, and is taking advantage of a small fraction of the potential for water treatment.

Even now, amidst the current record precipitation, our State and Federal pumps still aren't operating at full capacity.

In short, this uniquely Californian absurdity of alternating or even simultaneous floods and droughts is not some inevitable by-product of our climate or geography. It is the direct product of political failure. We have more than enough tools at our disposal to have a sustainable, secure supply of water for all users.

This image needs to be a wake-up call for California's leaders at the State and Federal level. No more excuses. Let's solve this problem now. Let's end this era of floods and droughts, of shorter showers, and fallow fields. Let's liberate our constituents from this regime of enforced scarcity and give Californians the abundant supply of water they deserve.

This is California's problem, but it affects the entire country. California agriculture feeds the Nation and the world, and we could never have become the State that we are, or at least once were, a State that used to lead the country in so many good ways, without the dams, aqueducts, pipes, tunnels, canals, plants, pumping stations built by previous generations.

We need to summon the can-do spirit of our forebearers, and we don't even need their ingenuity. We just need basic competence.

Effective water management was indispensable to California's 20th century rise and is just as indispensable to reversing its 21st century decline.

RECENT COURT DECISIONS

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, this last week, two court decisions in California delivered a near-fatal blow to one of the worst laws that has ever been passed, the California law known as AB 5, that destroyed the livelihoods of countless people, wiping out hundreds of professions in our State.

These court decisions have significant ramifications for three matters of national importance: First, the recently re-introduced PRO Act, which seeks to nationalize California's ban on independent work; second, a proposed Department of Labor rule that seeks to do much the same thing through the bureaucracy; and third, the upcoming confirmation hearings for President Biden's nominee for Secretary of Labor, Julie Su, who, as California's Labor Secretary, was an architect and lead enforcer of AB 5.

The PRO Act, the Labor rule, Julie Su: It is a multi-pronged assault on the

right to earn a living in America, a concerted strategy to limit or eliminate the gig economy, freelancing, independent contracting, self-employment, and other alternate work arrangements that entire careers are based on and entire industries have been built around.

If this strategy is successful, it will be devastating for the American economy and American workers. We know that because of the devastation California has already experienced.

When he signed AB 5 in late 2019, Governor Gavin Newsom rendered countless Californians, spanning hundreds of professions, unable to earn a living in our State. Videographers and caricaturists, transcriptionists and interpreters, technicians and engineers, analysts and consultants, musicians and conductors, artists and dancers, writers and editors, coaches and trainers, teachers and tutors, nurses and doulas, hardly an industry or profession is unscathed.

The consequences go well beyond just the affected professions. To take one example, thousands and thousands of truckers are at risk of being taken off the road, throwing supply chains into chaos.

AB 5 is a law so bad that California voters have repudiated it, and the legislature has granted over 100 exemptions to professions with enough influence at the Capitol.

These two developments, the clearly expressed will of California voters, and the scattershot exemption process, were the subjects of last week's court decisions.

In the first decision, the California Court of Appeal unanimously upheld Proposition 22, an initiative passed by California voters in 2020. Prop 22 repealed AB 5 for one category of independent contractors, app-based drivers.

Uber, to take one example, was going to have to terminate up to 80 percent of its drivers because of AB 5, and nearly had to stop operating in our State altogether. Their drivers, who prize the flexibility of being able to switch on the app whenever they want to work, were appalled at the prospect of being assigned to fixed shifts, minimum work hour requirements, and more, if they were able to drive at all.

So Prop 22 was proposed to preserve the independent contracting model for these drivers and enable services like Uber and Lyft to continue in California.

In November of 2020, Prop 22 passed overwhelmingly with 59 percent of the vote. This is the one time that AB 5 has been subject to a direct vote of the people, and California voters decisively rejected it.

Yet, tellingly, the special interest groups behind AB 5 then tried to defy the will of voters, tying up the initiative in arcane legal challenges; but last Tuesday, a State Appellate Court put an end to this anti-democratic nonsense. The Court respected the will of voters and upheld the initiative.

The Justices acknowledged the people of California had chosen to overturn AB 5 and protect independent contracting. So, for the dozens of Democrat Members of Congress sponsoring the PRO Act, take notice: your position is at odds with the voters of even my own very blue State.

There was a second decision on AB 5 last week of perhaps even greater significance. This one, also a unanimous ruling, was from a Federal Appeals Court. Overruling a district court decision, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals held in favor of independent contractors who alleged AB 5 violates the United States Constitution.

Specifically, it is an Equal Protection violation. By granting over 100 exemptions to AB 5, the Court wrote, the legislature has not only refuted its own justification for the law, but it has picked and chosen who is allowed to work and who isn't, without any rational basis.

Indeed, the court referred to the "... piecemeal fashion in which the exemptions were granted," saying this "lends credence to Plaintiffs' allegations that the exemptions were the result of the 'lobbying' and 'backroom dealing' as opposed to adherence to the stated purpose of the legislation."

The court wrote that who is subject to the law, and who isn't, could plausibly be "attributed to animus rather than reason," and that the State's policy of now enforcing AB 5 on some but not others, borders on corruption, pure spite, or naked favoritism.

For this reason, the court found that the constitutional case against AB 5 passes the rational-basis test, which is notoriously difficult to pass. Under that standard, a court will only strike down a law if there is not "any reasonably conceivable state of facts that could provide a rational basis for" it.

In this case, the court explained that "even under this 'fairly forgiving' standard of review, we conclude that ... Plaintiffs plausibly alleged that AB 5 ... violates the Equal Protection Clause."

Why in the world would a law that, per the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, lacks any rational basis be transformed into national policy, ensnaring millions of Americans in its web of corruption, animus, and economic failure?

Why would we take a law so bad that legislatures felt the need to unconstitutionally award 100 exemptions to their friends and say this is our model for the American workforce?

□ 1945

There is no good reason at all, no good reason why a law that the voters of deep-blue California rejected should be the template for national labor relations, as the PRO Act seeks to do.

There is no reason why a law that cannot be justified by any reasonably conceivable state of facts should be imposed by executive fiat nationwide, as the Biden administration's labor rule would do.

There is no reason why an architect and ruthless enforcer of that law, former California Labor Secretary Julie Su, should be elevated to the highest labor office in the land.

Julie Su's historic failure to deliver unemployment checks to millions of Californians, along with her allowance of the largest fraud of taxpayer dollars in history, are easily disqualifying from the standpoint of competence, but it is her mistreatment of California workers through the ruthless enforcement of AB 5 even during the COVID shutdowns that truly makes her unfit for this position.

The voters of California repudiated Julie Su with the passage of Prop. 22. Two separate appeals courts repudiated Su with last week's decisions.

It is time for President Biden to withdraw this nomination. If he refuses, I urge the United States Senate to join California voters, California judges, and Federal judges in rejecting this nominee.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF REX HIME

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, in recent weeks, my district has lost several of its most distinguished citizens. I want to share a few words about their lives and the legacy they have left in our communities.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the life and memory of Rex Hime, a committed public servant, veteran, native Californian, and friend to many.

Rex's life was guided by a commitment to serving others and a work hard, play hard attitude that endeared him to people across California. In fact, Rex's habit of regularly walking the halls of the California State Capitol in Sacramento and testifying in a Hawaiian shirt rather than the customary suit and tie was by some accounts singlehandedly responsible for relaxing the dress code at the capitol building, which is appreciated by many.

Rarely would Rex let a meeting or conference call end without making everyone laugh and lightening the mood of the conversation. Rex also spread joy to others through serving as the chair, vice chair, and board member of the Cal Expo & State Fair for over 20 years. His passion for bringing joy to others through the fair was widely recognized, as five different Governors from both political parties continued to appoint Rex to the California State Fair Board.

Rex's service to his community and country extended far beyond the fair. He served in both the Army Reserve and California National Guard, retiring as a major in 1990. Rex was also a member of the California Task Force on Violence Prevention, a regent of the University of California, and president of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association.

Apart from his community work, Rex worked as president and CEO of the California Business Properties Association for 37 years and was often instrumental in protecting taxpayers and

helping craft legislation that served as models for States across the country.

I am honored to have known Rex. He was a devoted husband and father, and our community and California will never forget the impact that Rex Hime had and continues to have on our lives through his service and advocacy work throughout his 75 years.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MARTIN HARMON

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Martin Harmon, a philanthropist, entrepreneur, and beloved member of the Roseville community who passed away in February at the age of 88.

Martin lifted the lives of thousands of members of the community through his charitable foundation, which supported hospitals, churches, cancer research, substance abuse recovery programs, the arts, disaster relief efforts, and children's programs throughout the Sacramento area.

He impressed upon his family the importance of making a positive difference and is survived by his cherished wife, Kathryn Harmon; 9 children; 33 grandchildren; and 29 great-grandchildren.

Martin also embodied the American entrepreneurial spirit. He started his career at age 9 by selling cookware door to door during World War II and later parlayed his experience working behind a butcher's counter into opening his own market and meat-packing company as a teenager.

At the age of 27, Martin purchased his first nursing home in Auburn, which presaged his future as a developer and contractor. Martin's wide-ranging developments, from medical office buildings and shopping centers to subdivisions and apartments, leave behind a profound legacy for his children and grandchildren.

I was honored to know Martin, and our community will never forget the impact that Martin Harmon has had and will continue to have on our lives for many years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF PAUL DUGAN

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the life and memory of Dr. Paul Dugan, a committed physician and pillar of the Roseville community who sadly passed away in February at the age of 92.

Dr. Dugan served countless members of the Roseville community and Sacramento area through his work as a physician. His passion for caring for others through medicine, sparked by an early affliction of polio, is abundantly clear through his life's work. Ever since moving to Roseville in 1963, Dr. Dugan regularly spent weekends doing house calls, serving uninsured patients and friends of patients, and tirelessly advocating for public health awareness.

Paul and his wife, Olga, even started the first-ever mass CPR training program, Start-A-Heart, in 1978. The program ran continuously for 19 years and was later replicated as CPR Saturday

across the country and internationally by the American Red Cross. Dr. Dugan doubtlessly saved countless lives through his leadership in organizing and executing the Start-A-Heart program and his service as a physician.

Dr. Dugan's passion for serving others extended beyond medicine and beyond Roseville. Dr. Dugan served on the Roseville Planning Commission, helping shape Roseville into the city it is today. He served as president of the Roseville Chamber of Commerce and was recognized by community members as Roseville's Citizen of the Year in 1978 and 1992. Dr. Dugan was also selected to serve on the California Board of Medical Examiners by both Governor Ronald Reagan and Governor Jerry Brown, and he assisted in credentialing the UC Davis School of Medicine.

I was honored to know Paul, and our community will never forget Dr. Paul Dugan and the tremendous impact he has had on his patients and residents of Roseville through his service as a physician and leader in the community.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF GREG VAN DUSEN

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Greg Van Dusen, a pillar of the Sacramento-area community.

Greg was born in Sacramento in 1950 and, from an early age, had a passion for serving others and for sports. Greg's service and leadership were recognized by his peers after he served as student body president in 1968, and he later served a 12-month combat tour in Vietnam.

After returning from Vietnam, Greg combined his passion for service and sports by working tirelessly to facilitate the move of the Sacramento Kings from Kansas City to Sacramento in 1985. As a result of Greg's efforts, generations of Sacramento-area residents have become diehard Kings fans, although, admittedly, it has been pretty tough in many recent years. The team's somewhat unexpected success this season, I think, is a tremendous tribute to Greg.

Greg was also a devoted father and grandfather, helping shape his three sons into the men they are today. He always looked forward to visits from his grandkids, attending their sporting events and teaching them life lessons. His son Brett remembers him as "a brilliant mind; a hardworking, compassionate father and grandfather; and always willing to help anyone who asked."

I was truly honored to know Greg. He was a good friend. Our community will never forget the impact that Greg Van Dusen has had and will continue to have on our lives through his passion for serving others.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ALLAN ZAREMBERG

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the life and memory of Allan Zaremborg, a beloved member of the Sacramento-area community and a kindhearted public servant.

Allan's impact has been felt over 40 years at the California State Capitol, including for 23 years as president of the California Chamber of Commerce.

Allan held a deep commitment to forging constructive compromise with anyone willing to help deliver results for the people of California, listening respectfully and kindly to everyone's opinions and building trust through honest dealmaking, the very embodiment of how politics ought to be practiced.

His work, among many other results, helped ensure that significant investments were made in infrastructure and in caring for Californians' mental health. Allan also served several California Governors in a variety of roles, including Governor George Deukmejian and Governor Pete Wilson.

Allan also served our country as an Air Force officer during Vietnam. During the war, he was a captain and flight navigator in the KC-135, responsible for refueling spy planes. His time in the Air Force informed his approach throughout his life's work, from calmly managing a crisis to learning how to get the job done, no matter the obstacles at hand.

Apart from his service, Allan is also remembered as a kind individual, often making pizzas from scratch for friends at his home in Loomis.

I was truly honored to know Allan and to work with him. People throughout California will never forget the impact that he had and will continue to have for many, many years to come.

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

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD SECTOR LONG ISLAND SOUND

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated men and women of the United States Coast Guard Sector Long Island located in NY-3 that stretches from Eatons Neck and just beyond Kings Point. It is one of the oldest Coast Guard stations in New York and the fourth oldest in the United States.

They carry out humanitarian services, such as search and rescue. They are maritime security, which is their top priority, along with port security. They are the law enforcement service branch of the United States Armed Forces. The United States Coast Guard is the largest and most powerful coast guard in the world, and it rivals most navies.

During 9/11, these unsung heroes evacuated some 565,000 people from Manhattan who chose the water route to escape NYC. In addition, their search and rescue ops increased by 35 percent during the pandemic, with a 22 percent increase in fatalities.

While keeping vigilant of our coast, they also take the fight to gun, drug, and human smugglers out on the high seas.

Their mission-related activity is being carried out despite a \$4 billion backlog in infrastructure, including the old station building at Eatons Neck, structural issues with the U.S. Coast Guard station in Saugerties, as well as flooding, mold, lead, and asbestos issues at each of the U.S. Coast Guard stations on the South Shore. Because of these conditions, the Coast Guard staff must clean up the basements late at night instead of getting proper sleep after handling search and rescue operations all day.

As you can see, these are the conditions behind me of what the men and women who serve our country honorably have to endure.

All of this is being carried out with about 100 reservists from New York and 40,000 members nationwide, some of whom have difficulty receiving mental health services. Being stationed at some of these facilities can become a long and lonely mission due to long winters and very little social life.

□ 2000

Sadly, there are also pay and housing issues, some U.S. Coast Guard staff are utilizing food pantries and have difficulties finding affordable housing within enough driving distance of their station. This results in morale and recruiting issues.

Lastly, there are some 3,000 offshore wind turbines that are coming and posing a major concern for the Coast Guard when it comes to performing search and rescue. Their helicopters would have to carefully navigate a waterway during a rescue operation without getting caught up in the wind turbines in addition to Coast Guard vessels having difficulties with their radar capabilities navigating in and around these windmills.

I would also add that the construction of these turbines can take up to 15 to 20 years to build, resulting in an expected 1,800 transits up the Hudson River from the Port of New York and out to sea. This places a huge responsibility on the shoulders of the Coast Guard to ensure the safety of all those types of boaters and vessels.

Madam Speaker, I highlight these concerns because they operate under a limited budget. They deserve proper pay, rest, housing, medical, as well as mental health, and above all, our sincere gratitude.

These dedicated men and women are truly the unsung heroes of our military force who protect our coasts, protect our economic and security interests abroad, saving thousands of lives a year at sea, and providing emergency response to both manmade and natural disasters.

The Coast Guard ethos are:

In Service to our Nation

With honor, respect, and devotion to duty

We protect,
We defend,
We save,
We are semper paratus.
We are the United States Coast Guard.

I thank the U.S. Coast Guard for their dedication to protecting other coastal borders and keeping those at sea safe from harm.

SAFE DRINKING WATER

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, most of us would take this for granted and never think twice about the water we drink. We assume it is safe and that the contaminants have been filtered out. I am here to address the water contamination concern that is affecting communities within New York's Third Congressional District.

The Village of Farmingdale is an incorporated village on Long Island in Nassau County. The Village is serviced by two different water utilities: the Village of Farmingdale Water Department that serves approximately 9,500 residents, and the South Farmingdale Water District, which serves approximately 45,000 residents. One of the water plants is already impacted by contaminants and the second is in danger of approaching contamination within 11 months.

PFAS substances, which are commonly known as PFAS are chemicals used for their waterproofing and stain resistance. They typically can be found in a variety of products, such as fabric conditioners, firefighting foam, and older styles of Teflon. They are also known as "forever chemicals" that never break down in water and soil, and accumulate and persist in the human body. Health effects from PFAS can vary. According to the CDC, PFAS may lead to high cholesterol, increased risk of kidney cancer, liver problems, and decreases in birth weight.

Currently, the Village of Farmingdale is trying to address these emerging contaminants, including 1,4-dioxane and PFAS that are emanating from plumes in the aquifer from various hazardous waste sites outside of the boundaries of the Village. The Village is in the process of constructing an advanced oxidation plant, AOP, and granulated activated carbon filters to remove PFAS and 1,4-dioxane compounds at this location.

The reality is, in 11 months 9,500 people in the Village of Farmingdale are at risk of having no access to clean water if we do nothing about it.

Unfortunately, these contaminants have already impacted one of the water supply wells located at Eastern Parkway where the Village operates a 1.73-million-gallon per day well, also known as well 1-3. As a result, well 1-3 has been offline since July of 2021, and the Village of Farmingdale has declared an emergency.

In December of 2019, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation directed the installation of sentinel wells near the Village of Farmingdale's boundaries, which is a

short distance of approximately 1,500 feet of both water plants to monitor the toxic plume and the impact.

A sentinel well is a groundwater monitoring well located between a known area of groundwater contamination and a drinking water supply well. This pending contamination necessitates that the Village of Farmingdale implement costly filtration systems not just for well 1 but also for the two remaining operational wells, 2 and 3.

Farmingdale's most recent sample indicates a significant increase in contamination concentrations of the two remaining operational wells. Concentrations in these sentinel wells exceed the current standards. Concentrations of 1,4-dioxane have risen from 1.7 ppb, parts per billion, in June of 2021 to 3.4 parts per billion in March of 2022.

In 2017, a nonprofit known as the Environmental Working Group collaborated with scientists, aggregated, and analyzed data from 50,000 local water utilities in all 50 States. For the Village of Farmingdale, the group discovered six contaminants across the supply between 2012 and 2017. The following contaminants include chromium, nitrate, nitrate and nitrite, radium, arsenic, and radium.

For the Village residents and businesses to have a safe supply of potable water, the Village is preparing contingency plans which will also have a significant financial impact on the small Village. This is just one small community facing contaminated water and, unfortunately, they are not alone.

While I am pleased that New York became the first State in the Nation to adopt drinking water standards, at the Federal level we should be doing more to invest in our water infrastructure improvement projects.

Clean water should never be a luxury to any community. In fact, clean water should always be a right to every American citizen.

DEFENDING THE TAXPAYERS OF NASSAU COUNTY

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, today, I have to defend the taxpayers living in Nassau County. As Long Island becomes less affordable and inflation disrupts our everyday lives, Long Islanders are struggling to pay taxes.

Our homeowners in Nassau County are now being required to pay an additional 2.06 percent in school taxes for 2023 through 2024. Nassau County ranks among eight counties nationwide with the highest median property tax, which consists of 60 percent in school tax. One of the more affluent school districts in New York's Third District, Jericho, is proposing a 2.77 percent tax increase.

The district will pay an additional \$2.6 million in health insurance, along with \$700,000 more for public school bus transportation. This is why the taxpayers of Long Island would greatly benefit from my bill, H.R. 1360, the SALT Relief Act.

All taxpayers need a buffer, especially during times of economic hardship. My bill is designed to keep money

in taxpayers' wallets while keeping residents on Long Island.

I am calling on my colleagues to co-sponsor my bill and consider what is at stake for all American families.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS EMILY KIM AND KEVIN ZHU

Mr. SANTOS. I would like to take the time to congratulate Emily Kim and Kevin Zhu of Jericho High School on becoming finalists in the 2023 Regeneron Science Talent Search.

Both Emily and Kevin had the experience of presenting their research for a week in the Nation's Capital and were awarded \$25,000 based on their research skills and promise as scientists.

Emily and Kevin were chosen to compete out of 1,949 students from 628 high schools across 48 States, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, and four other countries.

Emily's project studied activated carbon and its potential to treat the wastewater produced by the fast-fashion and textile industries.

Kevin Zhu's project studied change in DNA associated with neurological disease and how the changes can serve as a measurable indicator for future cancer blood tests.

These extraordinary students, although very young, have set the bar for the many likely to follow in their footsteps. Now, more than ever, scientific research and STEM skills are vital to solving some of the world's most complex problems.

Bright minds such as Kevin's and Emily's are on the cutting edge of breakthrough discoveries.

Congratulations to you both, and may you have great success in the future and in your career.

CONGRATULATING THE MANHASSET INDIANS GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Manhasset Indians girls' basketball team for their outstanding performance this month. On March 11th, they played an impressive game and, what many may argue, was their most competitive game all season.

With just 70 seconds left and what appeared to be their certain defeat, the girls gave it their all and scored six straight points, including an astonishing free throw from senior grad Caitlin Barrett.

Their junior forward Lauren Perfetto scored 12 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in what some have called the best game of her career. The girls tied the game at 45 and went into overtime, then wrapped the game with a three-point lead.

With demonstrated composure, resilience, and teamwork, the Manhasset Indians set the bar in athleticism. I know that you work so hard and thank you for making this historic mark in Manhasset's history. Keep your chin up, ladies.

Congratulations to the Manhasset Indians Girls' basketball team.

HONORED TO SERVE

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to serve in the House of Rep-

resentatives and it is an honor to represent the constituents of the Third Congressional District of New York and to come here every day and fight for the interests of our constituents.

I thank the Speaker and the staff for all your work and for all the dedication to the American people.

I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 13 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-591. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Wood Preserving Area Sources Technology Review; Technical Correction for Surface Coating of Wood Building Products [EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0133; FRL-8473-03-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV27) received March 6, 2023, 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-592. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; North Dakota; Revisions to Permitting Rules; and Correction [EPA-R08-OAR-2021-0005; FRL-8683-02-R8] received March 6, 2023, 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-593. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; MO; Restriction of Visible Air Contaminant Emissions [EPA-R07-OAR-2022-0746; FRL-10184-02-R7] received March 6, 2023, 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-594. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Disapprovals; Interstate Transport of Air Pollution for the 2015 8-hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards; Correction [EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0663; EPA-R02-OAR-2021-0673; EPA-R03-OAR-2021-0872; EPA-R03-OAR-2021-0873; EPA-R04-OAR-2021-0841; EPA-R05-OAR-2022-0006; EPA-R06-OAR-2021-0801; EPA-R07-OAR-2021-0851; EPA-R08-OAR-2022-0315; EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0394; EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0138; FRL-10209-02-OAR] received March 6, 2023, 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-595. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Jersey; Motor Vehicle Enhanced Inspection and Maintenance Program; Diesel Opacity

Cutpoints [EPA-R02-OAR-2022-0785; FRL-10210-02-R2] received March 6, 2023, 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-596. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; Ventura County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0837; FRL-10294-02-09] received March 6, 2023, 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-597. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; California; Coachella Valley Ozone Non-attainment Area; Reclassification to Extreme [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0953; FRL-10502-02-R9] received March 6, 2023, 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-598. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Georgia; Macon Area Limited Maintenance Plan for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R04-OAR-2022-0203; FRL-10510-02-R4] received March 6, 2023, 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-599. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Eastman Chemical Company Nitrogen Oxides SIP Call Alternative Monitoring [EPA-R04-OAR-2022-0158; FRL-10541-02-R4] received March 6, 2023, 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-600. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule and correction — Diglycerol in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0737; FRL-10688-01-OCSPP] received March 6, 2023, 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-601. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Mandestrobin; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2022-0101; FRL-10739-01-OCSPP] received March 6, 2023, 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.

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:

Mrs. HOUCHIN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 241. A Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to ensure the rights of parents are honored and protected in the Nation's public schools (Rept. 118-12). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. McCAUL:

H.R. 1690. A bill to authorize Secretary of State to negotiate regional immigration agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WENSTRUP (for himself, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 1691. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure prompt coverage of breakthrough devices under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. UNDERWOOD (for herself, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BLUNT ROCHSTER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COHEN, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. MANNING, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 1692. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve affordability and reduce premium costs of health insurance for consumers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 1693. A bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. ARRINGTON (for himself, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. SESSIONS):

H.R. 1694. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of services furnished by free-standing emergency centers; 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. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASE, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. FALLON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MACE, Mr. MEUSER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, and Ms. TOKUDA):

H.R. 1695. 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 Accountability.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. HARDER of California):

H.R. 1696. A bill to repeal certain exemptions from antitrust laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary,

and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 1697. A bill to enhance the participation of precision agriculture in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. ESCOBAR (for herself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. TLAI, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CORREA, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ROSS, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 1698. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to promote family unity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FROST:

H.R. 1699. A bill to establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FULCHER (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 1700. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to establish an administrative relief process for individuals whose applications for transfer and registration of a firearm were denied, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Mr. STANTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SOTO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas):

H.R. 1701. A bill to prohibit discrimination in higher education against certain noncitizen students on the basis of immigration status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN (for herself, Mr. TORRES of New York, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 1702. A bill to amend PROMESA to include certain ethics provisions to provide for the disqualification of certain advisors to the Financial Oversight and Management Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. VAN DREW, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. BABIN, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 1703. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to prohibit the use of certain identification documents at airport security checkpoints, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself and Mr. McCAUL):

H.R. 1704. A bill to decrease dependency on People's Republic of China manufacturing and decrease migration due to lost regional economic opportunities; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY,

Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MENG, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BUSH, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. STANSBURY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. CASAR, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 1705. A bill to restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, the Judiciary, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of California):

H.R. 1706. A bill to authorize the Department of Labor's voluntary protection program; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. LEE of Florida, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 1707. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for an exception from infringement for certain component parts of motor vehicles; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Ms. MENG, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CHU, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BUSH, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Ms. CLARKE of New York):

H.R. 1708. A bill to address root causes of homelessness, meet the needs of community members experiencing harms from homelessness, transition communities towards providing housing for all, end penalization of homelessness, and ensure full democratic participation and inclusion of persons experiencing homelessness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, the Judiciary, Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. COLE, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. BACON, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. MACE, Mrs. BICE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. MANN, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 1709. A bill to allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their Tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CARSON, and Mrs. PELTOLA):

H.R. 1710. A bill to establish the Office of Manufacturing and Industrial Innovation

Policy and strategic national manufacturing policy for the United States, to provide manufacturing and industrial perspective and advice to the President, to provide for a comprehensive survey and cross administration management of efforts to ensure global leadership in manufacturing critical to the long-term economic health and national security of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself, Ms. BUDZINSKI, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER):

H.R. 1711. A bill to establish a demonstration program to provide payments on eligible loans for individuals who are eligible for the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 1712. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a rural health center innovation awards program and a rural health department enhancement program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LUCAS (for himself and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 1713. A bill to provide for Department of Energy and Department of Agriculture joint research and development activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. MAST:

H.R. 1714. A bill to provide authorities to prohibit the provision of services by social media platforms to individuals and entities on the Specially Designated Nationals List and certain officials and other individuals and entities of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio (for himself and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 1715. A bill to direct the Department of Energy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct collaborative research in order to advance numerical weather and climate prediction in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. BACON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. DONALDS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CARL, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1716. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require certain air carriers to provide reports with respect to maintenance, preventive maintenance, or alterations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1717. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish an interagency

task force between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Food and Drug Administration for purposes of sharing information and providing technical assistance with respect to patents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 1718. A bill to make certain improvements to the enterprise-wide procurement of cyber data products and services by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 1719. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. ISSA, and Ms. JACOBS):

H.R. 1720. A bill to modify permitting requirements with respect to the discharge of any pollutant from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant in certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. ROUZER, and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 1721. A bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to establish a grant program to assist with the purchase, installation, and maintenance of point-of-entry and point-of-use drinking water quality improvement products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. SALINAS (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER):

H.R. 1722. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. DEGETTE, Mrs. TORRES of California, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. ROSS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. POCAN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. CHU, Mr. QUIGLEY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. TOKUDA, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. COSTA, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PETERS, Mr. VBASEY, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. TONKO, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. PORTER, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. TITUS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BERA, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms.

DELBENE, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. BUSH, Mr. STANTON, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. NADLER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. SOTO, Ms. WEXTON, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CROW, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CARSON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. IVEY, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. KEATING, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. CASE, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Ms. WILD, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BEYER, Ms. OMAR, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. MANNING, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. FOSTER):

H.R. 1723. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the use of funds for comprehensive reproductive health care services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Mr. OWENS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. POSEY, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. MAST, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. CLINE, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 1724. A bill to counter the spread of the LOGINK logistics information platform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TENNEY (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. COLE, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 1725. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit 501(c)(3) organizations from providing direct funding to official election organizations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. TOKUDA (for herself and Mr. CASE):

H.R. 1726. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. TRONE (for himself, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 1727. A bill to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. VAN DREW (for himself and Mr. COURTNEY):

H.R. 1728. A bill to establish the Agent Orange Veterans Service Medal; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. OMAR, Ms.

MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. RUPERSBERGER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BUSH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BROWN, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CARSON, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. TITUS, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HIMES, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. MENG, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LIEU, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 1729. A bill to establish a trust fund to provide for adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Education and the Workforce, 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. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself and Ms. PEREZ):

H.R. 1730. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ADAMS, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 1731. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to double the Pell Grant award amount, improve the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, and reduce interest rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, 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. WOMACK (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. GAETZ):

H.R. 1732. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income the basic needs allowance of members of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 242. A resolution recognizing the significant human rights activism and baseball stardom legacy of Roberto Clemente; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. JAMES, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mrs. DIN-

GELL, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. TLAIB, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H. Res. 243. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Government of Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LAMALFA (for himself, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H. Res. 244. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that mandates imposed on manufacturers requiring inclusion of unproven and unreliable technology in firearms is costly and punitive, and the prohibition of firearms without such features is an infringement on the rights of citizens under the Second Amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WEXTON:

H. Res. 245. A resolution recognizing and congratulating the city of Manassas, Virginia, on the 150th anniversary of its founding; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. McCaul:

H.R. 1690.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the Secretary of State to negotiate regional immigration agreements with countries in the Western Hemisphere

By Mr. WENSTRUP:

H.R. 1691.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Ms. UNDERWOOD:

H.R. 1692.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health care

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 1693.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Executive Branch to report to Congress on acts of terrorism.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 1694.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide permanent medicare reimbursement for Freestanding Emergency Centers

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 1695.

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.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Oversight of federal purchasing of software

By Mr. COSTA:

H.R. 1696.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Antitrust

By Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina:

H.R. 1697.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish standards for precision agriculture.

By Ms. ESCOBAR:

H.R. 1698.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SEC. 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

CLAUSE 18

The Congress shall have power . . . To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers and all other powers vested by this Constitution in

The single subject of this legislation is:

For the immigration benefit of mixed-status families.

By Mr. FROST:

H.R. 1699.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention

By Mr. FULCHER:

H.R. 1700.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, providing Congress to “make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution” the power enumerated in Article 1 and “all other Powers vested by [the] Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Office thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Provides for relief process of denied applications for transfer or registration of a firearm that are denied or delayed.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 1701.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: “[The Congress shall have the power . . .] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration

By Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN:

H.R. 1702.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress has the authority to enact this legislation pursuant to Article IV Section 3 Clause 2 of the United States Constitution which provides:

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regula-

tions respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States(. . .)

The single subject of this legislation is:

Regulation of contracting of the Puerto Rico Financial Oversight and Management Board.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 1703.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally, Congress has the Constitutional authority to regulate commerce among the States and with Indian Tribes, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would prohibit TSA from allowing an illegal immigrant’s arrest warrant to serve as identification in airports by requiring a non-citizen who does not have identification to submit biometric information and go through enhanced security screening. The bill would also require TSA to go through the official rulemaking process to allow additional forms of identification for non-citizens

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 1704.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To nearshore certain manufacturing in the Western Hemisphere to reduce dependency on the People’s Republic of China and to decrease illegal immigration.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 1705.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, sec. 3

Article I, sec. 8

Equal Protection Clause, 14th Amendment

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish several environmental justice requirements, advisory bodies, and programs to address the disproportionate adverse human health or environmental effects of federal laws or programs on communities of color, low-income communities, or tribal and indigenous communities.

By Mrs. HARSHBARGER:

H.R. 1706.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Compliance assistance at the Occupational Safety and Health Administration

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 1707.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill would reduce, from 14 years to 30 months, the period of time during which car companies can enforce design patents on the cosmetic, exterior parts, which most typically get damaged in an accident, against alternative suppliers.

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1708.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the

United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Housing

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 1709.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their Tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer.

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 1710.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, To make Rules for the Government

Article I, Section VIII, To regulate Commerce

Article I, Section VIII, To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper

The single subject of this legislation is:

Commerce

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H.R. 1711.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a demonstration program to help incentivize more health professionals to serve in rural communities.

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H.R. 1712.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill strengthens access to care in rural areas by incentivizing communities to leverage their existing resources to provide for the community’s urgent care needs.

By Mr. LUCAS:

H.R. 1713.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

“The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

The DOE and USDA Interagency Research Act is a bill that addresses the single subject of authorizing interagency research and development activities between the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture

By Mr. MAST:

H.R. 1714.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prohibits CCP/PRC government officials from using American social media companies unless PRC reciprocates and removes restrictions on U.S. government officials/citizens on Chinese social media

By Mr. MILLER of Ohio:

H.R. 1715.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18:

“The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Advanced Weather Model Computing Development Act is a bill that addresses the single subject of directing the U.S. Department of Energy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct collaborative research in order to advance numerical weather and climate prediction in the United States.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 1716.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 1717.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Establish an interagency task force between the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the Food and Drug Administration for purposes of sharing information with respect to patents.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 1718.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

national defense related cybersecurity

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 1719.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal public safety officer benefits.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 1720.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Water

By Ms. PINGREE:

H.R. 1721.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is:

Water Quality

By Ms. SALINAS:

H.R. 1722.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Tribal Issues

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 1723.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Abortion

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 1724.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

National Security

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 1725.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amends 501(c)(3)s to limit their donations to boards of elections

By Ms. TOKUDA:

H.R. 1726.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requiring the Secretary of the Interior to partner with the Secretary of Agriculture and State of Hawai'i to address Rapid Ohia Death.

By Mr. TRONE:

H.R. 1727.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the C&O Canal Historic Park Advisory Commission through September 2034.

By Mr. VAN DREW:

H.R. 1728.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill directs the Secretary of Defense to design and produce a service medal for veterans who receive compensation for side effects from agent orange exposure.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 1729.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish a trust fund to provide for adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 1730.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Directs Small Business Development Centers and Women Business Centers to assist small businesses in hiring graduates of career and technical education programs.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida:

H.R. 1731.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Higher Education; College Affordability

By Mr. WOMACK:

H.R. 1732.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common

defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would make a technical correction to the tax code to help the military and their families by adding BNAs to the list of qualified tax-exempt military benefits.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 38: Mr. SANTOS.
H.R. 223: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 253: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 292: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 354: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 506: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. NORTON, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 547: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 564: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.
H.R. 589: Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 625: Mrs. FOUSHEE.
H.R. 645: Ms. CROCKETT and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 666: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 676: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 700: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 713: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.
H.R. 736: Mr. TIMMONS.
H.R. 779: Ms. HAGEMAN.
H.R. 782: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 807: Mr. FLOOD.
H.R. 837: Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 901: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 905: Mr. CASTRO of Texas.
H.R. 1028: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 1062: Ms. MACE, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1093: Ms. PORTER, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 1122: Mr. VAN DREW and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 1143: Mr. TIMMONS.
H.R. 1150: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 1184: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 1191: Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. SALAZAR, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 1200: Mr. CALVERT, Mr. GUEST, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, and Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 1202: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. BACON, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. ROSS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 1214: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1235: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1293: Mr. NADLER and Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 1294: Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 1343: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1354: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 1379: Mr. NICKEL.
H.R. 1385: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1406: Mr. LESKO and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 1413: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. PAYNE.
H.R. 1423: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 1462: Mr. ROSENDALE.
H.R. 1478: Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MULLIN, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 1480: Mr. FLOOD, Mrs. MCCLAIN, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 1484: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 1524: Ms. HAGEMAN and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 1532: Mr. SABLÁN and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 1557: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 1567: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 1602: Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1608: Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. ESTES.

H.R. 1624: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 1627: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1640: Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1650: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 1655: Mr. CARSON.

H.R. 1672: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 1680: Mr. SWALWELL.

H.R. 1684: Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 1685: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.J. Res. 18: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. LAWLER.

H. Con. Res. 22: Mrs. PELTOLA.

H. Res. 81: Ms. NORTON, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. TITUS, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. MOSKOWITZ.

H. Res. 108: Mr. NEAL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BURGESS, and Mr. HORSFORD.

H. Res. 154: Mr. GALLEG0 and Ms. DELBENE.

H. Res. 213: Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. BACON, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. RASKIN.

H. Res. 219: Ms. WEXTON and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H. Res. 225: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 236: Mr. MASSIE, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mrs. BOEBERT.

H. Res. 239: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.



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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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No. 52

Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, Jr., a Senator from the State of Maine.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Spirit, You are our mighty fortress. Thank You for Your mercies, which are fresh each day. Your spirit restores us to newness of life. Because of You, we have a new joy, a new song, and a new hope.

Today, bless our Senators. Guide their steps, and inspire their hearts. May they use their talents to make the Nation and world better. Lord, be their strength and shield from every danger as You fill their hearts with a peace that the world can't give or take away.

We pray in Your wonderful 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 (Mrs. MURRAY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 22, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, Jr., a Senator from the State of Maine, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KING thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Gordon P. Gallagher, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on AUMF first, two decades after the start of the Iraq war, the Senate this week debates legislation to repeal the authority that commenced the war to begin with. By a large vote—67 to 28—the Senate yesterday sent a clear message that the time has come to repeal the AUMFs of 2002 and 1991. At this point, repealing the Iraq AUMFs in the Senate is not a matter of if but, rather, of when.

I hope, given such a strong bipartisan vote yesterday, we can move quickly. There should be no needless delay or dilatory tactics on something the ma-

jority of Senators support. We are in the process of negotiating amendments. We want to be reasonable, but this process is going to proceed as quickly as it can.

Allowing these AUMFs to remain on the books is just asking for a future administration to abuse them and, God forbid, bumble us into a new conflict in the Middle East.

War powers belong in the hands of Congress, and we should use and exert that authority by bringing these AUMFs to a close.

It is my hope that both sides can reach an agreement to accelerate this process very soon. In the meantime, once again, thanks, kudos to Senators KAINE and YOUNG, Chairman MENENDEZ and Ranking Member RISCH, and all of the cosponsors. There are many in this legislation.

RAIL SAFETY

Mr. President, now on trains, after last month's terrible derailment in East Palestine, Norfolk Southern CEO Alan Shaw has a chance today to prove before the Senate Commerce Committee that his company is ready to fix the damage they have created. During his testimony, I hope Mr. Shaw will offer some candid answers to a number of very troubling questions.

For example, if Mr. Shaw and rail executives truly care about safety, why did they spend years—years—lobbying the Republican administrations to claw away at regulations intended to keep people safe?

What is Norfolk Southern doing to prevent future accidents like the one in East Palestine? And, God forbid, if another one happens, how will Norfolk Southern ensure communities get the resources they need?

Also, I want to hear Mr. Shaw explain why his company has engorged itself with stock buybacks when that money could have been spent on safety. Listen to this: Norfolk Southern has more than doubled the amount they spent on stock buybacks in the 5 years

● This “buller” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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after the Trump tax law compared to the 5 years before it. In the same period, they cut jobs by thousands and lowered capital investments by billions. How is that justifiable?

I understand that NTSB Chair Homendy is offering testimony as well. I hope we hear from her that the NTSB is ready to conduct a full investigation, not just into Norfolk Southern but into all class I freight rail companies, as I have asked her to do. Such an examination could shed light on a number of rail accidents, if they occurred in populated areas, and which toxic chemicals were released.

A full NTSB investigation could tell us which of these accidents occurred because the tracks were severely degraded or poorly designed, and a full investigation from the NTSB could tell us which negligent rail company policies contributed to the 2,700 deaths in recent years and if any of these could have been prevented.

The Senate deserves explanations. Americans and communities like East Palestine want answers. I hope today's hearing provides some so we can prevent rail disasters like the one in Ohio from happening again.

DEBT CEILING

Mr. President, now, on House Republican comments at their retreat on debt ceiling, undermining the full faith and credit of the United States is never a good idea, but, in the aftermath of a bank collapse, it is supremely reckless. But that is precisely what some House Republicans, including the very chairman of the House Budget Committee, are doing right now.

During House Republicans' annual retreat, House Budget Committee chair and other hard-right-wingers said that now is "the best time" to double down on debt ceiling brinkmanship, as news of SVB's collapse remains front of mind. That is reckless and truly clueless. It is both—reckless and clueless.

Instead of calling for calm, House Republicans are sowing chaos by threatening default at a time when banks need stability. Again, instead of calling for calm, House Republicans are sowing chaos by threatening default at a time when banks need stability. It goes to show you how fringe and unserious the House GOP conference has become.

Our Republican colleagues should remember that it was poor supervision and a rush under Trump to deregulate that caused the banking crisis.

Banks that are well managed are not in crisis, even though they are dealing with the same macroeconomic conditions as everyone else.

So what Republicans are saying is not only ridiculous and false but dangerous.

If you are a small business owner worrying about keeping the lights on and paying your employees, what are you supposed to think when Republicans threaten default at a time like this, with markets already on edge?

If you are near retirement and have spent your whole life setting aside a

little in order to retire with dignity, how would you feel if Republicans threatened your life savings by risking default?

The right answer is for Republicans in the House to stop saber-rattling, drop the hostage taking and brinkmanship, and work together, work in a bipartisan way, to extend the debt ceiling without strings attached, without brinkmanship, without hostage-taking. But that will only happen once Republicans stop ducking from the American people and show us their plan.

Republicans, show us your plan. Today is March 22. The debt ceiling date is getting closer and closer.

Speaker MCCARTHY, it has been long enough. Where is your plan? Your conference says it wants cuts. They threaten default unless they get their cuts. Where is the plan?

Instead of making radical comments that threaten even more financial turmoil, Republicans should focus more on solving the debt crisis by working with Democrats to ensure default never occurs.

REMEMBERING WILLIS REED

Finally, Mr. President, yesterday we learned the sad news of the passing of one of the greatest New York Knicks legends of all time, team captain Willis Reed.

You cannot write the story of the New York Knicks or the NBA without mentioning Willis Reed. He was a giant on and off the court, a ferocious competitor, a class act, and, above all, a leader of leaders.

In game 7 of the 1970 NBA finals—I so well remember it—Willis Reed authored one of the most memorable moments in sports history by hobbling out of the tunnel and walking onto the court minutes before the tip-off. That night, he gave a legendary performance against the Lakers, while leading his team to one of two Knicks titles. We hope maybe it will happen again soon.

Willis Reed embodied what it meant to be a Knick, a New Yorker, a champion, and a legend. Our thoughts are with his family, friends, and teammates. May he rest in peace.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, a little bit of good news: Today, we, the 118th Congress, will confirm President Biden's 118th judge. The 118th Congress will confirm President Biden's 118th judge.

As you know, we have confirmed more judges at this point in a President's term than in any of the previous three administrations. We are proud of how far we have come, and we are just getting started.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BUDGET

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, before I begin my remarks, just a quick observation.

I know that the majority leader comes down on a fairly regular basis and attacks Republicans, particularly House Republicans, for not producing a budget. Obviously, for the House Republicans, it is their prerogative over there. If there is going to be a budget, it is probably going to be a budget that is put together by the House majority.

But I think it kind of misses the broader point, and that is that, at least here in the Senate, which is our domain, our realm of responsibility, it is up to the majority to put a budget forward. They control the floor. They have all control here. They determine what comes to the floor and what doesn't, and if they want to put together a budget, they certainly could. One place to start, obviously, would be the President's budget.

The President submitted a budget, which, by any estimation, is a massive expansion of the Federal Government, with lots of new spending—\$5 trillion in new taxes, mostly on job creators and small businesses. At the end of the budget period, he would add \$17 trillion to the Federal debt. Budget periods cover a window, typically, of 10 years. The President's budget, as put forward, at the end of that 10-year period, would add \$17 trillion to the Federal debt and dramatically increase spending.

Now, spending prepandemic, as we went into the pandemic, was about \$4.4 trillion a year—all in Federal spending. Of course, during the pandemic, that increased. In a bipartisan way, there were some decisions made to support and increase spending in some areas that were designed to combat and deal with a lot of the adverse impacts of the pandemic. Now the pandemic is behind us, and a lot of that spending should have been temporary. A lot of that spending really shouldn't have been incorporated into the baseline.

What the Democrats have done is incorporated that into the baseline so that, this year, the amount of spending in the President's budget—about \$6.9 trillion—is about 55 percent more than the baseline spending back in 2019, prepandemic, at a time when the population of the country has only increased by 1.8 percent. Now, you could argue, I suppose, if you had a massive increase in population—a lot more people in the country—that Federal spending would increase with it, but increasing Federal spending 55 percent at a time when you only have a 1.8-percent population growth in the country seems like a lot of excessive spending spent on expanding and growing the size and the footprint of the Federal Government.

Interestingly enough, at the end of that 10-year period—again, the budget window covers 10 years—spending under the President's budget would be \$9.9 trillion—\$9.9 trillion; in 2019, \$4.4 trillion; at the end of the 10-year window covered by the President's budget,

\$9.9 trillion—more than double, way more than double the amount of spending that we had prior to the pandemic in 2019 and where some additional spending that was added at the time was and should have been temporary.

So those are kind of the contours of the President's budget. That is his plan. The Senate Democrats, obviously, could put that on the floor or they could come up with a different budget. But the point, very simply, is they are the majority. That is their responsibility. If they want to put a budget out, if they want to vote on a budget, put a budget on the floor. We are happy to vote on it. We would be happy to offer amendments to it, and they would be amendments that would reflect the priorities that we have on our side, which call for less spending, less government, a lighter regulatory touch, and not the massive tax increases contemplated by the President's budget.

So that is just a point I wanted to clarify. As we have this conversation around the budget of whose responsibility it is to advance a budget here in the U.S. Senate, it is the job of the majority, and so far the majority has not wanted to undertake that task. Perhaps, more importantly, I don't think it probably wants to vote on the President's budget, which, as I said, adds \$17 trillion to the debt, which makes the debt at the end of that 10-year period—the 10-year window, by the way—\$50 trillion; \$50 trillion. That is what the President's budget would have us at in total debt, cumulative debt, at the end of that 10-year period, but it adds \$17 trillion during that 10-year window and increases spending from \$4.4 trillion pre-pandemic in 2019 to \$9.9 trillion. It is pretty stunning, really, but that isn't what I came to talk about here today.

RESTRICT ACT

Mr. President, I wanted to discuss something because there has been a lot of talk about TikTok in the Halls of Congress lately and I think with good reason because it is becoming increasingly clear that TikTok poses serious national security concerns.

TikTok and its parent company, ByteDance, are Chinese-owned entities with ties to the Chinese Communist Party; and after a Chinese spy balloon floated over our country a few weeks ago, I think it is obvious to everyone that the Chinese Communist Party is hostile to the interests of the United States and spies on American citizens. I can think of few better or easier ways to spy on American citizens or manipulate American public opinion than to make use of a popular app that is used by over 100 million Americans.

In the United States, of course, we have the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution to protect the data Americans provide to apps from being seized by the government, but the Chinese Communist Party has no such restraints. In fact, Chinese law requires social media and technology companies

to provide information, including individually identifiable personal information, to the Chinese Government when asked. So there is no legal framework in China to effectively protect TikTok users or users of any China-based app from having their personal information turned over to the Chinese Communist Party.

There are already concerning signs that TikTok users' personal information is not secure. It was reported last year that China-based employees of ByteDance had repeatedly accessed private data from TikTok users in the United States despite TikTok's claim to the contrary; and in December 2022, it was found that ByteDance's employees inside China used the app to obtain the locations of journalists who worked on stories highlighting TikTok's national security risks. This, obviously, has implications for Americans' personal security and privacy, and it raises troubling questions about how the Chinese Communist Party could use TikTok for its own ends whether that is using personal data to develop sources for espionage or manipulating content to advance the Communist Party's agenda.

TikTok is not the first time technology from a hostile nation has posed a serious security concern. Before there was TikTok, we had to engage in a protracted effort to remove technology from Chinese companies Huawei and ZTE from our telecommunications networks after U.S. security officials raised concerns that much of Huawei's and ZTE's equipment was built with "backdoors," giving the Chinese Communist Party access to global communications networks.

The digital age has come with enormous benefits, but it also comes with substantial new threats, not least the threat of a hostile foreign government exploiting communications technology for nefarious purposes. And that threat increases substantially when we are talking about technology, from hardware to social media apps, produced by companies in hostile nations and affiliated with hostile governments.

In recent years, a number of foreign companies in the information and communications technology space—many of them subject to the control of hostile governments—has gained significant market share. Current law provides some remedies for confronting the dangers these companies present.

For example, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, or what we call CFIUS, can block attempted investments from foreign companies if these investments are determined to present a national security threat, but the authorities the Federal Government currently has were fashioned in a predigital age and, therefore, are not designed for the specific threats posed by digital technology controlled by foreign adversary nations. As a result, the Federal Government is limited in what it can do in situations like the one we currently face with TikTok.

What is needed is a comprehensive framework for responding to national security risks posed by foreign adversary-owned digital technology whether that is TikTok or some other app or mobile phone technology or internet hardware.

While CFIUS has the ability to address some risks, the reality is that the mere presence of a technology from a foreign adversary in the United States does not trigger a CFIUS review. For a tech platform that does not acquire, merge with, or invest in a U.S. company, the CFIUS review simply does not apply. For example, WeChat, the other Chinese-controlled app that President Trump sought to ban back in 2020, is, apparently, not subject to a CFIUS review. Legislation is necessary to fill this important gap in authority.

That is why earlier this month, Democrat Senator MARK WARNER, chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, and I introduced the Restricting the Emergence of Security Threats That Risk Information and Communications Technology Act—the long way of saying or the acronym—the RESTRICT Act, which now has the support of 18 Senators from both parties.

Our legislation would create a comprehensive process, based at the U.S. Department of Commerce, for identifying and mitigating foreign threats to information and communications technology products and services. Now, I want to emphasize that the authorities of the RESTRICT Act only apply to six foreign adversary countries: China, Russia, North Korea, Iran, Venezuela, and Cuba.

Under our bill, the Department of Commerce would review any information and communications technology product from these countries that is deemed to present a possible security threat, with an emphasis on products used in critical telecommunications infrastructure or with serious national security implications. And the Secretary of Commerce would be required to develop a range of measures to mitigate the danger posed by these products, up to and including a total ban on the product in question.

The bill would also ensure transparency by requiring the Commerce Secretary to coordinate with the Director of National Intelligence to provide declassified information on why any measures taken against foreign adversary-owned technology products were necessary in the first place. Importantly, the RESTRICT Act also requires the Secretary of Commerce to act within 180 days after initiating a review.

A common complaint about the ongoing CFIUS review of TikTok is that it has been open-ended and taken years to complete. By comparison, the RESTRICT Act requires quick action to take the necessary steps to mitigate an undue risk from technology of a foreign adversary nation.

Mr. President, there is bipartisan acknowledgement that TikTok poses a

national security threat, and the RESTRICT Act provides a framework for confronting both current and future risks. I am grateful to both Republican and Democratic colleagues for joining Senator WARNER and me to introduce this bill.

It is time to update our laws to ensure that we are able to confront the national security threats posed by foreign adversary technology. I look forward to working with colleagues from both parties in both Chambers to advance the RESTRICT Act and get it to the President's desk.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. CAPITO. 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

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about a constant issue in front of the American people that has haunted, I think, and will haunt this President during his tenure in the White House. It is a subject that my Republican colleagues and I have highlighted in this Chamber—we did just several weeks ago—and this is the continued lack and disregard for border security in our country.

Last week, the White House Press Secretary said that when it comes to the Biden administration and border security:

We're going to secure the border and do the work.

Well, I wonder what it was that has found this newfound urgency at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. And why has it taken 785 days for the Press Secretary to acknowledge the problem?

Maybe it is the record 2.7 million migrant encounters in fiscal year 2022. Or could it be the more than 4.9 million illegal border crossings since President Biden took office? Or how about, for the first time in history, monthly apprehensions at the southern border have surpassed 150,000 for 24 consecutive months? Or that in a season when illegal border crossings are typically lower, Customs and Border Protection encounters rose 2 percent last month with heroine seizures increasing 99 percent and fentanyl seizures increasing 58 percent?

Whatever the reason—whatever the reason—I sure would like to welcome the White House to the same page that we as Republicans have been on since day one of this administration.

While my colleagues and I have been sounding constant alarms about the porousness of our border, the Biden administration has, No. 1, stopped making needed updates to our physical border system, leaving gates inoperational and open; they have halted deportations and have been inconsistent in im-

plementing effective policies that kept illegal border crossings under that 150,000 level for 4 consecutive years prior. There is no denying that this crisis is a self-manufactured crisis.

Maybe most encompassing of their priorities regarding security of our country is that the Department of Homeland Security is one of the few Agencies—and they are the ones tasked with this difficult issue—is one of the few Agencies facing an overall budget cut in the President's latest budget proposal. Remember, a budget is your priorities; it is where you want to do your work.

In an age where it seems that the President and the Congressional Democrats cannot spend enough, they decide to make room for more spending and their radical priorities by putting the Agency in charge of defending our homeland on the chopping block first. I don't know about you, but that doesn't seem like something an administration that is going to "secure the border" should be doing.

Perhaps even more alarming are the comments made by the DHS Secretary regarding their budget allotment. Secretary Mayorkas outlines six priorities in the budget summary that he claims the Agency can work to accomplish with the help of the budget. Toward the top of the list—this is the Department of Homeland Security. Toward the top of the list, "invest in climate." The second-to-last priority, "help secure the border." That is simply unacceptable, especially as migrant encounters at the southern border in fiscal year 2023—where we are in now—are already outpacing the records set in 2022.

My colleagues and I hear the Biden administration quite clear: Securing the border has not been and never will be a priority for this President or his Department of Homeland Security.

What makes this admission so devastating is that while the administration continues to balk at serious attempts to secure the southern border, countless Americans are dying at the hands of the illicit drugs that make their way into our communities through that same southern border. Last month alone, 2,282 pounds of fentanyl—which we know is lethal in extremely, extremely small doses and small amounts—and 10,333 pounds of methamphetamine were seized at the southern border. That amount of fentanyl is the equivalent to 517 million lethal doses.

Our Border Patrol is stretched unfathomably thin with very little support from the administration. There is no telling how many—the amount of drugs that are getting through undetected. I was just talking about the ones that we got.

Just last month, I spoke in this Chamber regarding a recent drug bust in my home State of West Virginia. As investigators from the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of West Virginia recovered cocaine, meth, and fentanyl, they discovered that these

deadly substances had been shipped directly through the U.S.-Mexican border to Ohio via a tractor-trailer. The connection between the southern border crisis and our addiction epidemic back home could not be any clearer. I have said it before, and I will say it again: Every State—my State—is a border State.

While President Biden and his administration continue to put confusing and often conflicting words before action, if they even take action, my colleagues and I continue to make it a concerted effort to get to the bottom of this chaos.

Just this past weekend, I joined a bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers to travel to Mexico City where we met—with quite lengthy meetings—with Mexico's President Lopez Obrador. While there, we held meetings on the United States security posture with regard to Mexico, the chaos at our border, the devastating impacts of fentanyl in our communities, and the violence and trafficking perpetrated by the Mexican cartels. All these issues are top concerns to us here in this country.

It is clear that Mexico needs to continue to address corruption at their ports of entry, and the President emphasized this. They need to focus on the fentanyl precursors coming from China that are coming into our country.

I am very excited and happy that we secured a commitment from President Lopez Obrador that their administration will confront China regarding fentanyl precursors being shipped into their country. This is a major step in cutting fentanyl trafficking in the United States at its source and is needed to alleviate the chaos and corruption currently happening at the border between our two countries.

There is no way to deny that both the United States and Mexico—that border has stressed our countries beyond belief. I think we serve as partners with Mexico. We need to be partners—and good partners—with Mexico to solve this problem.

We are facing historic levels of illegal immigration. We must continue to meet these challenges with urgency and a willingness to work together, and we certainly got that message conveyed to the Mexican President and a reciprocal message coming back from him and his administration.

As my Republican colleagues and I will continue to make clear today, Republicans stand for solutions and not just spending. We stand for action, and we also stand for border security.

I encourage President Biden to join us in this effort and work toward bipartisan border solutions that are effective; that support our Border Patrol officers; and that also, in the end, will save countless lives.

With that, I yield the floor.

VOTE ON GALLAGHER NOMINATION

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote on the previous issue begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Gallagher nomination?

Mrs. CAPITO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 64 Ex.]

YEAS—53

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Sanders
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schatz
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Brown	King	Shaheen
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Lujan	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Tillis
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murray	Warren
Graham	Ossoff	Welch
Grassley	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden
Heinrich	Reed	

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Fischer	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lee	Thune
Cotton	Lummis	Tuberville
Cramer	Marshall	Vance
Crapo	Moran	Wicker
Cruz	Mullin	Young
Daines	Paul	
Ernst	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—4

Durbin	Fetterman
Feinstein	McConnell

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. ROSEN).

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

REPEALING THE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session and the consideration of S. 316, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 316) to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq.

Pending:

Schumer Amendment No. 15, to add an effective date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, over the past several weeks, I have heard my colleagues on both sides of the aisle voice concerns about an issue I have been raising for years—protecting children and teens from online dangers. Recently, much of that conversation has focused on the social media app TikTok.

I want to be clear. TikTok poses serious and specific privacy problems. We are talking about a company that could expose American users', including young users', personal and sensitive information to the Chinese Government. The intelligence community has raised grave concerns that Beijing could potentially influence millions of American TikTok users with the platform's algorithms, spread malware to our smartphones, force the company to amass troves of data on users, and then demand that the information be handed over to the Chinese Communist Party.

In other words, TikTok could collect your personal data without your consent and then target you with information that the Chinese Government wants you to see or potentially, even worse, monitor where you go and what you do.

We already know that TikTok is currently on privacy probation with a Federal Trade Commission consent decree. They had to pay a \$5 million fine for violating the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act. That is my law. We should listen to those warnings, and we should do our job to legislate and regulate in response to these warnings.

I am pleased to hear so much concern for the experiences of our young people online. This is the kind of formidable bipartisan movement to rein in the overreach of Big Tech that we needed in this Chamber 3 months ago when lobbyists flooded to the Capitol to kill my Children and Teens' Online Privacy and Protection Act—COPPA 2.0—to raise protections up to age 16 for young people in our country in terms of the protection of their privacy.

Here is the reality: Asserting that TikTok stands alone as the one plat-

form that poses a serious surveillance threat to our Nation's young people is deliberately missing the Big Tech forest for the TikTok trees.

It is in this dark, dank forest where even more dangers lurk. TikTok needs to be regulated immediately—we can agree on that—but it is absolutely not the only digital danger kids face today. There is no justification for starting and stopping there, because do you know who else is on privacy probation with the Federal Trade Commission in addition to TikTok? YouTube. Google's video platform also violated my law. The Federal Trade Commission fined it \$170 million for invading kids under the age of 12 and their privacy. That is just a slap on the wrist to Google, \$170 million. Oh, and Facebook too. The Federal Trade Commission fined Facebook \$5 billion for violating users' privacy protections. Remember, TikTok was fined \$5 million. Facebook has been fined \$5 billion for violating privacy in our country.

So, yes, we do have to address the TikTok threat, but what we really need to do is to take on all of Big Tech with a set of commonsense protections to stop the tsunami of privacy invasions kids face today online.

America's children and teens are literally dying because of the impacts of social media platforms, and we must save them from drowning. In other words, I agree with my colleagues. Let's make sure kids are protected from Chinese surveillance; but at the end of the day, our moral obligation is to protect our youngest people from an entire industry that poses a direct and existential threat to their generation's well-being.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention just announced that 1 in 3 high school girls in the United States of America had seriously considered suicide in the last year—1 in 3 teenage girls seriously considered suicide in the last year. And over half of all teenage girls say that they are "persistently sad or hopeless." Banning TikTok will not solve that problem.

At least 1 in 10 girls in the United States attempted suicide in the past year. Can I say that again? At least 1 in 10 girls in the United States attempted suicide last year. Among LGBTQ+ youth, the number was 1 in 5 who attempted suicide in the past year. Banning TikTok will not solve that problem.

Thirty-two percent of teen girls said that when they felt bad about their bodies, Instagram made them feel even worse. Banning TikTok will not solve that problem.

And do you know where that latest statistic comes from? Instagram's parent company, Facebook. Just remember, about 22 million teens log into Instagram each and every day in America.

Our children and our teenagers—they are sick, and Big Tech is the parasite preying upon them every single day in our country. These aren't Republican

children. These aren't Democratic children. These are America's children.

The truth is that a myopic focus on a single app is a major missed opportunity. Why would we act on only one company when we should and can act on all of these companies that are preying upon the children and teenagers in our country as we debate here on the Senate floor?

Taking on TikTok alone will not solve the sinister surveillance that kids and teens face online every single day. Here is an example.

Let's say Congress does ban TikTok in the United States or, perhaps, the Federal Government simply forces the app's Chinese parent company to sell or to divest. Would that stop China from tracking teens online? No, it wouldn't. We would still have no rules and no laws stopping the Chinese Government from simply buying sensitive information about young users, which data brokers already traffic during their normal course of business in the United States of America, because, right now, a 14-year-old girl with bulimia or anorexia in our country has zero privacy rights online. Are we going to do something about that? Do we want to let that young girl continue to be made vulnerable by unscrupulous American or Chinese companies?

If we are going to debate this issue, let's talk about it. Let's get right down to what this whole thing should be about: Big Tech should not control the agenda in terms of our protections for young teenage girls or boys in our Nation.

She, that 14-year-old girl, cannot tell Instagram or Snapchat or YouTube: You may not collect, share, or sell my personal information. By the way, her parents can't tell those companies either. Banning TikTok will not change that. Banning TikTok does not stop the Chinese Government or its partners from simply buying the data we are afraid the company will hand over willingly.

Is this threat somehow lessened if it is a transaction as opposed to part of a takeover? Of course not.

Here is the truth: Right now, an entire generation is growing up with some of the most powerful companies in history that are tracking, targeting, and traumatizing them every single day in our country. Big Tech is knowingly and willfully fueling a youth mental health crisis in our Nation.

You don't have to take my word for it. Listen to the President of the United States. Listen to the Surgeon General of the United States. Listen to the American Academy of Pediatrics in our country. Experts all over our Nation are drawing a straight line from Big Tech's business model to the devastating impacts on young Americans' well-being.

Do you know what will help solve this problem? Data privacy protections for children and teenagers in our country if we want to really deal with the threat to our Nation when one in three

teenage girls considered suicide last year. That is a threat to our Nation. When 1 in 10 teenage girls actually attempted suicide last year, that is a danger to our Nation. A lot of it is as a result of social media.

Let's get down to this issue. Let's debate TikTok. Let's debate all of it in terms of threats to our country, because the data these tech companies collect about young users is the raw material—the inputs—for powerful artificial intelligence systems. These algorithms take information about kids and teens and use it to push toxic content to those young people that they know will grab their attention and keep them scrolling on the app so they can sell more ads and make more money, and banning TikTok will not solve that problem.

On the topic of algorithms, if we are worried about the Chinese Government using TikTok's algorithm to influence our elections and our democracy, we should also be worrying about how China uses Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and YouTube, as well, to undermine our democracy.

Let's get at this. If we are going to debate all of this, let's put it out here finally. Let's just get Big Tech out of this debate and have 100 Senators talk about the real threats to teenagers and to our democracy. Let's have that debate. We already saw Russia manipulate Facebook in 2016. If we want to protect democracy, let's do it for every single social media platform in our country.

Young people are particularly vulnerable to Big Tech's algorithmic practices. That is why, for more than a decade, I have been introducing legislation that would solve that problem. My update to the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act for kids under 12 and their parents online would give them a bill of rights for kids 16 and under in our Nation. The parents could just tell those companies: Stop tracking my child. Stop tracking my 14-year-old girl. Stop tracking my 15-year-old girl. If she goes online because she has bulimia or anorexia to get more information, you can't sell that information now to companies so that they can target that girl with more products or information when the parents are only talking to the family's physician.

Let's give those families some rights. Let's stand up for those families against these tech companies that are monetizing the mental health of the children in our country. Let's stop those companies from putting profits over people, over teenagers.

We came very close to passing key provisions from that legislation at the end of last year. My bill almost made it. Unfortunately, industry lobbyists—they stood in our way. They made it impossible for it to pass, because it destroys their business model of preying upon, making money off of, young people in our Nation. But we just can't be deterred.

We have to be more determined than ever to get this done on behalf of the

parents, the pediatricians, and young people who are demanding action. I know we can do it, and there are leaders in the House, in the Senate, in both parties, who want to get this done.

So, yes, we must be clear-eyed about threats of Chinese surveillance. Yes, we must be clear-eyed about TikTok's national security risks. And, yes, we must be clear-eyed about the unique threats to young people in our country who are on that app.

I would urge my colleagues: Lift your gaze. Take off your blinders. Be honest about what legislative proposals to ban TikTok can and cannot accomplish on behalf of our youngest and most vulnerable in our country.

Our obligation, in this moment, is to end the sinister surveillance across all of the big tech behemoths that are fueling a youth mental health crisis in this country.

TikTok poses a serious and unique problem, but we know the problem is much bigger and much more pernicious than just one single app, as bad as it is.

We have a responsibility to take action, and I call on my colleagues to join, in a bipartisan fashion. As we debate TikTok, let's debate all of it. Let's pass the bill that protects the imminent threat to the mental health of the children and teenagers in our country every single day.

We want to talk about TikTok and its longer term threats? Let's talk about the threat right now. Let's talk about how young people are being harmed.

Let's pass that legislation at the same time. That is going to be my goal as this debate unfolds. It is to have votes on the floor of the Senate on the protection of the children and teenagers in our country from Chinese and American companies that are exploiting them every single day.

I close with that number that I started with: One in three teenage girls in the United States contemplated suicide last year. One in 10 teenage girls attempted suicide last year. We all know the role social media is playing in this. This is our moment to take on this entire industry globally to make sure that we protect the most precious resource we have, to protect the future of our country, and that is young people. They may be only 20 percent of our population, but they are 100 percent of our future. And, right now, they are being exploited by a single industry. Let's take on that industry.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from North Carolina.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I come to the floor today to talk about the situation at the border and to lend my voice to other Members who are going to speak about a border that needs to be secured.

About 3 years ago, we had about one-half million illegal crossings. Two years ago, we had 2 million illegal

crossings. Now, we are hearing that, in another 12 months—or in the last 12 months—almost 3 million illegal crossings. And it is likely to be that number or go higher.

We have lost control of the border. Now, when you think, well, what does it mean? Because that is a great comment for somebody from some political stripe to make, but what does that really mean?

When you get to that level of illegal crossings, you are inviting some of the worst crossings that could possibly happen.

Now, let's keep in mind that there are a number of people who are escaping dangerous situations in their country of origin. There are people who probably, rightfully, should be in the United States or some safe third country because they are fleeing a dangerous situation in their country. Think Nicaragua. Think Ukraine.

But we have reached a point to where we actually have a debate on the Senate floor about whether or not we need borders at all. Or we have other people who just say: Build a wall. Frankly, I think they are both wrong.

I am not here to talk about building a wall that is over 1,000 miles long, that goes from the Pacific Ocean to the gulf. What I am talking about is securing the border. If you go down to the border, as I have, you would understand why. There are simply certain sections that you need to secure. You need to secure it so Border Patrol, which has primary responsibility for securing the border and orderly entry, can have control over the situation. They can't today.

As a matter of fact, if they were all back on the line today and we haven't put together a viable border security strategy, they still couldn't do their job. But, now, with the numbers that we have coming across the border, they are not on the frontline. They are not interdicting cartels. They are not arresting and detaining what they call the Sinaloa air force. This is something amazing. We have engaged the Border Patrol officers in so many things that have nothing to do with securing the border that the cartel—one of the biggest ones, Sinaloa—has what the Border Patrol call their air force. They have literally seen them get in ultra-light planes with six or seven people flying drugs into the United States, dropping the payload, and going back. They said that that has become a thing. It is not just an anecdote but another device that the Sinaloa cartel is using.

How could they pay for the ultra-lights or their air force? They are making over \$800 million a year in human trafficking. You don't cross the southern border without paying a toll, and that toll is paid to really a whole global network of people that find someone who wants to go to the United States. They say: You are from this country of origin, and this is what it is going to take to get you here.

They even advertise in certain countries that they will get you to the United States illegally if you pay a toll. That toll could be \$5,000, if you are from a Central American country, to \$50,000 or \$60,000 if you are from China. And we have had thousands even from China at the latest report—and a huge increase.

So the lack of border security, the lack of controlling the border, is paying the very same cartels that are pumping our Nation full of poison that we call fentanyl. It is very likely that that air force I talked about was dropping some sort of an opioid, and even more likely, statistically—since 80,000 people a year are dying from fentanyl overdoses—that it was that poison. So we are allowing an unsecured border to enrich the cartel so they can poison Americans—80,000 a year. That is not a number that is in dispute.

So we have to secure the border. And I have said it is not a 1,000-mile-long wall. I mean, if you go to the border, as I have several times, it makes no sense to put a 30-foot wall on top of a 500-foot cliff. Right? If they have made it that 500 feet, they are probably going to make it the additional 30. But maybe—maybe—you need technology there to know that people are going through that path. It is highly unlikely.

But there are other areas, and the last visit to Arizona was to an area called the Yuma Sector. It is in the western part of Arizona, headed to California. There is a gate there. It is only about 12 feet wide—a little bit less wide than the dais down there—that 3 years ago had 8,000 illegal crossings. Two years ago, it had 200,000 illegal crossings through a gate like that—not through a big, wide expanse of 7 miles that is near that gate, but through a gate like that. Last year, there were 300,000 crossings.

Thousands of people from Russia, thousands of people from China, and from a number of other countries are paying a toll to be delivered across the border. Many of them fly into Mexico City, get a transfer flight down to Mexicali, take a cab down to the border, and come across the border as long as they pay the cartel a toll.

We have lost control of the border. We have Border Patrol law enforcement officers who are in the babysitting and bus business right now. We have less than half of the people who are sworn to protect our southern border doing jobs that have nothing to do with what they swore an oath for.

We are turning a blind eye to the death and the destruction that is happening here in the United States and to all the people who are paying a toll and making the dangerous trek here to begin with.

So, Madam President, you can't fix a problem until you know you have it, and our colleagues here in the Senate need to recognize that the border is a problem. And people like me—I don't come out here and do a fire-and-brimstone speech on "I am a Republican

and they are a Democrat; we are good, they are bad."

I have worked on several bipartisan bills, if people can agree with the nature of the problem and solve it. And this is a problem that is having deadly consequences. And this administration—President Biden—has rolled back policies in his 2 years here that are making the problem worse. It is solvable, but the Members of the Senate need to recognize that we have a problem, and the Members of the Senate, on a bipartisan basis, need to come up with a solution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, I rise today to join my esteemed colleague from the State of North Carolina to discuss the situation at the border. This is an ongoing crisis, and it needs to be addressed.

Our Nation continues to face an unprecedented crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border, and one that is due to the Biden administration's policies, pure and simple. It is a function of the Biden administration policies.

It is amazing that we have had DHS Secretary Mayorkas in front of our committees, and we asked him: What are you doing to stem the flow of illegal immigration at the border?

He sits there, and he tells us: Oh, we have operational control.

That is absolutely ridiculous. It is absolutely wrong.

For fiscal year 2022, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, CBP, encountered almost 2.4 million individuals attempting to illegally cross the southern border. That is 2.4 million crossing illegally. That is operational control?

And for him to sit there and look at us and say: Oh, yeah, we have control.

And 2.4 million last year were crossing illegally. This is an increase of 37 percent from fiscal year 2021 and a 419-percent increase—four times as many—as in 2020.

Additionally, since October, CBP has reported that over 1 million individuals from more than 140 different countries—from more than 140 different countries—have been encountered attempting to illegally cross the southern border.

Just last week, Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz told a House committee that the administration does not—repeat: does not—have operational control of the border. Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz said that the administration does not have operational control of the border.

We have to hold this administration accountable. On both sides of the aisle, we have to hold this administration accountable for this border crisis.

I have been down to the southern border on numerous occasions and have witnessed the crisis firsthand. I visited Del Rio, and Eagle Pass, as well as El Paso. I have been in McAllen, in the Rio Grande Valley, and I have seen this, both during the day and at night.

It is just not human trafficking. It is drug trafficking that affects every State, that affects everybody in our country.

Our dedicated CBP officers and Border Patrol agents continue to work tirelessly to fulfil their mission of securing the border, with the additional responsibility of trying to address this humanitarian crisis.

While the officers and agents on the frontlines do the best job that they can with the way they are hamstrung, they face an impossible task given the Biden administration's actions to continue to allow this crisis to go on. And it is their policies that are allowing the crisis to continue.

As a Senator representing a northern border State, I am also concerned about the impact that this situation on the southern border has on our northern border, as well, in terms of security.

The ongoing crisis at the southern border is creating significant challenges for northern border operations in the security of our country. Northern border personnel and resources continue to be exhausted because of the southern border crisis and pulling resources from the northern border to try to help with the southern border, and that is unacceptable.

We need to address the ongoing crisis at our southern border, and we need to make sure that our northern border is secure as well. We need to not only have the resources there; we need to have a policy that actually works. We have great professionals, but they can't secure the border if the Biden administration won't let them.

Border security is vital to our national security, and we need to secure our borders. President Biden's actions have incentivized migrants to take the dangerous journey to the U.S. border, like I say, from 140 plus different countries.

To address our Nation's immigration crisis, we need to secure the border and that means finishing the border wall, and reinstate key immigration policies—reinstate key immigration policies—that were working to stop illegal immigration and move toward a merit-based immigration system.

The administration needs to enforce our Nation's immigration laws. They have the laws. They need to enforce them, resume construction of the border wall, and ensure we have in place the necessary infrastructure, personnel, and technology to secure the border. It is their job. It is their job to protect this Nation, and you have to secure our border to protect this Nation.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

Mr. RICKETTS. Madam President, my colleagues and I are here today to raise the alarm once again about the ongoing crisis at our southern border. This is an issue that is incredibly important to my constituents, and it

should be a priority here in the U.S. Senate.

As I said when I visited the border as a Governor and then again last month as a Senator, every State is a border State. It is not just me saying that; it is my colleagues, both as Governors and as U.S. Senators, saying that. That is because the States across the country, including my own State of Nebraska, are dealing with the consequences of this administration failing to secure our border.

This crisis is a threat to all Americans for many reasons. Americans are being killed today because of what is going on at the border. The leading cause of death of Americans age 18 to 45 in 2020 and 2021 was fentanyl overdose. A majority of those drugs are coming to this country from overseas.

Taryn Lee Griffith was a 24-year-old single mom who died in Nebraska. She died of a fentanyl overdose. She was out with friends and took a pill she thought was Percocet. It was laced with fentanyl, and that is what killed her. Taryn's youngest daughter was only 6 months old when this happened. Now her two daughters are going to have to learn about their mom from pictures and from stories from family.

I think we can all agree that fentanyl is a scourge on this country. From 2014 to 2019, fentanyl mostly entered this country from overseas, being shipped internationally from the People's Republic of China. Now it is being shipped from the PRC to Mexico. There, it is manufactured in illegal labs and smuggled across our border.

The Chinese Communist Party and the Mexican drug cartels are taking advantage of the fact that we have a weak border to surge a flow of illegal drugs—especially fentanyl—across our U.S. border. They have the blood of the Americans who have died on their hands because of this, and we must hold them accountable.

With border agents and local law enforcement overwhelmed by the surge of illegal immigration, it is easier than ever for these cartels to be able to bring fentanyl into the United States.

Because of this failed administration's policy, State law enforcement has been forced to step up. In my last 2 years as Governor when I was in Nebraska, we saw what happened compared to 2020. The State patrol confiscated 2 times as much methamphetamine, 3 times as much fentanyl, and 10 times as much cocaine. Last year alone, the DEA's Omaha Division seized 4.7 million doses of fentanyl.

This administration's abandonment of its responsibility is an outrage. It is endangering American lives each and every day. Yet the President has not shown he is serious about tackling this problem. His budget requested \$535 million for border security technology. Yet he wants to spend seven times that much—a whopping \$3.9 billion—on the Department of Homeland Security's climate resilience program. These are misplaced priorities. I want to take

care of the environment. We all do. I want us to be more resilient. But Americans are dying right now because of fentanyl coming across our border.

Now, the President may not be serious about securing our border, but my colleagues and I are. When I was Governor, I worked with my fellow Governors to propose real solutions to this administration, and I am eager to work with my colleagues here in the U.S. Senate to do the same.

If addressing this crisis isn't our job in the U.S. Senate, I don't know what is. Americans and Nebraskans are on the line. We need to give the Border Patrol what they need to fully enforce our laws and stop this influx of deadly drugs. Our constituents are counting on us. We need to take action. I urge all my colleagues to work with our conference to pass serious solutions to tackle this problem.

With that, I yield the floor.

(Mr. WARNOCK assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, thousands of miles separate Warsaw, IN, from America's southern border. That distance doesn't mean events on our southern border don't affect Hoosiers in Warsaw and communities across our State.

Last month, I met with local law enforcement officials in the Warsaw area, and they shared some heart-wrenching stories with me. I heard about police arriving at a family's home. Both parents had overdosed, and one was unconscious—these terrible experiences right in front of their kids. They told me about emergency calls, the voice on the other end crying that a child had gone into cardiac arrest.

In these situations and too many others, they suspected the same source: fentanyl. The fentanyl entering the United States through our southern border is hitting this northern Indiana community hard. It is hitting all of our communities.

The opioid epidemic—and it is that—is the worst drug crisis in America's history. In the decade between 1999 and 2020, it killed over 564,000 of our country men and women. The number of lives lost is so great, it brought America's life expectancy down to a 25-year low.

Now, because of fentanyl, this crisis is growing worse. Two milligrams of this synthetic opioid are enough to kill, and it is killing more young Americans than cancer, more than car accidents, more than COVID. There is enough of it reaching our country to kill every single American many times over. Its point of origin is Mexico, and its point of entry into America is our southern border—the same border that 4.9 million illegal immigrants have crossed since President Biden took office.

His administration argues that because large quantities of fentanyl have been seized at our official ports of entry, the overdose epidemic is somehow unrelated to the broken border.

But if we don't know who is crossing our border, how do we know what they are bringing across it?

The tragedy is not just taking place on our side of that border; President Biden's lax immigration policies send out a deadly "welcome" sign to migrants in search of opportunity. Drawn to it, they fall in with or place their children in the hands of merciless human smugglers. They are packed into and suffocate in trucks. They attempt a treacherous crossing of the Rio Grande and end up swept away by its currents.

The bodies of 890 migrants were discovered last year along the southern border. Police on the American side are diverted from law enforcement while recovering the bodies. Funeral homes in Mexico don't have enough refrigerators to store them in.

America is a welcoming country. It is also a country of laws. The two are not incompatible. And what good is a country without a border? It has been said many times by many people, but I will say it again: A nation that cannot control its borders is not a nation. We can secure our border. We can demand to know who and what is crossing it while also welcoming those who seek to start better lives in America legally.

Americans in places like Warsaw, IN, are looking at this chaos on our southern border in anger, and they are looking to us right here in the U.S. Senate for help. They are asking us to stop the flow of drugs poisoning our people; to enforce our immigration laws; to build a border barrier; to reinstate the "Remain in Mexico" policy; to do whatever it takes to end this crisis; to do what the President and too many in his party will not. Too much time and too many lives have been lost. So let's not let the American people down. Let's secure the border.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 316

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, most people run from battle, but our servicemembers run toward it. They watch their brothers and sisters get wounded. They miss births and funerals, school plays and college graduations. Then they come home bearing the wounds of war—both visible and otherwise.

They will always do their job defending our country no matter the sacrifice. So they deserve to know that they have the moral support and legal backing of this great Nation.

But for more than 20 years, Washington has failed to give them that. One of Congress's most solemn duties is deciding when and how we send

Americans into combat by debating and passing the authorization for use of military force, documents that set the legal framework for military action that are supposed to define the mission of our Americans whom we send downrange.

But, lately, too many in these Halls have shrugged off that duty, hiding behind outrageously outdated AUMFs that were used to launch the Gulf and Iraq wars, all the way back in 1991 and 2002.

Scared of the political risks that come with bringing these wars back into the spotlight, staring down upcoming election days, Congress has shirked its responsibility to our troops, stretching, skewing the original intent of these documents.

In doing so, we have left our troops without a clearly defined mission. And now they face an increasing risk that a future Commander in Chief may improperly interpret the law to send them into armed conflicts that these AUMFs were never intended to authorize. Our troops deserve better than that.

If we choose to send our finest into battle, then we here in these Halls need to debate and vote to do so based on current conditions.

Enough of being more worried about the political consequences than about our troops in harm's way. And until we muster up the courage to ask and answer the tough questions that will actually tell our servicemembers what they are fighting for, we won't be living up to their sacrifices.

Instead, we will be leaving them in an endless loop, refusing to even look for an off ramp.

Look, I know guys and gals, buddies whom I served with in Iraq who did six, seven rotations between Iraq and Afghanistan. They went in knowing that they would probably be back in a couple of years, living the hardships of combat deployments over and over again, risking the unimaginable, sunup and sundown, year in and year out, tour after tour, all because their country said that it needed them to.

They deserve more from us than to be forced to wonder whether the same outdated AUMF that has already sent them overseas half a dozen times will be misused once again to put them in harm's way without Members of Congress even having a conversation to decide whether such sacrifice is warranted.

This shouldn't be hard. Anyone who claims the mantle of patriotism can't keep demanding such sacrifices from our servicemembers or refusing to step up to our obligation, our responsibility, to have a public debate and vote when we ask our troops to go into combat.

Are their lives not worth a vote? not even worth a discussion?

To me, part of the problem lies in the growing disconnect between those who serve overseas and those who serve on the Hill.

Right now in Washington, we just don't have as many Members of Congress with combat experience the way we did in the years after Vietnam—the era when those returning from war would put down their rucks, hang up their uniforms, and head to the Capitol Building to serve their country in a different kind of way; the era when John McCain and John Kerry would reach across the aisle to solve some of our Nation's biggest problems because both of them were more concerned with doing right by the troops who protected us than brandishing partisan labels.

But now, far fewer veterans come to Washington, and the divide has sharpened, with those sitting in hallowed houses of power ever more removed from those sent off to battle.

Well, I can tell you this: It is a whole lot easier to cover your eyes and avoid taking tough votes if you have never shed blood in the dust and grit and horror of a war zone, if you have never held your family close before heading off on yet another tour, kissing your loved ones for what you know could be the last time.

But today, there are just a handful of us in the Senate who have been in combat. The same is true for our country at large, as the same families keep volunteering to serve generation after generation.

In Vietnam, because of the draft, a boy from rural Missouri could have ended up in a fighting position next to someone from the upper echelons of New York society. Of course, the rich could get out of service then too. Our former President's bone spurs proved that. But in that bygone era, service touched nearly every corner of this country, regardless of tax bracket or race or education.

Now, it falls onto the shoulders of the same families to volunteer time and again or it gets foisted upon those who have fallen on hard times: service as a means of escaping poverty.

So the gap widens, with the vast majority of Americans never having served and having little idea what it is like, other than what they see from Hollywood.

And so the disconnect yawns, with it becoming even easier for most of us to live our lives blissfully detached from the nightmarish reality of war.

We have to do more to bridge this divide. True patriotism isn't measured by how long of a standing ovation one gives our military on a single day in November each and every year. Real, lasting, meaningful patriotism requires doing the hard work necessary to actually change our country, to make it a better, fairer place, where sacrifices aren't borne by just a few but instead carried by all.

Our troops are willing to sacrifice anything—everything—for their country. They fought for us time after time, tour after tour after tour. It is time that we fight for them too.

It is time that we repeal these decades-old AUMFs and start honoring our

heroes in the way that they deserve, showing just an ounce of the courage that they show over and over again.

God bless our troops in harm's way; God bless our veterans; and always, God bless the United States of America.

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. HAWLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Missouri.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 416

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, I am here today to talk about the kids and parents of Jana Elementary School and to talk about the measure of justice they deserve for the ordeal they are facing now, for the ordeal they have been put through for months, and, frankly, for the ordeal they have suffered through years and years and years of lies from the Federal Government, of misdirection from the Federal Government, and, frankly, of outright falsehoods this community has had to endure.

Jana Elementary School is a small school in the Hazelwood School District in Florissant, MO. That is the St. Louis area. In October of this last year, Jana Elementary was closed. Why? Because they woke up to find out their school was contaminated with radioactive material.

Imagine being a parent and waking up to this headline: "Missouri elementary school to close after report finds radioactive contamination."

Where was the radioactive contamination? you may ask. Well, it was on the playground. It was in the kitchen of the school. It was in the air ducts. And where did it come from? How did radioactive material get into an elementary school in the St. Louis area? Well, the answer is, it came from the Federal Government.

Let me tell you a little story about the Hazelwood School District and about Florissant and about St. Louis, and it dates back to the 1940s when the Federal Government used a site in St. Louis as one of the processing centers for the Manhattan Project. Well, when that project wrapped up in the late 1940s, the Federal Government collected the radioactive waste and transferred it. Out of the area? No. Just to the site of the St. Louis Airport, and there it sat for decades. By "sat," I mean it leached into the air. It leached into the soil. It leached into the groundwater.

So what happened? Over the course of 25 years and more, this radioactive material got into the water of a creek called Coldwater Creek. It has been tested many times. Radioactive material has been found there numerous times. And where does that creek go?

Well, all along the St. Louis area through numerous communities but also right by Jana Elementary School, right along the school grounds, right along the playground—a creek that is known to the U.S. Government to be contaminated with radioactive material that the U.S. Government allowed to be put into the water.

This last fall, the school board quite reasonably took the step of saying: Hold on. We know it is in the water. We know this creek goes right by the playground of this school, within 1,000 feet of the building itself. Maybe we ought to test the building just to see if our kids are safe.

So they did. Now, the U.S. Government wouldn't do it, I would just like to point out. No, it wasn't the Government that tested the building. The school board paid for it itself. The parents had to demand it. They went and got a third party to go and test the building, and what did they find? That this radioactive contamination wasn't just in the water. It wasn't just by the playground. It wasn't just within 1,000 feet of the school. No. It was inside the building. It was in the dust that is in the building that these schoolchildren, elementary kids, are going to and playing in, the air they are breathing in every single day.

So the school board didn't have any choice. I mean, they found radioactive contamination in their kids' building, so they shut down the school, and, you know, they told the parents: Guess what. There is radioactive contamination in the building. What are we going to do? We are going to shut down the school.

I would just like to point out that these are working people. These people are not sitting around all day. They are out there working jobs—some of them, multiple jobs. Some of them are raising their kids on their own. So what do they hear in October? We are going to close the school. We are going to send your kids online for virtual learning.

I remember one mother saying: There is no such thing as virtual learning. That just means they are not learning. That means they are home with me.

What are the parents supposed to do? They are working. They are trying to provide for their family. Now you have the kids at home not learning. You have the parents unable to work. What was the solution after that? To bus the kids to different schools all over the area. Now they can't go to the school in their own neighborhood.

And what has happened to the Jana Elementary building? Well, it just sits there because what is the Federal Government, which caused this contamination, doing about all of this? Nothing. No, nothing. The parents have gotten the runaround for months now from the Federal Government.

When the reports came out that the building was contaminated, the parents and the school board asked the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which is sup-

posed to be in charge of cleaning up the site—they said: Would you test the building inside and see if you can verify these results?

But the Army Corps said: No, we can't. We don't have any authorization. We can't do any further testing.

So then the parents and the school board asked the Department of Energy. They said: Would you test this site? Would you see if you can verify the results? Would you do something about it?

And the Department of Energy said, you guessed it: Oh, no, that is the Army Corps' problem.

Now, I kid you not. The parents and the school board have written to the Army Corps, and they have written to the Department of Energy, and both of them have just pointed the finger at the other. It is not just the parents. I have done the same. I sat at a hearing just a few weeks ago with the Department of Energy's Deputy Secretary.

I said to him: Sir, do you know about Jana Elementary in St. Louis, MO?

He said he did.

I said: You know it is closed, don't you?

He said he did.

I said: Will you authorize the testing and cleanup for this school?

And his comment to me was: That is really a matter for the Army Corps.

I said: The Army Corps says it is your problem.

And he said: Well, I don't really understand their position on this.

I don't understand this administration's position on any of it. So I am on this floor here today, on behalf of the parents and the kids of the school district, saying it is time to fix it.

Now, I have written to the President about this. I wrote to President Biden after the Energy Secretary gave me the runaround. I said: Listen, it is time for this administration to step up. The Army Corps and the Department of Energy both work for the President. Fix this. Direct them to get their act together. Finish the testing, and clean up this school site.

That was 2 months ago. I haven't heard a thing. The parents haven't heard a thing. The school board hasn't heard a thing. What they are told is: Just wait a little longer, just a little longer. We will get it together. Just wait a little more.

Do you know that the residents of St. Louis have been told to wait a little longer for four and five decades now? Do you know what has happened in that time? They have seen their friends get cancer in their thirties and forties. They have seen an explosion of autoimmune diseases. Why do you think that is? Do you think maybe it has something to do with radioactive contamination in the water and in the soil and in the air, put there by the negligence of the U.S. Government? Do you think maybe that is why it is?

Do you think that these people should have to wait any longer? I don't. I have introduced legislation that is

very simple. We are not trying to rewrite the United States Code here. It is very simple. It gets justice for these kids. It would order the Federal Government to clean up the school—clean it up. If it can't be cleaned up, build a new one. It is just that simple—not complicated, not onerous, not overburdened with regulation. It gives relief. If the President won't act, we should act. Congress should act.

Now, let's just tell the truth here. These parents—these working people in this region of St. Louis—they are not high-rolling donors. They don't give major money to the political parties. That doesn't mean they can be forgotten. You and I both know, if this had been Silicon Valley Bank—for heaven's sake—the President would have flown overnight personally to be there to do something about it. While the Silicon Valley billionaires get bailouts that will cost this country billions and billions and billions of dollars, the children and parents of Jana Elementary can't even get their school tested. They can't get a dime in remediation. That is wrong. That is unjust, and we can do something about it.

We can send the message that no matter who you are, no matter where you work, no matter how poor you may be, the U.S. Senate will get something done for you. We ought to send that message today. We ought to send the message that we will not stand by while these kids are consigned to a second- and third-rate experience of education, while these parents are told to just wait a little longer, while their school is infested with radioactive contamination. We should send a message that we are going to do something about it.

I will tell you this, and it is what I told the President, until he does something about it and until this body acts to get justice for these kids, I am going to hold every nomination to the Department of Energy—every single one of them—until we can get some justice done at Jana Elementary. I will come to this floor as long as it takes until we get relief for these kids and for these parents at Jana Elementary. I will not allow their situation to be forgotten, and I will not be told on their behalf to just wait another 50 years. They deserve justice today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S. 418 and that 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 (Mr. MURPHY). Is there an objection?

The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, in reserving the right to object, I am interested in this, and Senator HAWLEY and I discussed this issue just today. This is the first I have learned of it—in the

last 24 hours—and I was pleased to have had a chance to have discussed it with him.

Coincidentally, we are facing this at the Dover Air Force Base, which may be the finest Air Force base in the country. We have literally thousands of people—uniformed personnel and probably another 1,000 civilian employees and a bunch of children—who are involved in a school that is being rebuilt and replaced on the base.

I explained to Senator HAWLEY that we are facing something a little different from the one he is explaining, but it is one that reminds me that there are children's lives and health at stake, and their future is maybe not in the balance, but it is a matter of concern.

We are facing, as I said, a situation that reminds me a little bit of this in Delaware in realtime. Our school construction issue at the Dover Air Force Base and the safety issues there that are related to it have led my staff—my Delaware staff—and me to work with the Army Corps of Engineers in order to make sure that the issues that are particular to the Dover Air Force Base and to our school at that base—it is actually a replacement school—are addressed. So, again, I am more than just a little bit interested and concerned about the issues that are outlined here.

My concern, in not spending like more than a few minutes in the last 8 hours in trying to learn a little bit more about the issue here, is that I have learned that the drafting of Senator HAWLEY's bill, however, to some is confusing and raises some serious implementation concerns based on the initial feedback we have received from both the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Department of Energy as well as from the initial read of the legislation from members of my staff.

Just a couple of points.

First, the bill appears to overlap a number of authorities between these two Agencies, and the drafting of the text is not clear as to which Agency should be responsible for the remediation or the construction of a new school.

Second, the Army Corps of Engineers is telling my staff that, from all of the testing done, the Agency determined the school to be safe, and the results have been corroborated by an independent third testing party.

In having not been steeped in this for days or weeks but really for minutes, I need some time, and I think my staff would appreciate some more time to work with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Energy to understand how we can help Senator HAWLEY's constituents, including the very young ones who are involved in this.

With that, I am going to object at this time to Senator HAWLEY's unanimous consent request in order to provide us with the time to work with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Energy on a solution for

this problem that will lead to its resolution.

With that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I appreciate Senator CARPER's conversation with me earlier today when he committed to me that he wanted to work to get this issue resolved and get this situation for these parents and kids remedied so that they get the justice that they deserve.

I just want to point out that Senator CARPER may be the first person in the Federal Government whom I have talked to in months on this issue and who has actually said: Do you know what? I think we can do something about it.

So I hope that we can, Senator.

I would just say to the Army Corps, to the Department of Energy, to others in the Federal Government, and to the administration that would say, "Delay, delay, delay. The school is safe. The grounds are OK. Take our word for it," the people of St. Louis have taken your word for it for 50 years. This is where we are now. These kids deserve relief. No child should be told: It is all right. There is a contaminated stream near your elementary school. It is OK. Go ahead. Go out and play there.

No way.

And I will say again, just because these kids and parents aren't rich and wealthy and well connected does not mean that they can be ignored. So I will continue to come to this floor and to insist on votes on nominees until we can get something done.

I appreciate the good will of Senator CARPER, and I look forward to working with him on this issue.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

BANK FAILURES

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, families and businesses across the country are worried about the safety and stability of our banking system.

Two weeks ago, Silicon Valley Bank—a bank that many people had never heard of—rocketed from relative obscurity to infamy when it suddenly and unexpectedly collapsed. The bank, which reported \$212 billion in assets last quarter, is now known as the biggest bank failure since the 2008 financial crisis. It is the second largest bank failure in American history.

The American people quickly learned that Silicon Valley Bank had made some pretty risky investment decisions. When interest rates were low, it purchased long-term Treasury bonds and mortgage-backed securities. As the Federal Reserve raised interest rates to fight record inflation, the value of those investments tumbled. SVB attempted to stop the bleeding by selling \$21 billion worth of assets at a loss of nearly \$2 billion. Well, it didn't take long for this entire house of cards to come tumbling down. When customers

learned about its financial troubles, it caused a run on deposits. And, of course, no bank can withstand a run on its deposits where people demand to get paid back immediately when many of the investments that were made are longer term investments.

Shortly after the Silicon Valley Bank implosion, Signature Bank, a regional bank in New York, collapsed as well. And, now, major banks have pledged to help rescue First Republic Bank from potentially succumbing to the same fate. My assumption is this isn't done out of the goodness of their hearts; but they realize if this contagion continues to spread across the country, it could imperil our entire economy.

Given the potential implications of this situation, the administration and Federal regulators quickly jumped into damage-control mode. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, otherwise known as FDIC, quickly announced that depositors at Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank would have full access to their funds, even above the insured deposits.

Of course, under existing law, FDIC insures deposits only up to \$250,000; but FDIC quickly announced that that cap on insurance would be lifted.

President Biden also attempted to assure the American people that the banking system was safe. Secretary Yellen did the same. In a speech yesterday, she said the U.S. banking system "remains sound." But the truth of the matter is that it is impossible to make guarantees when you are dealing with something as uncertain as human behavior and the wildfire-like spread of information across social media and elsewhere where people can, with a click of their phones, withdraw all their deposits from an institution. So while these are hopeful statements by the President and Secretary Yellen, it doesn't guarantee anything.

The health of the banking system doesn't just depend on objective measures of financial health, but also on public perception and public confidence. Even a bank with a rock-solid financial ground wouldn't be able to withstand a run on deposits. That is not how the banking system is designed to operate. They have to keep a certain amount of reserves so they can respond quickly to a demand for deposits, but no bank is prepared to pay all depositors 100 percent of what they have deposited on demand.

Fears of contagion are very real in the banking industry, which is why everyone is eager to understand what went wrong. When it comes to Silicon Valley Bank, which as one of my constituents described it, he said: Oh, that is Mark Zuckerberg's bank. Of course, it was guaranteed deposits above the insured amount.

We need to make sure there is not cherry-picking when it comes to the policies that apply here, lest people think there is a double standard. For example, if you were a bank in Mid-

land, TX, lending primarily to the oil and gas industry, do you think the FDIC and the Biden administration would step up and guarantee those deposits above the \$250,000 mark? Well, that is an unanswered question, but there shouldn't be a double standard.

The problem really is, it looks like there were multiple points of failure at Silicon Valley Bank. First is with the bank's management. Making these long-term investments in the face of rising interest rates because of the Federal Reserve's efforts to combat inflation, it is clear they failed to adjust their investment strategy to take into account the depreciation of the value of those longer term bonds. They either didn't recognize the impact that rates had on its assets or they simply were negligent or willfully ignored the reality. I am not sure what it was, but none of it was good. Given the fact that the bank was without a chief risk officer for more than a year, it seems clear that risk management was not Silicon Valley Bank's top priority.

In addition to the bank's failures, there were also major regulatory failures. Reports indicate that the Federal Reserve raised concerns about Silicon Valley Bank's risk management multiple times over the past few years. The first red flag was raised in January of 2019, more than 4 years ago. Once that happens, the Fed is supposed to monitor the bank and ensure these problems are being addressed. We simply don't have information to confirm whether or not that happened; but based on where things stand now, it seems like it did not happen.

While SVB executives and regulators carry some of the blame for the current banking system chaos, we cannot ignore the role played by the administration and by some of the policies that have been promoted by our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle. As our country battled the pandemic and the ensuing economic crisis, our Democratic colleagues alone, without any Republican votes, appropriated about 2.6 trillion more dollars, using a budget resolution that did not require any Republican votes. It wasn't a bipartisan effort. This was strictly a spending spree by our Democratic colleagues under the benign headings of the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act—\$2.6 trillion. That was like gasoline on the inflation fire.

Republicans warned our colleagues that this kind of spending would lead to more problems than solutions. There were a lot of warnings about what impact this kind of spending would have after dealing with the COVID crisis, what the impact would be on the economy, particularly with constrained supply chains and a smaller workforce. Putting that kind of financial stimulus into our economy was guaranteed to fan the flames of inflation.

Well, as I said, the first round was a \$1.9 trillion so-called American Rescue Plan, which our colleagues tried to brand as pandemic relief. But as the

American people learned, less than 10 percent of that legislation was even remotely related to the pandemic, and the rest was exactly the type of things you would expect to see in a bill that was supported only by our Democratic colleagues—everything from funding for climate justice to backdoor money for Planned Parenthood.

Leading economists warned at the time that this was not a recipe for economic recovery. Even Larry Summers cautioned that that package could "set off inflationary pressures of a kind we have not seen in a generation."

Still, our colleagues couldn't be convinced to change course, show a little self-restraint, a little bit of prudence, a little bit of caution. They abused the rules of the Senate to pass the partisan spending bill that, again, only depended on Democratic votes. And, lo and behold, this is where we landed.

Our country has experienced inflation at a level we have not seen in 40 years. Prices have skyrocketed for gas, groceries, housing, and just about everything else. For some reason, our colleagues did not connect the dots between this reckless spending spree and the growing strain on our economy or its impact on the price of groceries or the price at the pump you pay for gasoline or diesel. So rather than tap the brakes, they opted to put the pedal to the metal.

Well, the second bill was even more absurdly named the Inflation Reduction Act, which all the outside studies showed would not reduce inflation any time in the near term. Our colleagues wanted the American people to forget the fact that unchecked spending would help usher in this terrible inflationary pressure. And somehow, counterintuitively, they seemed to think that even more spending would solve the problem.

Our colleagues' solution to inflation included handouts for wealthy people buying electric vehicles. Why in the world would you pay rich people to buy an electric vehicle when most working families couldn't afford one? They are handing out tax subsidies to rich people. And then there was the \$80 billion supersizing of the IRS so it can squeeze every penny possible from working middle-class families and small businesses. You know this, to me, is just malpractice.

We had the new IRS Commissioner in front of the Finance Committee, and we said, you know, when can we expect your plan on how to spend the \$80 billion and this plan to hire 87,000 new IRS agents? And he said: Oh, it is coming.

But our Democratic friends got it backward. Instead of saying: Here is the plan and how much does it cost to implement the plan, they said: Here is the money, you come up with a plan. Only in Washington, DC, does the world operate that way.

But between those two bills, our colleagues spent roughly \$2.6 trillion on a partisan spending spree, just as some

economists, including Democratic economists like Larry Summers—just like they predicted, these bills did nothing to reduce inflation; they made it worse.

Of course, we know that the Federal Reserve has the responsibility to try to address inflation; and one of their few tools is to raise interest rates, to slow the economy down to increase unemployment in order to bring that inflation down.

Higher borrowing costs slow down the economy and curb demand, but they also—it requires the United States to pay our bondholders who purchase our debt even more money for the debt we incur—now roughly around a trillion dollars in interest on a \$31 trillion national debt.

So over the last year, in order to combat inflation, the Federal Reserve has hiked interest rates nine times—nine times. We have witnessed the fastest series of rate increases since the early 1980s, but it still hasn't been enough to cool the red-hot inflation contributed to by our colleagues' reckless spending.

While I appreciate the administration's effort to stop the contagion from spreading, I would like to see our colleagues acknowledge the circumstances that led us here. Despite warnings that trillions of dollars in spending would lead to record inflation, our colleagues seemed to just run through that red light anyway. As a result, this is something that, to be blunt, they own. It has driven up the cost of everything from basic expenses, like groceries and electricity.

Then, of course, there are the subsequent interest rate hikes which have made it more expensive to buy a house or borrow money to buy a car, for example, or to finance your small business. That is a direct result of the inflationary pressures caused by excessive Washington spending. Again, it is like pouring gasoline on the fire.

Now we know this same inflation has contributed to the failure of banks like Silicon Valley Bank. Admittedly, it is due, in part, to the mismanagement by the bank and the lack of appropriate supervision by regulators, but the reason why Silicon Valley Bank got in trouble in the first place is because the value of their Treasury bonds where they had invested some of their reserves kept going down because it is inversely proportionate to interest rates.

Democrats kicked off an economic crisis, and now everybody is paying the price. I would like to know, as they look back on it now, whether they think it was worth it?

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

BUDGET

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I just came from an Appropriations subcommittee hearing, and our witness today was Secretary Janet Yellen. I always love when Secretary Yellen testifies because I learn so much from her.

Today, among other subjects, we talked about the President's proposed budget, and I want to tell you some of the things I learned today from Secretary Yellen about the President's proposed budget.

The President's proposed budget is \$6.9 trillion. That is up from \$6.4 trillion. So it is a proposed half-a-trillion-dollar increase.

I learned that, since 2019 until today, and not including the President's new spending—I learned that since 2019 until today, the population in the United States has grown 1.8 percent.

Do you know how much our budget has increased? Fifty-five percent, and that doesn't even count the additional half-a-trillion dollars' worth of spending that the President has just proposed.

I also learned that the President is proposing \$4.7 trillion—not billion, \$4.7 trillion—in new taxes. It takes my breath away—\$4.7 trillion. We are going to run out of digits.

And I also learned something else. You know, the President—and I say this gently and with respect—the President has been running all over hell and half of Georgia saying: My proposed budget decreases the deficit by \$3 trillion.

You probably heard him say that. I heard him say it the day before yesterday: My proposed budget will cut debt by \$3 trillion.

You know what I learned today about the President's proposed budget? Under his proposed budget, gross debt—that is all of America's debt, not just debt held by the public, but gross debt—all of our debt will rise under President Biden's budget from \$32.7 trillion at the close of this year to \$51 trillion by 2033. Only in Washington, DC—only in la-la land—can you go around and say: My budget reduces the deficit and debt by \$3 trillion, when it really increases it by \$18 trillion—\$18 trillion.

I have also learned a lot this week about Silicon Valley Bank. I think I spoke—I don't know—a week, maybe 10 days ago—gosh, we learned a lot in a week. One of the things that we have learned is that the failure of Silicon Valley Bank and President Biden's bailout of Silicon Valley Bank was the result of bad management by the bank officials but also by bad supervision.

I talked a week or two ago about the risk that the management of SVB took. This is what I learned this week. I want to talk about the mistakes that were made by the Federal Government in supervising this bank.

Fact No. 1, it is a fact that in January of 2019, the Federal Reserve, which is one of the banking regulators in charge of supervising the bank, issued a warning to the bank—this is 4 years ago—over its risk management systems. Four years ago, the Fed told Silicon Valley Bank that its system to control risk was not up to snuff.

Fact No. 2, last fall, short sellers and private bank analysts said the same thing. What? Five months ago, 6 months ago?

Fact No. 3, some of my colleagues have said: You know, we didn't have sufficient regulation.

I don't know how you regulate greed. I don't know how you regulate stupidity. I am referring now to the management of the Silicon Valley Bank.

But it wasn't a failure of regulation that caused Silicon Valley Bank to go under. It was the failure to enforce the rules that we already have.

Here is the article from the Wall Street Journal. The Federal Reserve, one of the banking regulators in charge of Silicon Valley Bank, knew in January of 2019 that the bank was criticized for its risk control practices. And they were supposed to correct those risk control practices. Why didn't the Federal Reserve follow up?

Now, I also learned that some of my colleagues are saying: Well, you know, this is all the fault of Congress. It is the fault of Congress because Silicon Valley Bank was not subject to a stress test.

We, as you know—Democrats and Republicans—supported an amendment to Dodd-Frank back in 2018 that some say prevented the bank from being stress tested. That is not true. The bill that we passed in 2018 said, categorically and unequivocally—look at title 12, chapter II, subchapter A, part 252, subpart A, section 252.3. It said in our legislation that the Federal Reserve and the other banking regulators had the authority at any time to stress test Silicon Valley Bank. And they chose not to do it.

Now, the other point being made by some of my colleagues is that, well, they weren't big enough to stress test. They had to be \$100 billion or more. That is not true. They were an over-hundred-billion-dollar bank at the end of 2021. So they did qualify to be stress tested in 2022.

One of the other things we learned is that in 2022 the Federal Reserve stress tested 34 banks. Silicon Valley Bank was not one of them, as I said. They could have been. Under the rules, they qualified. They were supposed to be. They were over \$100 billion. And even if they had not been over \$100 billion, the Federal Reserve could have said: We are going to stress test them anyway under our legislation because, back in January of 2019, we were worried about their risk control. But, for whatever reason—we are going to find out—the Federal Reserve chose not to stress test them.

The Federal Reserve issued a report on its stress tests from 2022. Here it is. If the Federal Reserve had stress tested Silicon Valley Bank, Silicon Valley Bank would have passed. It would have passed. Do you know why? Because the Federal Reserve in its stress testing in 2022 didn't stress test interest rate risk. They just stress tested credit risk. I just find that extraordinary.

In 2022, we were experiencing raging inflation. The Fed was raising interest rates. The Fed understands that, when you hold a long government bond or a

long treasury, its value decreases as interest rates go up. You would think that the first thing the Federal Reserve would stress test for was interest rate risk and duration risk. But it didn't. It didn't, and I am at a loss to understand.

The Federal Reserve has announced—I think the Vice Chairman of the Federal Reserve, Mr. Barr, has announced that he is going to be in charge of finding out what went wrong. And Mr. Barr is a fine person, and nothing I say today should be construed to suggest that he is not. But Mr. Barr has a conflict of interest. His own Agency contributed to the downfall of Silicon Valley Bank. It wasn't a question of something that Congress did or didn't do. Under the regulations we passed, we put the Federal Reserve in charge of checking these banks for duration or interest rate risk, and the Federal Reserve chose not to do so. Silicon Valley Bank is not the only one out there.

And here is the problem with Silicon Valley Bank. It took in a whole bunch of deposits from a bunch of venture capitalists and paid them—let's call it an *x* amount of interest—and then Silicon Valley Bank took that money and invested the money in long-term government bonds and treasuries, as the Federal Reserve encouraged them to. Go read all the Federal Reserve rules. They tell you: The safest assets if you are a bank are long-term securities issued by the Federal Government, treasuries and mortgage-backed securities.

Silicon Valley Bank did that. But as the Federal Reserve is also supposed to know, as is the management of the bank, these long-term bonds—government or otherwise—as interest rates rise, fall in value. I mean, that is like banking 101. That is like Econ 101.

And that is what happened to Silicon Valley Bank. They took all the deposits, paid *x* amount of interest, and bought treasuries and long-term government bonds, making more interest. They were taking the profit, but they didn't account for interest rate risk. And, sure enough, when the Federal Reserve, which is supposed to be supervising the bank, raised interest rates, the value of those bonds and the value of those treasuries went down.

And so, when all these depositors in Silicon Valley decided to take their money out, they panicked, and they all started talking to each other on social media, and they started taking their money out. Because of the decrease in the value of those long treasuries and mortgage-backed securities, Silicon Valley Bank didn't have the money to pay them.

Let me end like I began. President Biden's bailout was necessitated by two things: the greed and/or the stupidity of the management of this bank to buy long-term bonds—government-backed or otherwise—and not hedge against interest rate risks. And, No. 2, the bank's failure was the result of inadequate supervision by the Federal

Reserve and the other banking regulators and the Biden administration. Congress had nothing to do with it. Our amendments to Dodd-Frank, which were approved by both Republicans and Democrats, had nothing to do with it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 316

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, this past Sunday marked the 20-year anniversary of the war in Iraq. I could not be prouder of our servicemembers who bravely have served our Nation overseas. I am deeply grateful for their service and their sacrifice, and I am committed to making sure we live up to our obligations to each and every one of them.

As I have said many times, this is a war I never thought we should have started, and it is one we clearly should have ended long ago.

I come to the floor today to urge my colleagues to commemorate the anniversary of this war by officially ending this badly outdated war authorization at long last. I urge them to join me in taking the long-overdue step of reasserting Congress's authority in decisions about war and peace by voting to repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorizations for use of military force because when we send people to war, it should be a decision, not a status quo.

The decision about whether or not to go to war and put the servicemembers' lives at risk is the most serious and most consequential issue we can debate here in the U.S. Senate. American lives, American security, and America's future are all at stake when our country decides questions of war and peace.

When we first deliberated on whether to take action in Iraq, I wanted to know with absolute confidence we had done our due diligence before moving forward with the weighty decision to send our men and women into a dangerous conflict. That is why all those years ago I came to the floor to debate the very resolution that gave President Bush the authority he wanted to wage war in Iraq. I wanted to know what our goals were, what our plan was, what a victory and an exit strategy looked like, and what evidence we had that this was necessary.

I will tell you, after hearing all the sides on whether to engage our military, one thing I still was not hearing was clear answers. I determined I could not support sending our men and women into harm's way on an ill-defined mission—a mission which ultimately cost us dearly in lives most importantly but also in dollars and in our standing around the world.

Twenty years later, the mission in Iraq is over. Our troops have returned

home, and Iraq's Government has evolved into a diplomatic partner. But those outdated legal authorizations remain on the books, leaving an open-ended basis for Presidents to misuse our military power for political gain.

We have already seen how leaders can use them as a free pass to recklessly push for the misuse of military force. Just 3 years ago, without consulting Congress, former President Trump ordered missile strikes in Iraq against an Iranian military leader, which, among many things, jeopardized our relationships with key allies, risked the safety of U.S. servicemembers and civilians, and brought us perilously close to war. That is not how this should work. That is not how the Constitution says it should work. Our servicemembers deserve better than that.

When and whether to engage in war is a choice that explicitly belongs to Congress and to the American people. If we don't assert that power, we risk leaving behind a dangerous precedent for the future. That is why I am voting to repeal these authorizations. Taking this step will make sure we are doing our part here in Congress to give questions of war the full consideration they deserve and make sure we are exhausting every diplomatic avenue before jumping into a full-blown war effort and putting servicemembers in harm's way. I saw the scars, physical and mental, that veterans like my dad took home from World War II, that veterans like my peers took home from Vietnam, and that veterans today have taken home from Iraq.

This is one of the most important votes we can make, so let's act like it. Let's ensure every decision made to authorize the use of military force is responsible, is appropriate, and is constitutional.

I hope that by repealing these outdated AUMFs, we will return to a place where Congress and, by extension, the American people can have a serious debate and ultimately decide whether or not we go to war. It is long past time for Congress to reassert its authority and oversight responsibility here.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senators KAINE and YOUNG in getting this done.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LEE. 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—H.R. 185

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, the song "Free Bird" by Lynyrd Skynyrd became an anthem for those consumed by wanderlust. The music speaks to freedom, the right to explore and experience the world, and a simple truth that we are all connected.

However, on October 25, 2021, the right to explore and experience the

world was put on hold for many when the White House issued a proclamation suspending and limiting air travel by unvaccinated foreign travelers.

This mandate levies a particularly heavy cost on State and local economies and American relationships. Continuing this mandate at a time when President Biden himself declared that the pandemic is over is unjustified, and it ignores the new risk calculus that is affording Americans a renewed sense of normalcy. You see, Americans are ready to move on. In fact, in many instances, they are moving on. Yet many are kept from doing so because of this policy and others like it.

Right now, foreign travelers, including family members, friends, business relationships, and even international sports stars, are being kept off U.S. soil due to this draconian vaccine mandate.

Mr. President, there are too many places we have got to see, but if we stay here with this vaccine mandate, things just couldn't be the same.

So in the spirit of freedom, in the spirit of self-determination and sanity, I am here today to try to pass this—to try to seek to pass by unanimous consent the FREEBIRD Act, which will restore the right to explore and experience the world by allowing non-immigrant, noncitizen travelers to be vaccinated only if they choose to do so, because this policy has separated loved ones for too long.

It is time to end the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for foreign visitors, prohibit using Federal funds to carry out this requirement, and prevent the CDC from ordering future COVID-19 vaccine mandates for foreign travelers. This is just costing too much.

In 2021 alone, Utah visitors spent nearly \$11 billion visiting our great State, generating over 130,000 jobs and almost \$2 billion in State and local tax revenue alone. A significant portion of that involves foreign travel. But international visitation rates are still lagging. By lifting this vaccine mandate, Utah and the United States stand to benefit from increased international travel.

Our travel and tourism industry in the State of Utah dipped substantially after the pandemic hit us and hit us hard. Fortunately, it has recovered very nicely, but it has never recovered in the international travel sector to where it should be now, due in significant part to this particular mandate. It is not right. And it is not just costing us tourism; it is costing us meaningful connections that enrich and promote our shared humanity.

Right now, 22-time Grand Slam champion and top tennis competitor Novak Djokovic is missing the ongoing Miami Open due to the foreign traveler vaccine mandate still in effect, regrettably, in the United States. He recently missed the Masters tournament in Indian Wells, CA, for the same reason.

The U.S. Tennis Association, which does not impose COVID-19 restrictions

of its own, expressed its hope that the policy will end.

This is an excellent example of how the United States and Americans in general miss out on relationships, business, and recreational opportunities. The United States is missing the action while Djokovic continues to play in countries that have ended their vaccine mandates, including in Monaco, Bosnia, and France. It is affecting his standing in world tennis competition. Just as importantly, it is affecting America's standing with the rest of the world.

Perhaps some think that the joke is on Djokovic. The joke is not on Djokovic; the joke is on us, the United States of America, if we leave this senseless, meaningless policy in place that does no good. It accomplishes nothing, but it inflicts great harm at the same time.

Right now, we have the opportunity—a great opportunity, a prime opportunity—to reverse course. Today, we can join the rest of the world, restore our personal and business relationships, boost our tourism, and re-engage in the competitive spirit that brings nations together.

It is time to end this mandate. It is time to be free as a bird. So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 14, H.R. 185; further, that the Lee substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to, that the bill as amended be considered read a third time and passed, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, first of all, I am largely sympathetic to the intent of this. I think all of us are exhausted by COVID. Fortunately, we are really coming out of it. It has been exhausting, so I am ultimately hopeful that the administration—when this public health emergency is ended, which we expect will be very, very soon, that the vaccine mandate will go with it.

Secondly, I am a big fan of Lynyrd Skynyrd's, so that is a pretty persuasive argument, but I don't regard him as infallible.

Third, Vermont is a tourist State as well. Our skiing is a little tougher for, you know, tougher folks. You have that soft powder out there in Utah. But tourism really matters to us.

So the concerns the Senator from Utah is expressing—I am sympathetic. Let me state the reason for my objection.

This public health emergency is going to end. The administration is actively, day in and day out, in the process of taking the steps that are going to unwind this.

My view is that this is an area where Executive responsibility has to be carried out in an orderly way, not just to address this question of ending the vac-

cine mandate, but there are other matters that are affected if this public health emergency is abruptly ended that may do harm to Vermont.

Let me just be very specific. The telehealth provisions that were in legislation that allowed us to get access to healthcare should not end when the public health emergency ends. The necessity of trying to make some adjustment for premium assistance for folks who were able to get access to healthcare—it has really made a difference for people in Vermont. I don't want them to just go off the cliff.

So these are all separate and distinct issues. But if we have a process where each legislator picks out an area within the public health emergency that he or she believes should be taken out, you are taking away the capacity for an orderly transition from the public health emergency to the post-COVID non-public health emergency.

So, as sympathetic as I am to the points that the Senator from Utah makes, including about the vaccine at this point, because of my concern about the collateral consequences of stripping the administration, in effect, of the capacity to have that orderly unwinding, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I appreciate the thoughtful words from my friend and colleague, the Senator from Vermont. I have enjoyed working with him on the Judiciary Committee, and I always appreciate his insights and the thoughtful, respectful manner in which he communicates his message. I do think it is significant to point out a couple things in response to those arguments.

I think it is unfortunate. We had an opportunity to end this today, and by ending it, we could open up travel and tourism in a way that we haven't been. We could join the ranks of civilized nations of the world that have seen what a barbaric piece of nonsense this sort of restriction is, and we can do it right now.

Now, my friend and colleague from Vermont points out that it is important to remember that the public health emergency associated with the COVID-19 pandemic is set to come to an end. I assume he is referring to the May 11 deadline on which we are expecting for it to come to an end. I welcome that, and I look forward to that coming to an end. It is right for it to come to an end. One must ask, however, why must we wait until then to bring it to an end? President Biden has now long acknowledged that the emergent nature of the pandemic is itself over, is itself passed.

I understand and respect concerns about not wanting to do things too abruptly that might affect, for example, telehealth. That is very important. That is why it is very important for me to point out here that there is absolutely nothing in this bill that would

affect in any way the practice of telehealth—not directly, not indirectly, nothing, nada. There is zero language in this amendment that would in any way affect telehealth. Is there anything in here that would affect the other programs—any of them—that he mentioned? Not one thing. This is laser-focused on a single point-of-entry restriction on foreign visitors to the United States. That is it. Nothing else is affected by it.

So if what we are saying is that we can't end any of this before we end all of the public health emergency, that makes no sense. It also makes no sense because, as far as we can tell, there is absolutely nothing about the international traveler restriction attached to this particular mandate that is tied to the public health emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic—nothing. They are not tied together. So there is no reason at all for us to not pass this today, right now, at this moment.

Look, this has passed the House of Representatives. We could make this law. We could make this the law of the land by the end of the day today. The American people would be much better off for it.

Who will be better off as a result of keeping it? It is a legitimate question to ask. Who benefits from this? I struggle to imagine who really benefits from it. Now, maybe one or two Federal bureaucrats save face over it because they put it in place. Perhaps they have some pride of authorship with it; they don't want it to end. Well, I hate to break it to them: They are not lawmakers. They don't have the job of making law. We do.

So if this stays on the book, again, the joke is on us. The joke is not on Djokovic; it is on us.

So I really am trying to understand why we would want to wait until May 11 or any other date on which the Federal pandemic emergency would come to an end. It makes no sense.

To the degree that this involves an argument that I have heard time and time again when addressing COVID issues from several of our colleagues that we have to defer to the experts, defer to the science used by the experts in our Federal executive branch Agencies, I would ask this: Do you mean the same experts who told us that this virus came from bats? I am told that anyone who doubted the idea that it came from bats, that they were horrible people aimed at genocide or something.

Do you mean the same experts who told the American people they couldn't let their little kids go to school?

Do you mean the same experts who told America they had to mask their 2-year-olds, apparently unaware of the fact that 2-year-olds don't respond fairly well to that? It makes me wonder whether any of those people have ever raised or even been around an actual 2-year-old.

Do you mean the same experts who told us that masks would make all the

difference and that if you were masked, you would live, and if you were unmasked, you would die?

Do you mean the same experts who told us that if we got the vaccine, we would not get or be able to spread COVID-19? I can speak from personal experience. Having had COVID, then got vaccinated, then got it again, it didn't have that effect. And I know there are millions and millions of people like me who are in the same boat.

Do you mean the same experts who continue to this day to insist that everyone else follow the restrictions imposed by those experts who were not elected by the American people and are not accountable to anyone who is elected by the American people?

We have reached an epidemic in this country, an epidemic in which we have government being run by experts. Experts are great. I am glad we have access to them. They are not lawmakers. My copy of the Constitution, in the very first operative provision—the first article, the first section, the first clause of the Constitution says: “All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives,” making clear that if you want to make a Federal law, you must go through Congress, not through an expert in some executive branch Agency.

Article 1, section 7 makes clear how that happens. You can make a Federal law only if you pass something through the House and the same language through the Senate and then present it to the President for signature, veto or acquiescence. If you don't follow that formula, you don't have a Federal law.

Tragically, since the mid-1930s, we have been on a bad trajectory, a bad course, a bad idea conceived in hell by the Devil himself in which we started delegating our lawmaking power. We hereby declare that we shall have good law in area X, and we hereby commit and delegate to commission Y the power to make and interpret and enforce and adjudicate laws, rules carrying the force of generally applicable Federal law. Make it so.

The power to make laws, to be a lawmaker, is distinct from the power to make lawmakers. We are given by the Constitution and the people who elected us the power to do the former, not the latter. We make laws, not lawmakers.

The only way these things were put in force to begin with was because we have excessively delegated our lawmaking power. Shame on us for doing that. It has remained in effect because the Federal court system, in my view, while occasionally stepping in, has been a little too lax, a little too reluctant to push back when we delegate our lawmaking power, which is itself a nondelegable duty. Shame on them for doing that, but shame on us again for the fact that when we act, we delegate to somebody. Somebody puts in place a ridiculous, indefensible set of policies—

policies that would never pass this body, never become law here or in the House of Representatives. Why? Because they are stupid. They are silly. They are ridiculous. They are counterproductive. A policy that we would never enact, and if we were stupid enough to enact it, we would promptly repeal it.

When it gets put in place by an unelected, unaccountable bureaucrat using a stretched, distorted version of statutory text delegating them some other power, we have to sit here and take it. The American people, whom we serve, who hired us to make laws, have to sit there and take it. And we pretend: Sorry, there is nothing we can do. We have to wait until the experts end this problem that they themselves created.

This has to stop. I am not going away. This issue isn't going away. I don't want to wait until May 11. I don't want to wait until those bureaucrats pull their heads out of wherever their heads happen to be at the moment.

This is not going away, and I will be back.

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. GRAHAM. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 316

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, so I don't know where we are headed in terms of votes tonight, but let me tell you where we are headed in terms of the bill before the Senate.

I understand Saddam is gone and the authorization to use military force directed at him in 2002—it makes sense to me, quite frankly, believe it or not, to revisit that, but what we need to make sure we do is not leave our troops exposed that are in the fight today. This is 2023.

So Senator SCHUMER keeps talking about Bush lied, people died. Here is what I would say to my Democratic colleagues and my Republican colleagues: In the last 2 years, we have, I think, a little over 2,000 American forces in Iraq, there to make sure ISIS doesn't come back, keep the place stable. After Obama pulled out of Iraq, the JV team became the varsity. ISIS basically took over most of Syria, destroyed Mosul, wiped out the Yazidi Community, raped, murdered, and pillaged, and we finally regained control of Iraq. We put troops back in—they should never have been taken out—and we need those troops to stay in Iraq, make sure ISIS doesn't come back.

When they had a foothold in Raqqa, Syria, as well as Iraq, ISIS directed attacks at the United States and our allies in Europe, and all hell broke loose.

So what I would want the body to understand—in 2023, Americans are serving in Iraq, and we owe it to them to

make sure that we can use whatever military force necessary to protect them against Shiite militias operating in Iraq at the direction of Iran.

Fifty-six attacks against American forces in the last 2 years under President Biden. They are trying to drive us out of Iraq. The Shiite militias are operating all over the country. I appreciate the partnership we have with the Government of Iraq, but we don't have a status of forces agreement.

So I have an amendment that is very simple. It would replace the 2002 AUMF with the following: An authorization to use military force to protect Americans stationed in Iraq against attacks by Shiite militias in Iraq. That is an ongoing problem. Let's not expose our troops to being attacked. Let's don't continue the narrative that we are pulling out of the Middle East, because you do so at your own peril.

After the debacle in Afghanistan, everybody is wondering about America's resolve. So to all the people who talk about repealing the 2002 AUMF because Saddam is gone, I actually understand that to a point, but what I hope you will understand is that the way you have written this, the people in Iraq today, the Americans serving, we don't have their backs, and we owe it to them to have their backs.

We need to let the Iranian militias know, and others: If you attack Americans in Iraq, we are coming after you.

And to those who say the AUMF needs to be repealed because it confers too much power on a President, we need to take that authority back as Congress, well, then, here is what I would say to you: Do we owe it to those serving in Iraq to provide authority from Congress that we will have your back if you are attacked by Shiite militias that are operating in Iraq?

This is about Iraq. It is not about Iran.

And I can't believe this body would not support an authorization to use military force to protect Americans stationed in Iraq who have been attacked over 56 times in the last 2 years by Shiite militias operating in Iraq.

If we do that, shame on us.

And to those who say: Well, the President has article II authority, he can do this on his own—you can't have it both ways. Is the goal to pull back power from the President, or is the goal to say the President has whatever power he needs in Iraq?

What I want to do is be crystal clear. If the 2002 AUMF is repealed, we have a hole in our defense. We do not have congressional response or statement about what to do to protect over 2,000 Americans serving in Iraq who have been attacked 56 times.

I have got a solution to that problem. If you repeal the 2002 AUMF, let's replace it with one tailored to the situation involving American forces being attacked by Shiite militias in Iraq, to be unequivocal to the Shiite militias and others: You attack Americans at your own peril.

If we do not do that, you have tremendously exposed our troops. In your effort to wind down one war, you have created a threat to those who are fighting the war we are in now.

And if you think al-Qaida has been defeated, you think they are not a threat to us and our partners in the Middle East, in Europe, you are really not following the news.

General Kurilla, the CENTCOM commander, said last week that ISIS-K, the ISIS organization in Afghanistan, has regenerated to the point, within the next 6 months, they would have the ability to attack the United States without warning.

And there are some amendments here to basically do away with the 2001 AUMF that dealt with the attack on our Nation.

So whatever political point you are trying to make about repealing the 2002 AUMF, here is what I want you to understand: The way you are doing it is putting American lives at risk in Iraq.

If you can't muster the courage—the Congress can't—to say to Shiite militias: You attack our troops at your own peril, we have let those serving down. And I am very, very intent, using my voice in the Senate, to say that those who are in Iraq that have been attacked continuously by Shiite militias, I recognize the threat you face, and I am willing to do something about it.

Not to pass this amendment exposes those in theater, in Iraq, to continual attack. It will embolden the Shiite militia because they think we pulled the plug on the place. It will continue a narrative that America is in retreat in the war on terrorism. It will make every problem in Afghanistan worse. And we have a chance to do something about it. Please take that opportunity.

If we pass this amendment, we can at least say the following: To those in Iraq, we did not abandon you; we did not forget about you. We said clearly as a Congress that we have your back, and we made an unequivocal statement to the Shiite militias that are roaming around in Iraq: You attack our people, we are coming after you.

And if we don't do that, we are sending a terrible message to our enemies and we are letting those who are serving in Iraq down.

Iraq is moving toward democracy slowly but surely, inefficient, ugly at times. But 20 years later, there have been elections in Iraq; we have a government working with us that is surrounded in a very dangerous neighborhood.

So to those who are wanting to repeal this AUMF, you have ignored a major threat. You are creating a problem to troops in the field. I am here to point it out to you, and I would love to work in a bipartisan fashion to make sure that those who are left in Iraq, that are serving there to make sure ISIS doesn't come back and to protect our interests in Iraq, that they will have the voice of Congress behind

them. There will be an authorization to use military force to protect them against Shiite militias, and it is very specific, in Iraq, who have had a pattern of attacking our troops. And if we don't do this, we are sending the worst possible signal to our enemies. We are letting our troops down. And if there are further attacks, I told you so, because I know it is coming.

Let's live in the real world. Al-Qaida is not defeated. ISIS is not defeated. They have been dealt a punishing blow in certain places, but if we take our eye off the ball, they are coming back here; and the easiest targets of all are those Americans in Syria and Iraq who are on the frontlines—a virtual wall between us and radical Islam that would kill us all if they could. I think we owe it to those that we send to Iraq—and the administration is right to keep them there. You are right to keep that residual force in Iraq as an insurance policy against the rise of ISIS, but you are wrong not having your voice lent to the cause that an authorization to use military force against Shiite militias—that needs to be the law of the land. We owe it to those in Iraq. It is not a hypothetical problem—56 attacks in the last 2 years. And if we pull the plug on the AUMF in Iraq without dealing with the Shiite militia threat, we will send a horrible signal at the worst possible time.

So I urge a "yes" vote for this amendment to replace the 2002 AUMF with a specific authorization to use military force against Shiite militias that are attacking Americans continuously in the last 2 years, to protect those that are on the frontlines of this fight. I urge a "yes" vote.

I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

MR. PAUL. Madam President, today, the Senate debates removing the authority of the President to wage war in Iraq. Momentous as such debate might be, it is largely rendered symbolic by the fact that the war in Iraq has been over for more than a decade.

Were this body serious about debating the authority of the President to wage war across Africa and the Middle East, we would today be repealing the 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force.

Presidential administrations of both parties have used the 9/11 authorization to justify war in over 20 countries, from Afghanistan to Libya to Syria to Somalia to Yemen. In fact, both parties have essentially argued that the 9/11 AUMF has no temporal or geographic limits at all.

Repealing the Iraq war authorization will end no wars and save no lives.

The bill before us ignores the pervasive, seemingly limitless 9/11 proclamation, and it seeks, instead, to repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorizations to make war against Saddam Hussein's Iraq—a regime that no longer exists.

So we are missing the point here. We are going to repeal the one authorization they no longer use and leave the

one in place that authorizes war everywhere, all the time.

The public is told to celebrate the boldness of a Senate that will today end a war that has been over for over a decade, while ignoring an authorization of war that is really the only pertinent current authorization.

Now, it is true that some unreconstructed neoconservatives still advocate for the 2002 authorization to make war against Saddam Hussein's Iraq, but no serious scholars believe that the Iraq war resolution has any bearing at all in a world where the current Government of Iraq is an ally, at least ostensibly, of the United States.

Even more insensibly, some of these neocon throwbacks argue that a 20-year-old authorization to counter Saddam Hussein's Iraq somehow has something to do with authorizing military force against Iran. It is nonsensical. The very argument is so strained that ordinarily one wouldn't even bother countering such a frivolous case except for the fact that many Senators insist on making it.

We voted to go to war against Saddam Hussein's Iraq. He is dead and gone. His government is gone. The new government is an ally. The authorization means absolutely nothing. But yet some people argue on the floor: Oh, we have to have this in case we want to attack Iran.

Have they ever heard of coming back here and asking for permission?

Have they ever heard of saying we hold this power given to us by the Constitution and that we should be the ones to bestow the declaration of war to the President?

The 2002 AUMF doesn't mention Iran. President Bush's March 2003 speech to the Nation announcing his decision to invade Iraq does not mention Iran, and Iran and Iraq were enemies for over two decades prior to the invasion. In fact, the House report accompanying the 2002 AUMF refers to Iran but only as a victim of Saddam Hussein's aggression. Nothing—absolutely nothing—in the Iraq war authorization justifies hostilities against Iran.

One would think that these brave "armchair" generals would relish the thought of actually debating a war and putting their vote, their imprimatur, their stamp of approval on their very own war. And yet they want to leave it to a previous generation and have no debate should we decide that we need to go to war with Iran. Instead, this plucky crowd of war advocates want a permanent authorization of war on the books so as not to be troubled with the tedium of debating new wars or waiting possibly 24 hours for the consent of Congress.

It wasn't always so. While Henry Clay was not always the greatest opponent of war, he did find his voice when his son Henry Junior, was killed in the unnecessary Mexican-American War. In the spring of 1844, after hearing of Henry Junior's death at the battle of Buena Vista, Henry Clay put into

words what every Founding Father had previously explained. He spoke these words in Lexington, KY:

A declaration of war is the highest and most awful exercise of sovereignty. The Convention, which framed our federal constitution, had learned from the pages of history that it had been often and greatly abused. It had seen that war had often been commenced upon the most trifling of pretexts . . . that such a vast and tremendous power ought not to be confided to the perilous exercise of one single man. The Convention, therefore, resolved to guard the war-making power against these great abuses. . . . Whenever called upon to determine upon the solemn question of peace and war, Congress must consider and deliberate and decide upon the motives, objects and causes of the war.

That was Henry Clay in 1844.

And yet, today, the best the present Congress can muster is to propose to end a war that ended long ago. In fact, we are told precisely that it is OK to repeal this particular authorization because the President isn't really using it.

If you ask President Biden if we take away the 9/11 authorization, he would say: Oh, no, no. We are still using that one in about 20 different countries.

So we are going to repeal the one authorization he no longer cares about, and we are going to leave into place one that virtually—Presidents of both parties have virtually said is unlimited in scope.

It wasn't intended to be. If you read the authorization from 9/11, you will find that it is very specific.

But today don't worry that we actually might rein in Presidential authority for war. Don't worry that today's repeal will actually end any current war anywhere. Don't worry. Don't worry about continuing to send our soldiers to the Middle East. Don't worry about continuing to send our soldiers to Somalia and Syria and Iraq.

The argument for repeal is that, like most debates in Congress, the victory will be Pyrrhic and ignored and war will go on. The armament industry spread throughout the United States will continue to prosper.

Don't worry. The vote today is easy. The vote today is mere symbolism.

I will support that symbolism, but I will not pretend that it is brave or meaningful or that one American soldier's life will be saved. I will support the symbolism because that is all the bravery that this particular Senate considers to be possible. But I won't celebrate today's vote as anything more than symbolism.

If there exists any desire to end America's forever wars, Congress should today strike a blow for peace by repealing the 2001 authorization for war. After all, the 9/11 AUMF never intended to authorize worldwide war, all the time, everywhere, forever.

The wording of the 9/11 AUMF was debated in 2001, a generation ago, and was precisely worded to authorize the President to make war on those who attacked us on 9/11 and those who harbored them—not a word about making

war on associated forces, not a word about making war on their descendants, not a word about making worldwide war on religious extremism. But that is exactly what the 9/11 2001 AUMF has become—a catchall for a permanent war, everywhere, all the time.

So if anyone in the Senate is really serious about regaining the power to declare war, about informing Presidents of both parties that the Constitution exclusively gave the power to declare war to Congress, I offer an amendment today that might actually bring an American soldier home, an amendment that might actually save an American soldier's life, an amendment that sends an actual signal to the President that congressional authority and resolve actually lives and breathes and will resist Presidential aggrandizement.

Some Senators will argue that a vote to repeal the 9/11 military force proclamation for war—but they say: Well, we could do it, but only if we simultaneously replace it with another sweeping transfer of war-making power to future Presidents.

Really? Is there not one defender of Congress's exclusive power to declare war?

Is there no one else who will reject the abdication of Congress to constitutional responsibilities?

Is there not anyone who will defend the notion that absenting perpetual authorization for war, we could survive on just the Constitution alone?

For most of American history, for 225 years, we lived without a perpetual authorization of war. We addressed it as it arose and Congress voted—not a generation ago's Congress, the people currently elected would debate on one of the most important debates we ever have, whether to go to war. But most people here will say, no, we need to keep a proclamation from 9/11 that has nothing to do with the world today and nothing to do with the attack on 9/11. We need to keep it in place just in case so we could have troops everywhere.

For most of our history, we survived without such a perpetual authorization. The Republic survived under the notion that America is reticent to make war; that we are a merchant nation conscious of the great prosperity economic freedom has brought us in the world and also conscious of the devastation and famine and brutality and the despair of war but also quite outspoken in our history that America won't be trifled with; that once awakened, once attacked, America can and will bring that mighty economic engine to life—the engine that defeated Hitler, the engine that defeated the Japanese Empire, and the engine that after 9/11 showed that America will not countenance, for any reason, an attack on our people.

Couldn't we live under the Constitution again? Couldn't we show the confidence in our people, in our Congress, in our own individual self-worth to let

the world know that we don't want perpetual war; we don't want to be the policemen of the world; we don't want our Army stationed across the globe. But provoke us, attack us, and you will discover that we cherish our freedom, and we will fight for it; that our fight will be a constitutional one.

When America was attacked at Pearl Harbor, the Congress reacted constitutionally within days to declare war. When America was attacked on 9/11, once again, Congress acted in a nearly unanimous fashion to declare war. Couldn't we obey the Constitution and declare war when necessary and not keep on the books a perpetual authorization of war?

Only by eliminating these perpetual authorizations for war will Congress regain its constitutional prerogative to declare war. One generation should not bind another generation to war. The Congress that voted for the war in 2001 is no longer constituted, and many of those Members are no longer even living. Many of our soldiers were not even born when Congress authorized that war.

So, today, I will offer the U.S. Senate a chance to repeal the 9/11/2001 authorization for war, to reclaim our constitutional power, and send a message to the world that we are a nation of peace; that when provoked to war, the gentle giant that is America will respond lawfully according to the Constitution; that when war is absolutely necessary, America will obey the Constitution, which requires us to debate and vote upon war and not hide beneath another generation's deliberations.

Today, we should rise above symbolism and repeal the 9/11 authorization for war and show our respect for the Constitution, our fealty to the rule of law, and our sincere desire that peace, not perpetual war, be our legacy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise to speak to the amendments that we are considering on the effort to repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorization for the use of military force.

As I have previously said, I welcome a broader discussion on the 2001 authorization for the use of military force, but that is not before us today.

Following repeal of the 1991 and 2002 AUMF, I hope that we can engage in what will likely be a robust debate about what authorities the administration does need and what the scope, potentially, of a replacement AUMF would be, but as yet we have not had that substantive discussion, and I don't believe it would be wise to repeal the 2001 AUMF without engaging in that debate first, without having a hearing to understand what is the authority the administration needs to continue to protect America.

The details matter here. We just finished a hearing at the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with the Sec-

retary of State. He testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the 2001 AUMF is still a vital authority that is being relied on. So we may disagree with how the 2001 AUMF has been maybe stretched by other executive branches and concerned as to how we will continue to use it, but an outright repeal, with nothing to replace it—nothing to replace it—is not a sound response that ensures our military has what it needs to execute missions of defense of U.S. interests.

So I support a debate to replace the 2001 AUMF and to develop what should be the specifics of that replacement. But absent a framework to replace it with a new authority, how do we repeal it outright and leave the country naked? So I urge my colleagues to oppose the Paul amendment. I want to speak to Senator GRAHAM's amendment.

I share and appreciate Senator GRAHAM's concern about the Iranian regime. Indeed, he and I have worked very closely on the issue of Iranian threats. I have spent the better part of my career addressing Iranian threats—its nuclear program, its support for global terrorism, its destabilizing its neighborhood through proxies and interference, and the threat that it poses to its own citizens. Yet the question before us is not whether Iran poses a threat to U.S. interests but whether the 2002 AUMF is necessary to counter those threats and if there is already sufficient legal authority to respond to any such threat. And the answer is pretty clear.

The President is clear in his view—one shared by every recent administration—that he has sufficient authority under article II to defend U.S. interests and personnel against Iranian-backed militias. Indeed, the administration has actually taken military action a number of times to protect and defend our personnel against attacks from these groups and to deter future attacks.

The fact is, the 2002 AUMF that we have been debating is superfluous to today's military efforts in the Middle East. The administration has the authorities it needs to address Iranian threats to our people and our interests.

Now, I thought this debate was about ending the authorization for use of force that already exists, that no longer needs to exist, and that should be closed. Just as Congress has the power and the responsibility to declare and to give the authorization for use of military force, it should also end it. That is what this discussion is about. That is what this debate is about. That is what these votes are about—not to create a new authorization for force. That is what Senator GRAHAM's amendment would do. I think that would be a lot more robust debate as to how and when and in what way we would give such authority.

So I would urge my colleagues—as someone who has fought for the better part of these 25 years against Iran, I

would take a back seat to no one as it relates to that fight—to, in fact, oppose that amendment.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first let me salute our chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and our Member of the committee, the Senator from Virginia, for the great work they have done.

We are trying to be very fair in the amendment process. We are trying to allow amendments to occur, but we want to try to move the bill along as well and not just do things for dilatory or extraneous purposes. So I am very glad we have agreed on these three amendments and hope we can agree on a few more and get things done.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order to consider the following amendments: Paul No. 2, Graham No. 14, Lee No. 22; that if offered, the Senate vote in relation to the Paul and Graham amendments at 5:50 p.m. today, with 2 minutes for debate equally divided between votes; further, that the Senate vote in relation to the Lee amendment at a time to be determined by the majority leader, following consultation with the Republican leader, with 60 affirmative votes required for the adoption of the Paul and Lee amendments, all without intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. Kaine. Madam President, very briefly, as I know we are about to begin the vote, the Paul amendment is just one that is based on a sentiment that I think many of us agree with—that the 2001 authorization needs revision. He proposes to repeal it but not for 6 months, giving us time to do the revision. I would vote against it but would look forward to working with him and others and the administration to find out what an appropriate revision should be. I don't think we should leave a gap.

With respect to the Graham amendment—a colleague who is a good friend—the President has the ability to take action against Iranian-backed militias in Iraq. The President is doing that every day, not based on the 2002 authorization.

I agree with my colleague from New Jersey in that this is a debate about ending a war authorization that has gone on for 20 years, not on the floor, without committee action, coming up with a new authorization against a new enemy. If we need to do that, we can discuss it in committee.

The good news is that the President has article II power to defend against Iranian-backed militias in Iraq and is doing it every day.

With that, I would urge a “no” vote on both the Graham and Paul amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 2, and I ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the amendment will be reported by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 2.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. REPEAL OF 2001 AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE.

The Authorization for Use of Military Force (Public Law 107-40; 115 Stat. 224; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) is repealed effective 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

AMENDMENT NO. 14

Mr. GRAHAM. Madam President, I would like to call up my amendment No. 14, and I ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Carolina [Mr. GRAHAM] proposes an amendment numbered 14.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide for more targeted authority under the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002)

Strike section 2 and insert the following:

SEC. 2. REDUCED AUTHORITY UNDER THE AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST IRAQ RESOLUTION OF 2002.

The Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243; 116 Stat. 1498; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) is amended—

- (1) by striking the preamble;
- (2) in section 1, by striking "Against Iraq Resolution of 2002" and inserting "Against Iranian backed Militias Operating in Iraq";
- (3) by striking section 2;
- (4) by redesignating sections 3 and 4 as sections 2 and 3, respectively;
- (5) in section 2, as redesignated by paragraph (4)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking "necessary and appropriate in order to" and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting "necessary and appropriate to defend the national security of the United States against Iranian-backed militias operating in Iraq"; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking "alone either" and all that follows through "regarding Iraq" and inserting "alone will not adequately protect the national security of the United States against the continuing threat posed by Iranian backed militias operating in Iraq"; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking "including" and all that follows through "September 11, 2001"; and

(6) in section 3, as so redesignated—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking "section 3" and inserting "section 2"; and

(ii) by striking "including" and all that follows through "(Public Law 105-338)"; and

(B) by striking subsection (c).

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the Paul amendment.

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 9, nays 86, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 65 Leg.]

YEAS—9

Baldwin	Lee	Sanders
Braun	Markey	Vance
Cardin	Paul	Warren

NAYS—86

Barrasso	Hagerty	Ricketts
Bennet	Hassan	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Brown	Johnson	Schmitt
Budd	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cassidy	Lankford	Smith
Collins	Lujan	Stabenow
Coons	Lummis	Sullivan
Cornyn	Manchin	Tester
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Thune
Cotton	Menendez	Tillis
Cramer	Merkley	Tuberville
Crapo	Moran	Van Hollen
Cruz	Mullin	Warner
Daines	Murkowski	Warnock
Duckworth	Murphy	Welch
Ernst	Murray	Whitehouse
Fischer	Ossoff	Wicker
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Graham	Peters	Young
Grassley	Reed	

NOT VOTING—5

Durbin	Fetterman	McConnell
Feinstein	Heinrich	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). On this vote, the yeas are 9, the nays are 86.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

AMENDMENT NO. 14

Mr. GRAHAM. Colleagues, this is, to me, very important; I hope to you.

There have been 56 attacks against soldiers stationed in Iraq—about 2,000—by Shiite militias in Iraq. I can understand repealing the AUMF because Saddam is dead, but those in Iraq—American soldiers—are being attacked routinely by Shiite militias in Iraq.

I am asking the Congress to tell the Shiite militias: You come after our troops, we are coming after you.

Article II power exists nebulously. The strongest we can be as a nation is when the Congress and the President speak with a single voice. Speak with this voice to those who will kill Americans in Iraq: Shiite militias, we are coming after you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

This amendment is to create a new AUMF that does not currently exist. The President has article II powers, and we are defending against Iranian-backed militias in Iraq every day under article II.

We do not need this. This is why both the American Legion and the Concerned Veterans for America oppose Graham 14.

I urge a "no" vote. Let's repeal the Iraq war authorization, not pass a new one.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 14

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. GRAHAM. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL).

The result was announced—yeas 36, nays 60, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 66 Leg.]

YEAS—36

Barrasso	Ernst	Risch
Blackburn	Fischer	Romney
Boozman	Graham	Rosen
Braun	Hagerty	Rounds
Britt	Hoeven	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	Mullin	Tuberville
Cruz	Ricketts	Wicker

NAYS—60

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Peters
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schmitt
Budd	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Lee	Shaheen
Cardin	Lujan	Sinema
Carper	Lummis	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Collins	Marshall	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Vance
Daines	Moran	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Gillibrand	Murphy	Warren
Grassley	Murray	Welch
Hassan	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hawley	Padilla	Wyden
Heinrich	Paul	Young

NOT VOTING—4

Durbin
Feinstein

Fetterman
McConnell

The amendment (No. 14) was rejected.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The Senator from Minnesota.

S. 316

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I rise in support of the legislation repealing the 1991 and 2002 authorizations for use of military force against Iraq. I am pleased about the vote.

I want to thank Senator TIM KAINE and Senator TODD YOUNG for leading this bipartisan legislation as well as Chair BOB MENENDEZ for moving it through the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

With this bill, we are asserting Congress's constitutional power to determine when to begin and end wars. These AUMFs were passed 32 and 21 years ago respectively. The Gulf war ended in a matter of months, and the Iraq war that began more than a decade later has been over for 12 years. It is time for Congress to act.

Open-ended AUMFs serve no strategic purpose and undermine Congress's authority to determine if and when to send our troops into battle, which is a major decision that we should make.

On top of that, they come with great risk. It is far too easy for a Presidential administration to treat an AUMF as blanket permission to enter into or to stoke conflicts abroad. It doesn't matter which party is in the White House—our Constitution grants war powers to Congress.

We also must recognize that the situation on the ground has changed. Iraq is now a sovereign democracy and America's strategic partner in the Middle East. If we want to work with them to advance stability in the region—and we should—what kind of signal does it send to have our laws identify Iraq as an enemy nation?

Repealing the AUMFs will not halt our military's strategic operations in Iraq, and it will not harm our national defense; but it will offer a measure of closure to the veterans and service-members who sacrificed so much on the battlefield.

I will not soon forget when I went to Baghdad and Fallujah and saw firsthand the bravery and commitment of our troops. The Minnesota soldiers I met over there—as, I am sure, the Presiding Officer met with New Hampshire soldiers—never once complained about their missions. Instead, they asked me to call their moms and dads at home to tell them they were OK.

And not a day goes by that I don't think of that afternoon at the Baghdad Airport. By circumstance, we were getting on a plane. I saw a group standing, and I went over there. They were members of the Duluth National Guard, whom I have met many times since. They were there, saluting, as six caskets, draped in American flags, were loaded onto a plane to be flown home.

Our troops did their jobs and more. Let's do ours. It is time to bring an end to the AUMFs and the war.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

MORNING BUSINESS

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

CONFIRMATION OF GORDON P. GALLAGHER

• Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today, the Senate voted to confirm Judge Gordon Gallagher, nominated to the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado.

Judge Gallagher earned his B.A. from Macalester College and his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law. After graduating from law school, he began a litigation career focused on criminal work. He spent a year with Underhill & Underhill, P.C., and then joined the Mesa County District Attorney's Office, where he prosecuted a wide range of felonies and misdemeanors. Judge Gallagher later entered solo legal practice, focusing on criminal defense work. During this time, he served as a contract attorney with Alternate Defense Counsel, which provides representation to indigent defendants when the local public defender is conflicted out of a matter. In total, he has tried approximately 275 cases to verdict, including 250 jury trials.

While remaining a practicing attorney, Judge Gallagher also serves as a part-time Federal magistrate judge for the District of Colorado, a position he has held since 2012. In this role, Judge Gallagher has presided over approximately a dozen criminal misdemeanor and petty offense bench trials. He also supervises the District's pro se intake division, helping to expedite consideration and resolution of pro se matters. Judge Gallagher was unanimously rated "well qualified" by the ABA and received a bipartisan vote in committee. He has the strong support of his home State Senators—Mr. BENNET and Mr. HICKENLOOPER—and the Colorado legal and law enforcement community.

Given his significant trial experience and deep knowledge of Western Colorado, I strongly support the nomination of Judge Gallagher and am glad to see him confirmed. •

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. DURBIN. Madam President; I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 63, motion to proceed to S.316, a bill to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 64, Confirmation of the nomination of Gordon Gallagher to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Colorado. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 65, on the Paul Amendment No. 2, to repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 66, on the Graham Amendment No. 14 to provide for more targeted authority under the Authorizations for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted nay. •

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE LEGAL OPINION

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following letter from the Government Accountability Office be printed in the RECORD.

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

DECISION

Matter of: U.S. Department of Education—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to the Department of Education's Student Loan Debt Relief Website and Accompanying Federal Register Publication.

File: B-334644.

Date: March 17, 2023.

DIGEST

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced actions to extend a pause on federal student loan repayment and to cancel certain loan debts on a website titled "One-Time Federal Student Loan Debt Relief." ED also publicized these actions in a Federal Register document titled Federal Student Aid Programs (Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program). GAO received a request for a decision as to whether ED's actions announced on its website and in the Federal Register (collectively ED's "Waivers and Modifications") are a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). CRA incorporates the Administrative Procedure Act's (APA) definition of a rule and requires that before a rule can take effect, an agency must submit the rule to both the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as to the Comptroller General. ED did not submit a CRA report to Congress or the Comptroller General on its Waivers and Modifications.

We conclude that ED's Waivers and Modifications meet the definition of a rule under CRA and that no exception applies. Therefore, ED's Waivers and Modifications are subject to the requirement that they be submitted to Congress. If ED finds for good cause that normal delays in the effective date of the rule are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest, then its rule may take effect at such time as the agency determines, consistent with CRA.

DECISION

On August 24, 2022, President Biden announced that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) would take action to extend a then-current "pause on federal student loan

repayment,” as well as to provide “debt cancellation” for certain federal student loan recipients. The White House, Fact Sheet: President Biden Announces Student Loan Relief for Borrowers Who Need It Most (Aug. 24, 2022), available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/08/24/factsheet-president-biden-announces-student-loan-relief-for-borrowers-who-need-it-most/> (last visited Mar. 10, 2023). After President Biden’s announcement, ED outlined the referenced actions on a website titled “One-Time Federal Student Loan Debt Relief.” ED, Federal Student Aid, One-Time Federal Student Loan Debt Relief, available at <https://studentaid.gov/manage-loans/for-giveness-cancellation/debt-relief-info> (last visited Mar. 10, 2023). ED also provided notice of these actions through a Federal Register document titled Federal Student Aid Programs (Federal Perkins Loan Program, Federal Family Education Loan Program, and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program). 87 Fed. Reg. 61512 (Oct. 12, 2022). For ease of reference, we refer collectively to ED’s actions in the above-referenced website and Federal Register document as ED’s “Waivers and Modifications.” GAO received a request for a decision as to whether ED’s Waivers and Modifications are a rule for purposes of the Congressional Review Act (CRA). Letter from Ranking Members Fox and Burr, Senators Cassidy and Cornyn, and Members of Congress Good and Miller-Meeks, to the Comptroller General (Sept. 23, 2022). As discussed below, we conclude that ED’s Waivers and Modifications meet the definition of a rule under CRA and that no exception applies. Therefore, ED’s Waivers and Modifications are subject to CRA’s submission requirement. Consistent with CRA, ED may forgo the normal delay in a rule’s effective date for good cause. 5 U.S.C. 808(2).

Our practice when rendering decisions is to contact the relevant agencies to obtain their legal views on the subject of the request. GAO, Procedures and Practices for Legal Decisions and Opinions, GAO-06-1064SP (Washington, D.C.: Sept. 2006), available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-06-1064sp>. Accordingly, we reached out to ED to obtain the agency’s legal views. Letter from Assistant General Counsel, GAO, to General Counsel, ED (Oct. 17, 2022). We received ED’s response on February 22, 2023. Letter from General Counsel, ED, to Assistant General Counsel, GAO (Feb. 22, 2023) (Response Letter).

BACKGROUND

Federal Student Loans and the HEROES Act

ED currently administers federal student loans pursuant to at least four programs: the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program, the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program, the Federal Perkins Loan Program, and the Health Education Assistance Loan (HEAL) Program. See 20 U.S.C. 1087a–1087j, 1071–1087–4, 1087aa–1087ii; ED, Health Education Assistance Loan Program, 82 Fed. Reg. 53374 (Nov. 15, 2017). For each of these programs, Congress set forth relevant terms and conditions in title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA). 20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq. Among other things, HEA outlines the responsibility of borrowers to repay their loans, the consequences of failing to do so, and the possibility that ED may cancel loans under certain circumstances. See 20 U.S.C. 1078–10, 1078–11, 1080, 1087j, 1087e, 1087dd, 1087ee. ED also implements HEA through its own regulations. See, e.g., 34 C.F.R. parts 674, 681, 682, and 685.

In the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (HEROES Act), Congress gave ED the power to “waive or modify HEA provisions and regulations under limited emergency circumstances. Specifically, the Act states that:

“Notwithstanding any other provision of law, unless enacted with specific reference to this section, the Secretary of Education . . . may waive or modify any statutory or regulatory provision applicable to the student financial assistance programs under title IV of [HEA] . . . as the Secretary deems necessary in connection with a war or other military operation or national emergency” 20 U.S.C. 1098bb(a)(1). As a prerequisite to providing waivers or modifications under the above-quoted provision, ED must find them “necessary to ensure” certain objectives listed in the HEROES Act. Id. 1098bb(a)(2). The first listed objective is to ensure that “recipients of [loans] under title IV of [HEA] . . . are not placed in a worse position . . . in relation to [such loans] because of their status as affected individuals.” Id. The second listed objective is to ensure that “administrative requirements placed on affected individuals . . . are minimized, to the extent possible without impairing the integrity of the [federal student loan] programs . . . to ease the burden on such students.” Id.

The HEROES Act outlines processes for ED to inform the public about waivers and modifications. Id. §1098bb(b). In addition, the HEROES Act requires ED to provide certain information to Congress about waivers and modifications. Id. Notwithstanding section 437 of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) and section 553 of APA, the HEROES Act says that ED must “by notice in the Federal Register, publish the waivers or modifications of statutory and regulatory provisions that [it] deems necessary”, as well as “the terms and conditions to be applied in lieu of such [waived or modified] provisions.” Id. Additionally, ED must provide Congress with an “impact report” no later than 15 months after it provides any waiver or modification. Id. §1098bb(c). This report must discuss the impact of ED’s waivers or modifications “on affected individuals” and “programs under title IV of the [HEA],” as well as ED’s “recommendations for changes” to provisions waived or modified. Id.

Finally, the HEROES Act speaks to the timing of ED’s waivers and modifications. In a subsection titled “no delay in waivers and modifications,” the Act says “Sections 482(c) and 492 of the [HEA] shall not apply” to ED’s waivers and modifications. Id. §1098bb(d). Ordinarily, those provisions require ED to delay the effective date of certain regulations, and to engage in a “negotiated rule-making” process—including the input of students, institutions of higher education, and other affected entities—for regulations concerning federal student loans. See id. §§1089(c), 1098a.

ED’s Waivers and Modifications

In its Waivers and Modifications, ED invoked the HEROES Act to take emergency actions in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. As ED explained, President Trump had declared a national emergency concerning the COVID-19 pandemic on March 13, 2020, and it remained in effect at the time of ED’s actions. 87 Fed. Reg. 61512, 61513. As ED further explained, because the COVID-19 emergency declaration encompassed all areas in the United States, “any person with a Federal student loan under title IV of the HEA” was an “affected individual” under the HEROES Act. Id. In light of “the financial harm caused by the COVID-19 pandemic,” ED said that certain “waivers and modifications [were] necessary to ensure that affected individuals [were] not placed in a worse position financially with respect to their student loans.” Id. ED “further determined” that these Waivers and Modifications would “help minimize the administrative burdens placed on affected individuals.” Id.

In sum, ED’s Waivers and Modifications amounted to two specific actions:

First, ED extended a then-current “automatic suspension of payment and application of a zero percent interest rate” for all individuals with federal direct loans or federally-held FFEL, Perkins, or HEAL loans. Id. ED explained how an automatic suspension of payment and zero percent interest rate originated with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Pub. L. No. 116–136 (Mar. 27, 2020), and how the President and ED had extended these measures through August 2022. Id. at 61513–61514. ED now announced that it was further extending these measures through December 31, 2022. Id. at 61513.

Second, ED announced that it would “discharge certain amounts” of federal direct loans and federally-held FFEL and Perkins loans. Id. Subject to specified income limitations and individual borrowers’ submission of applications, ED announced that it would discharge up to \$20,000 for borrowers who had received a Pell Grant, and up to \$10,000 for borrowers who had not received a Pell Grant. Id. ED explained that it was “modifying” the provisions of HEA and its implementing regulations in order to make these discharges permissible. Id. at 61514.

ED indicated that the Waivers and Modifications were effective as of October 12, 2022 (i.e., immediately upon publication in the Federal Register), and that, except where otherwise indicated, they would “expire at the end of the award year in which the COVID-19 national emergency expires” Id. at 61513.

The Congressional Review Act

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both houses of Congress and to the Comptroller General for review before a rule can take effect. 5 U.S.C. §801(a)(1)(A). The report must contain a copy of the rule, “a concise general statement relating to the rule,” and the rule’s proposed effective date. Id. CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove federal agency rules for a period of 60 days using special procedures. 5 U.S.C. §802. If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect. 5 U.S.C. §801(b)(1).

CRA adopts the definition of rule under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. §551(4), which states that a rule is “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency.” 5 U.S.C. §804(3). However, CRA excludes three categories of rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties. Id.

ED did not submit a CRA report to Congress or the Comptroller General on its Waivers and Modifications. ED contends that the Waivers and Modifications do not meet the definition of a rule under CRA. In addition, ED relies on a provision of the HEROES Act allowing ED to modify student loan requirements “notwithstanding any other provision of law.” Response Letter at 1–2 (quoting 20 U.S.C. §1098bb(a)(1)–(2)).

DISCUSSION

At issue here is whether ED’s Waivers and Modifications meet the definition of a rule under CRA. As explained below, we conclude that they do.

ED’s Waivers and Modifications meet CRA’s definition of “rule” as an agency statement of future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy.

They are an agency statement because ED published them as such on its webpage and in the Federal Register. 87 Fed. Reg. 61513. They have future effect because they temporarily extended a suspension of payment and interest terms, and because they invite borrowers to apply prospectively for the discharge of certain debt amounts. Id. And they implement law and policy by “waiv[ing]” and “modif[ying] the provisions of” HEA and its implementing regulations. Id.

Additionally, none of CRA’s three statutory exceptions are applicable:

First, the Waivers and Modifications are not a rule of particular applicability. A rule of particular applicability is one addressed to specific, identified entities. See B-333732, Jul. 28, 2022 (explaining that a rule of general applicability is one with an open class but a rule of particular applicability is limited to those named). By contrast, ED’s Waivers and Modifications suspended payment obligations and modified interest rates for all individuals with federal direct loans or federally-held student loans. 87 Fed. Reg. 61513. They also offer to discharge certain debt amounts for all such individuals meeting specified income limitations. Id.

Second, the Waivers and Modifications are not a rule relating to agency management or personnel. A rule relates to agency management or personnel if it applies to agency employees and not to outside parties. See e.g., B-331324, Oct. 22, 2019 (determining that 5 U.S.C. §804(3)(b) does not apply when the rule deals with actions regulated parties should take and not agency management or personnel). But here, the Waivers and Modifications relate to the student loan obligations of all “affected individuals,” which ED has defined broadly to include “any person with a Federal student loan under title IV of the HEA.” 87 Fed. Reg. 61512, 61513.

Third, and finally, the Waivers and Modifications substantially impact the rights and obligations of non-agency parties because they allow student borrowers to forego ordinary loan-repayment obligations and apply to have certain amounts of debt discharged.

ED’s Response

ED asserts that the Waivers and Modifications are not subject to CRA because they are “not a rulemaking, but a one-time, fact-bound application of existing and statutorily prescribed waiver and modification authority.” Response Letter at 4. ED also states that its Waivers and Modifications are not subject to CRA because the HEROES Act allows ED to modify student loan requirements “notwithstanding any other provision of law.” Id. at 1–2 (quoting 20 U.S.C. §1098bb(a)(1)–(2)).

ED bases its first assertion upon *Goodman v. FCC*, 182 F.3d 987, 993–94 (D.C. Cir. 1999), as well as similar cases finding that an agency’s action was an “order” or another type of action other than a “rule” within the meaning of APA’s definitions that CRA incorporates. Id. However, those cases are distinguishable here. In *Goodman*, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) took action to resolve several outstanding issues related to Specialized Mobile Radio (SMR) licensees. Id. at 990. The D.C. Circuit found that FCC’s action was an “order” and “not a rulemaking” because it addressed the “temporary waiver” of existing FCC rules for already-issued licenses, whereas a rule would have had “legal consequences ‘only for the future.’” Id. at 994 (quoting *Bowen v. Georgetown University Hospital*, 488 U.S. 204, 216–17 (1988) (Scalia, J., concurring)). GAO has applied *Goodman* to find other agency actions beyond CRA’s coverage, including most recently in B-334400, Feb. 9, 2023. In that case, we found that the Environmental Protection Agency’s resolution of 69 small

refinery petitions was an order, not a rule, because the at-issue petitions concerned specific requests for “statutory exemptions,” which the APA recognizes as a type of “license” and order. B-334400, Feb. 9, 2023.

Here, unlike in the above cases, ED’s Waivers and Modifications are oriented generally toward the future and have potentially broad consequences for all loan holders, not just a specifically-identified subset thereof. They do not address existing requests from particular licensees or petitioners, as was the case in *Goodman* and in B-334400, nor do they apply existing law to the facts of any particular claim or request. To the contrary, ED’s Waivers and Modifications substitute new benefits and requirements across the board. See 87 Fed. Reg. 61513. ED asserts that it has not previously submitted rules under the CRA process when using its HEROES Act authority. Those prior HEROES Act actions, however, are not before us and we do not interpret those instances as Congress or GAO finding that CRA did not apply. Instead, we have been asked to assess whether the current Waivers and Modifications are subject to CRA.

With regard to ED’s second assertion, the Supreme Court has recognized that statutory “notwithstanding any other provision of law” clauses signal Congress’s general intent to “override conflicting provisions of any other [laws].” *Cisneros v. Alpine Ridge Group*, 508 U.S. 10, 18 (1993). To determine the scope of any particular “notwithstanding” clause, we construe the particular language and “the design of the statute as a whole.” See *K. Mart Corp v. Cartier, Inc.*, 486 U.S. 281, 291 (1988); see also B-290125.2, B-290125.3, Dec. 18, 2002 (“In expounding a statute, we must . . . look to the provisions of the whole law, and to its object and policy.”) (quoting *Maestro Plastics Corp. v. National Labor Relations Board*, 350 U.S. 270, 285 (1956)). Generally, laws that are not contrary to the design of a “notwithstanding” clause will continue to apply despite that clause. Thus, in B-290125.2, B-290125.3, Dec. 18, 2002, an appropriation act directed the Department of Energy (DOE) to award a construction contract and, “notwithstanding any other provision of law,” to negotiate with the awardee and make contract modifications as necessary to ensure that groundbreaking occurred by a specified date. DOE argued that this “notwithstanding” clause overrode GAO’s authority to decide bid protests under the Competition in Contracting Act of 1984 (CICA), 31 U.S.C. §3551–3556 (2000). Id. However, GAO rejected DOE’s argument because we found that our CICA authority did not “interfere” with and “would not prevent” DOE from performing the specific time-delimited tasks with which DOE’s appropriation was concerned. Id. See also *District of Columbia Federation of Civic Ass’n v. Volpe*, 459 F.2d 1231, 1265 (D.C. Cir. 1971), cert. denied, 405 U.S. 1030 (1972) (provision of Federal-Aid Highway Act directing construction of a bridge “notwithstanding any other provision of law” did not render inapplicable certain federal statutes regarding protection of historic sites).

By contrast, where a law cannot be reconciled with the intent of a “notwithstanding” clause, it is overridden. For example, in *United States v. Novak*, the Ninth Circuit considered a Mandatory Victims Restitution Act (MVRA) provision indicating that “notwithstanding any other Federal law,” a judgment imposing a fine “may be enforced against all property or rights to property of the person fined” 476 F.3d 1041, 1045, 1046 (9th Cir. Feb. 22, 2007) (quoting 18 U.S.C. §3613A(d)). The Court found that this provision overrode sections of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) prohibiting the “alienation” of

retirement savings. Id. In doing so, the Court noted the “breadth of Congress’s reference to ‘all property or rights to property,’ as well as its use of express language to override a similar ‘anti-alienation’ provision in the Social Security Act of 1935 (SSA), among other things. Id. at 1047; see also, e.g., *Schneider v. United States*, 27 F.3d 1327 (8th Cir. 1994) (judicial review precluded by Military Claims Act provision stating that agency determinations were final and conclusive “notwithstanding any other provision of law.”).

Here, the “notwithstanding” clause in the HEROES Act does not exempt ED’s Waivers and Modifications from CRA. CRA does not contain a “specific reference” to the HEROES Act. See 5 U.S.C. §801; 20 U.S.C. §1098bb(a)(1). As a basic matter, however, following CRA does not conflict with the design or policy of the HEROES Act. Congress in the HEROES Act empowered ED to address “emergency” situations. It did this by directing ED to waive or modify student loan provisions that it found necessary to “ease the burden” on loan recipients and to “ensure” that the emergency did not place them in a “worse position,” among other things. Id. §1098bb(a)(2). It also did this by directing “no delay” in the implementation of ED’s waivers and modifications. Id. §1098bb(d).

Consistent with these aims, CRA also specifically contemplates the possibility of emergency actions requiring immediate implementation. As a general matter, rules subject to CRA may not become effective for 60 days pending Congress’s review and potential enactment of a disapproval measure. 5 U.S.C. §801, 802. But Congress in CRA allowed agencies to find for “good cause” that normal delays are “impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest,” and the agency’s rule may then take effect at such time as the agency determines. 5 U.S.C. §808(2). As in B-290125.2, then, applying CRA’s requirements does not “interfere” with and “would not prevent” ED from carrying out emergency actions under the HEROES Act. B-290125.2, B-290125.3, Dec. 18, 2002. If ED believes that its Waivers and Modifications must take immediate effect—as appears to be the case—then it need only make a “good cause” finding consistent with CRA’s requirements.

Context considerations provide additional support for our conclusion that Congress did not mean to exempt HEROES Act actions from CRA. First, CRA itself contains a clause indicating that it should apply “notwithstanding any other provision of law.” 5 U.S.C. §806(a). While this alone is not definitive, Congress in the HEROES Act took express action to override certain other provisions without taking comparable action on CRA. Specifically, Congress said that HEA’s negotiated rulemaking requirements “shall not apply,” and that the HEROES Act’s public-reporting requirement would apply “notwithstanding” the normal reporting requirements applicable to ED under GEPA and APA (which GEPA references). 20 U.S.C. §1098bb(d). If we interpret the “notwithstanding” clause literally, as ED urges us to do, then it was not necessary for Congress to make any of these additional carveouts because neither HEA, nor GEPA, nor APA references the HEROES Act. 5 U.S.C. §553, 20 U.S.C. §§1089(c), 1098a, 1232. Clearly, then, Congress contemplated that procedural requirements like those in HEA, GEPA, and APA could continue in force without presenting any conflict with the “notwithstanding” clause; the HEROES Act needed to address these provisions specifically to exempt ED from their requirements.

ED also asserts that the HEROES Act speaks definitively “to the role of Congress vis-à-vis waivers and modifications” with

“its own mechanism of congressional reporting.” Response Letter at 6. As described above, the HEROES Act requires ED to provide Congress with an “impact report” no later than 15 months after it provides any waiver or modification. *Id.* §1098bb(c). On its face, this reporting requirement does not displace the purpose of CRA and its requirements, which trigger before an agency takes action. It would be wholly consistent with both CRA and the HEROES Act for an agency to first submit a CRA report (and find “good cause” to forego the normal requirements), and then to take action pursuant to the HEROES Act, and then to report on the impact of such actions within 15 months. See B-333501, Dec. 14, 2021 (finding that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) had to submit a CRA report in connection with new masking requirements, but that it could address the need for emergency implementation through a good cause waiver); B-333732, Jul. 28, 2022 (“While CRA does not provide an emergency exception from its procedural requirements . . . [it] addresses an agency’s need to take emergency action without delay.”). Indeed, over the course of the COVID-19 public health emergency, several agencies have submitted rules for congressional review while waiving the delay in effective date by invoking CRA’s good cause exception. See, e.g., B-33486, Aug. 10, 2021; B-333381, Jul. 9, 2021; B-332918, Feb. 5, 2021.

Issues before the Supreme Court

With this decision, we are not addressing the questions currently before the Supreme Court in *Biden v. Nebraska*, which include whether ED’s Waivers and Modifications “exceed[ed] the Secretary [of Education]’s statutory authority or [were] arbitrary and capricious.” See Supreme Court Docket No. 22-506, Questions Presented (Dec. 1, 2022), available at <https://www.supremecourt.gov/docket/docketfiles/html/qp/22-00506qp.pdf>. For present purposes, we treat the Waivers and Modifications as an exercise of the HEROES Act authority that ED invoked to support them. We hold only that a valid exercise of authority under the HEROES Act is subject to CRA. We need not reach the more specific conclusion about the substantive validity of ED’s Waivers and Modifications at issue in the Supreme Court’s decision in *Biden v. Nebraska* in order to reach a conclusion under CRA.

CONCLUSION

ED’s Waivers and Modifications meet the definition of a rule under CRA and no exception applies. Therefore, ED’s Waivers and Modifications are subject to the requirement that they be submitted to Congress. If ED finds for good cause that normal delays are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest, then its rule may take effect at whatever date ED chooses, consistent with CRA. 5 U.S.C. §808(2).

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,
General Counsel.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE BISMARCK CAPITAL ICE CHIPS

• Mr. CRAMER. Madam President, this is a time of year when sports seasons wrap up and tournaments and final competitions crown new champions. I have the privilege today of recognizing one team of outstanding figure skaters from Bismarck, ND. They are the Capital Ice Chips, 22 high school girls under the age of 18 who this month skated their way to the gold medal in

the U.S. National Synchronized Skating championships.

The Ice Chips are not strangers to this national competition, which was held in Peoria, IL. They have qualified for nationals for the past 13 years and have stood on the winners podium nine times. This year, they were on the top step for the first time after competing against 12 other teams hailing from much larger metropolitan areas in California, New York, Illinois, New Jersey, and Arizona.

The 20-year-old Bismarck Figure Skating Club has been dominant in national competitions because it begins training young skaters as young as preschoolers. With considerable support from parents and top-notch teachers and coaches at every stage of learning, these young skaters also start synchronized skating at an early age. Most of this year’s Capital Ice Chips are veteran skaters who have attended many regional and national competitions.

I want to commend the coaches, notably Rebecca Gallion, who has been with the Bismarck Figure Skating Club for all of its 20 years, as well as Selena Morris and Hayley Trom. Previous skaters have become instructors and coaches and have been instrumental in helping the Ice Chips advance to the level of excellence on display at the national competition this year.

The skaters on the Capital Ice Chips national championship team are Emily Appert, Elyse Bock, Nora Carlson, Gabriella Deeter, Chloe Dwyer, Isabelle Ersland, Brooklyn Gallion, Tatum Gietzen, Ella Haar, Miah Hamar, Kamri Hopfauf, Ashlyn Iverson, Nora Luckenbill, Taryn Nelson, Addison Rakness, Kadence Rambur, Addison Renton, Morgan Schatz, Lexi Stenberg, Reece Theel, Ethnie Zahn, and Kinzie Zahn.

North Dakota’s legendary winters bring out a love of winter sports, including those played on ice rinks across my State. Figure and synchronized skating require teamwork and discipline in these young athletes, and I congratulate the Capital Ice Chips for their dedication and hard work that earned them this championship. I join the rest of North Dakota in thanking the Bismarck Figure Skating Club and the Capital Ice Chips for inspiring all of us to achieve excellence. They have demonstrated what can be achieved by combining faith and passion with determination and teamwork.●

TRIBUTE TO ALEX RAY, LISA MURE, SUSAN MATHISON, AND STEVE RAND

• Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I am honored to recognize Alex Ray and Lisa Mure of Holderness and Susan Mathison and Steve Rand of Plymouth as March’s Granite Staters of the Month. The group of friends started a nonprofit, Common Man for Ukraine, that has raised more than \$2.6 million

for Ukrainian children impacted by Putin’s unconscionable invasion of Ukraine.

Following the onset of the war, the group wanted to figure out how they could help the Ukrainian people. Through their membership with the Plymouth Rotary Club, Alex and Steve connected with Rotarian leaders in Poland, which was already seeing an influx of Ukrainian refugees fleeing the conflict. And then Alex, Susan, Steve, and Lisa jumped into action. Within just 2 weeks, the four friends were on the ground in Poland and Ukraine meeting with Ukrainian and Polish Rotary Club leaders about the needs of local displaced person camps, orphanages, and safehouses for displaced children.

When the group returned to New Hampshire, they began to raise funds, with the first donation being \$500 from the Plymouth Rotary Club. Since then, they have raised more than \$2.6 million to purchase 750 tons of food for their partners in Poland. The NH Fisher Cats AA baseball team also hosted a benefit game to raise funds.

The group has not let up in their efforts over the past year. They have visited Poland and Ukraine three more times to evaluate the changing needs on the ground in coordination with their Rotarian partners. In addition to packing warehouses with essential goods, they also delivered those relief supplies themselves to safehouses and orphanages for children impacted by the war. This past Christmas, they brought personal solar lanterns, food, generators, and presents to 21 Ukrainian orphanages, so that the children could experience literal and symbolic light throughout the various power outages. When the Granite Staters arrived with the supplies, the children excitedly came outside in the cold to greet them, and they were able to share Christmas greetings and carols despite the language barrier. The four volunteers bravely returned to Ukraine on the war’s February anniversary to deliver supplies to 14 additional orphanages and safehouses.

The work that Alex, Susan, Steve, and Lisa have done with their nonprofit organization is an incredible testament to the impact that Granite Staters can have, even across the world, when they are helping others. They refused to stand by during a devastating war and the subsequent refugee crisis, instead boldly finding a way to directly help Ukrainian children. Alex, Susan, Steve, and Lisa embody the Granite State spirit of taking on a challenge directly in order to make a real difference, and I know that they will continue to make New Hampshire proud through their work in Poland and Ukraine.●

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR HAN BYEONG CHEOL

• Mr. OSSOFF. Madam President, I rise today to commend Pastor Han

Byeong Cheol, senior pastor of the Korean Central Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, for his years of service and advocacy on behalf of Atlanta's Korean American community. Since 2009, Pastor Han has led the Korean Central Presbyterian Church's missionary work and has dedicated his time to spreading the gospel to his local Korean community and the entire region.

Two years ago, following the horrific spa shootings in which three members of Georgia's Korean American community lost their lives, Pastor Han demonstrated strong leadership by bringing faith leaders together to speak out against acts of hate and help the community heal. At a time when acts of violence toward Asian Americans are on the rise across our Nation, Pastor Han is stepping up to spread awareness about the rise of hate crimes, educating people on how to use faith to bring about positive change, and guiding his community forward.

Georgia's Korean American community is strong, and even in the face of vile attacks, their resolve has not broken. Pastor Han and the Korean Central Presbyterian Church community are prime examples of that. As we commemorate this solemn anniversary, may we find solace in those in our community like Pastor Han who have turned tragedy into healing.

As Georgia's U.S. Senator, I recognize and commend Pastor Han Byeong Cheol for his years of service to Georgia's Korean American community.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:26 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 2(a) of the National Cultural Center Act (20 U.S.C. 76h(a)), amended by Public Law 107-117, and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board Trustees of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas and Ms. LETLOW of Louisiana.

The message also announced that pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 51312(b) and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Mr. VALADAO of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Mr. PFLUGER of Texas and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following

Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Mr. ELLZEY of Texas and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

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-756. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board Annual Performance Report for FY 2022 and Annual Performance Plan for FY 2023-2024" received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-757. A communication from the Chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Performance Report for fiscal year 2022 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-758. A communication from the Chair of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2023-2024 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-759. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel for Operations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-760. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2023 Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Oil, Gas, and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf" (RIN1010-AE17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-761. A communication from the Departmental Privacy Officer, Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Social Security Number Fraud Prevention Act of 2017 Implementation" (RIN1090-AB24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-762. A communication from the Departmental Privacy Officer, Office of Law Enforcement and Security, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy Act Regulations; Exemptions for the Personnel Security Program Files System" (RIN1090-AB16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-763. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Packaged Terminal Air Conditioners and Packaged Terminal Heat Pumps" (RIN1904-AE66) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-764. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for General Service Fluorescent Lamps" (RIN1904-AE40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-765. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Operating Plan (AOP) for Colorado River System Reservoirs for 2023"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-766. A communication from the Chief of the Endangered Species Division, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Species; Designation of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Central Valley Spring-run Chinook Salmon in the Upper Yuba River Upstream of Englebright Dam, Authorization for Release, and Adoption of Limited Protective Regulations under the Endangered Species Act" (RIN0648-BK00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-767. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor/Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Standards and Requirements" (RIN2125-AG10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-768. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enhanced Weapons, Firearms Background Checks, and Security Event Notifications" (RIN3150-AI49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-769. 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; Florida; Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference" (FRL No. 9727-01-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-770. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances" (FRL No. 9779-02-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-771. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Revision to Federally Enforceable District Origin Operating Permits" (FRL No. 10421-02-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-772. 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; Mississippi; PSD and Air Quality Modeling Infrastructure Requirements for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 10473-02-R4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-773. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Vermont: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions" (FRL No. 10508-02-R1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-774. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Finalizing Medicare Rules under Section 902 of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (MMA) for Calendar Year (CY) 2022"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-775. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Interim Guidance Regarding Certain Insurance Related Issues for the Determination of Adjusted Financial Statement Income under Section 56A of the Internal Revenue Code" (Notice 2023-20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-776. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Electronic-Filing Requirements for Specified Returns and Other Documents" ((RIN1545-BN36) (TD 9972)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-777. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Single-Entity Treatment of Consolidated Groups for Specific Purposes" ((RIN1545-BQ51) (TD 9973)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-778. A communication from the Chairman of the United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Performance Report for fiscal year 2022 and Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2023-2024 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-779. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA) to Provide Military Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-780. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide assistance to Ukraine, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-781. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Depart-

ment of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of HAVANA Act of 2021" (RIN1400-AF52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-782. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "International Traffic in Arms Regulations: Consolidation and Restructuring of Purposes and Definitions—Final" (RIN1400-AE27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 6, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-4. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Michigan requesting the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress approve the replacement of Michigan's statue of Lewis Cass with a statue of Coleman A. Young as part of the National Statuary Hall Collection and to take other actions related to this request; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 23

Whereas, Congress authorized the creation of the National Statuary Hall Collection in 1864 to provide an opportunity for each state to honor two distinguished people with statues at the U.S. Capitol. Currently, Lewis Cass and Gerald Ford represent the state of Michigan in the collection. The statues were placed in the U.S. Capitol in 1889 and 2011, respectively; and

Whereas, Federal law establishes a process by which states may request the replacement of a statue located in the National Statuary Hall Collection. The first step in the process is the state legislature adopting a resolution identifying the statue to replace and the person to be honored with a new statue; selecting the entity responsible for choosing the sculptor, and directing the method of obtaining funds to cover the necessary costs of the replacement. Federal law also requires that the state's governor submit a written request to provide a new statue to the Architect of the Capitol along with a description of the location in the state where the replacement statue will be displayed after it is transferred, and a copy of the resolution authorizing the replacement; and

Whereas, A statue of Lewis Cass was placed in the U.S. Capitol on behalf of Michigan in the late 19th century in recognition of his service to the state of Michigan and United States. Lewis Cass served as a Governor of the Michigan territory, U.S. Senator from Michigan, U.S. Secretary of War, U.S. Secretary of State and U.S. Ambassador to France during his career; and

Whereas, Honoring Lewis Cass with a statue in the National Statuary Hall Collection is no longer consistent with the values of the people of Michigan. While Lewis Cass was an accomplished public figure, he played a prominent role in the implementation of President Andrew Jackson's Indian removal policy, was a proponent of allowing states and territories to permit slavery, and enslaved at least one person himself; and

Whereas, Coleman A. Young was the first African-American mayor of Detroit and one of the most accomplished leaders in Michigan's largest city's history. Young served his country as a bombardier and navigator with the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II.

He demonstrated an early interest in justice and fairness, spearheading a protest against the exclusion of Blacks from segregated officers' clubs. Young became a union activist after the war and was elected to the Michigan Senate, serving for nine years. The people of Detroit elected him as their mayor for the first time in 1973, reelecting him four times over the next two decades. Young was known for championing needs of the city's Black community and for building coalitions among its business leaders. Under his leadership, the city saw the completion of a number of major projects, such as the Renaissance Center, Detroit People Mover, and Joe Louis Arena. Young's contributions to the city of Detroit our entire state make him deserving of a place in the National Statuary Hall Collection; and

Whereas, The Michigan Statuary Hall Commission will select the sculptor and secure funding for this project, now, therefore, be it *Resolved by The Senate (The House of Representatives Concurring)*, That we request the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress approve the replacement of Michigan's statue of Lewis Cass with a statue of Coleman A. Young as part of the National Statuary Hall Collection; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the Governor to communicate approval of this replacement to the Architect of the Capitol and to sign an agreement with the Architect of the Capitol to replace the Lewis Cass statue with one of Coleman A. Young; and he it further

Resolved, That we hereby establish the Michigan Statuary Hall Commission. The commission will select an artist to sculpt the statue of Coleman A. Young. The commission shall be made up of five members, with one member appointed by each of the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Majority Leader, the House Minority Leader, and the Senate Minority Leader; and be it further

Resolved, That the costs of this entire project, including the costs of creating, transporting, and placing both statues at their respective locations and the costs related to ceremonies that may be held in Lansing and Washington, D.C., will be paid for by donations and other funding secured by the Michigan Statuary Hall Commission; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Architect of the Capitol, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the members of the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. CARDIN for the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

*Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. KING (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. LEE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 907. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to exempt from inspection the slaughter of animals and the preparation of carcasses conducted at a custom slaughter facility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. LEE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 908. A bill to oppose the provision of assistance to the People's Republic of China by the multilateral development banks; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 909. A bill to allow members of federally recognized Tribes to use their Tribal government identification documents in obtaining a firearm from a federally licensed firearms dealer; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 910. A bill to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 911. A bill to require the installation of secondary cockpit barriers on existing aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 912. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide technology grants to strengthen domestic mining education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 913. A bill to make Ecuador eligible for designation as a beneficiary country under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 914. A bill to establish an energy threat analysis center in the Department of Energy; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 915. A bill to require Presidential appointment and Senate confirmation of the Inspector General of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 916. A bill to limit and eliminate excessive, hidden, and unnecessary fees imposed on consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 917. A bill to establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, and for other purposes; to

the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 918. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration to prohibit the use of certain identification documents at airport security checkpoints, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 919. A bill to restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 920. A bill to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 921. A bill to amend section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 to correct shortcomings in how that section addresses content moderation, content creation and development, and content distribution; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 922. A bill to amend PROMESA to include certain ethics provisions to provide for the disqualification of certain advisors to Financial Oversight and Management Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 923. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to reform and improve mental health and substance use care under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 924. A bill to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 925. A bill to authorize the Department of Labor's voluntary protection program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 926. A bill to prohibit the purchase or lease of agricultural land in the United States by persons associated with certain foreign governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 927. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 928. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prepare an annual report

on suicide prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. WARREN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 929. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize the use of Federal foreign assistance funds for comprehensive reproductive health care services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 930. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 931. A bill to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 932. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the halt in pension payments for Members of Congress sentenced for certain offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 933. 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; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 934. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to assign certain functions to the Assistant Secretaries of Energy relating to energy emergencies and energy security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 935. A bill to require reporting regarding certain drug price increases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 936. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 937. A bill to amend Public Law 117-169 to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from using funds for methane monitoring to be used to monitor emissions of methane from livestock, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr.

MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 938. A bill to establish a trust fund to provide for adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 939. A bill to counter the spread of LOGINK logistics information platform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 940. A bill to establish a demonstration program to provide payments on eligible loans for individuals who are eligible for the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 941. A bill to remove immunity protections from social media platforms which host accounts of censoring foreign adversaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEE, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 942. A bill to create a point of order against legislation modifying the number of Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 943. A bill to increase the minimum disaster loan amount for which the Small Business Administration may require collateral, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. DUCKWORTH):

S. 944. A bill to promote low-carbon, high-octane fuels, to protect public health, and to improve vehicle efficiency and performance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. LEE):

S. 945. A bill to provide for joint reports by relevant Federal agencies to Congress regarding incidents of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 946. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to establish a procedure for the siting of certain interstate electric transmission facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 947. A bill to lower energy costs by increasing American energy production, exports, infrastructure, and critical minerals processing, by promoting transparency, accountability, permitting, and production of American resources, and by improving water quality certification and energy projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 948. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to improve maternal health coverage under Medicaid and CHIP, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 949. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental

nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 950. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make a technical correction to the water rights settlement for the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 951. A bill to establish the Office of Gun Violence Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. LEE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. YOUNG):

S.J. Res. 21. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court of the United States be composed of nine justices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 117. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Government of Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 132

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 305, 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. 307

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 307, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish certain rules relating to unmanned

aircraft systems and operations, and for other purposes.

S. 442

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 442, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit former Presidential appointees from acting on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Communist Party, and Chinese military companies.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 457, a bill to establish a Federal tort against pediatric gender clinics and other entities pushing gender-transition procedures that cause bodily injury to children or harm the mental health of children.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to modify the fire management assistance cost share, and for other purposes.

S. 506

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 506, a bill to amend the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 to strike the Secretary's unilateral authority during a national emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 545

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to protect the rights of passengers with disabilities in air transportation, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 547, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 569

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 599, a bill to establish the Foundation for Digital Equity, and for other purposes.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr.

SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to establish an administrative relief process for individuals whose applications for transfer and registration of a firearm were denied, and for other purposes.

S. 697

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 697, a bill to amend the Agricultural Act of 2014 to modify the treatment of revenue from timber sale contracts and certain payments made by counties to the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior under good neighbor agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to allow the interstate sale of State-inspected meat and poultry, and for other purposes.

S. 892

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 892, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicare program for FDA-approved qualifying colorectal cancer screening blood-based tests, to increase participation in colorectal cancer screening in underscreened communities of color, to offset the COVID-19 pandemic driven declines in colorectal cancer screening, and for other purposes.

S. 893

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 893, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to raise the retirement age for pilots engaged in commercial aviation operations, and for other purposes.

S. 894

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 894, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to collect and disseminate information on concussion and traumatic brain injury among public safety officers.

S.J. RES. 20

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 20, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Justice and the Bu-

reau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives relating to "Factoring Criteria for Firearms With Attached 'Stabilizing Braces'".

S. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 81, a resolution relating to the establishment of a means for the Senate to provide advice and consent regarding the form of an international agreement relating to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response.

S. RES. 107

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 107, a resolution recognizing the expiration of the Equal Rights Amendment proposed by Congress in March 1972, and observing that Congress has no authority to modify a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment after the amendment has been submitted to the States or after the amendment has expired.

AMENDMENT NO. 8

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 8 intended to be proposed to S. 316, a bill to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 937. A bill to amend Public Law 117-169 to prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from using funds for methane monitoring to be used to monitor emissions of methane from livestock, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. 937

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

SECTION 1. METHANE MONITORING.

Section 60105(e) of Public Law 117-169 (136 Stat. 2068) is amended—

(1) by striking "In addition to" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) PROHIBITION.—Amounts made available under paragraph (1) may not be used to monitor emissions of methane from livestock."

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 117—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA DOES NOT PERMANENTLY STORE NUCLEAR WASTE IN THE GREAT LAKES BASIN

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. BROWN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 117

Whereas the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin are precious public natural resources shared by the Great Lakes States and the Provinces of Canada;

Whereas, since 1909, the United States and Canada have worked to maintain and improve the water quality of the Great Lakes through water quality agreements;

Whereas more than 40,000,000 individuals in Canada and the United States depend on the fresh water from the Great Lakes for drinking water;

Whereas the Government of Canada is proposing to build a permanent deep geological repository for high-level nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin;

Whereas the Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Canada is examining building a permanent deep geological repository for nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin, less than 40 miles from Lake Huron in South Bruce, Ontario, Canada;

Whereas nuclear waste is highly toxic and can take tens of thousands of years to decompose to safe levels;

Whereas a spill of nuclear waste into the Great Lakes, including during transit to a permanent deep geological repository for nuclear waste, could have lasting and severely adverse environmental, health, and economic impacts on the Great Lakes and the individuals who depend on the Great Lakes for their livelihoods;

Whereas more than 232 State, Tribal, county, and local governments have passed resolutions in opposition to the formerly proposed nuclear waste repository of Ontario Power Generation;

Whereas Tribes and First Nations' citizens have a strong spiritual and cultural connection to the Great Lakes;

Whereas the Saugeen Ojibway Nation exercised its Aboriginal and treaty rights by voting against Ontario Power Generation building a permanent nuclear waste repository in Kincardine, Ontario;

Whereas the protection of the Great Lakes is fundamental to treaty rights; and

Whereas, during the 1980s, when the Department of Energy was studying potential sites for a permanent nuclear waste repository in the United States in accordance with the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.), the Government of Canada expressed concern with locating a permanent nuclear waste repository within shared water basins of the 2 countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of Canada should not allow a permanent nuclear waste repository to be built within the Great Lakes Basin;

(2) the President and the Secretary of State should take appropriate action to

work with the Government of Canada to prevent a permanent nuclear waste repository from being built within the Great Lakes Basin; and

(3) the President and the Secretary of State should work together with their counterparts in the Government of Canada on a solution for the long-term storage of nuclear waste that—

(A) is safe and responsible; and

(B) does not pose a threat to the Great Lakes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 36. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 37. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 38. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 39. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 40. Mr. HAWLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 41. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 36. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, line 5, delete “hereby repealed” and insert “repealed effective 30 days after the Attorney General and the Secretary of Defense have jointly certified to Congress that legal authorities permitting the detention of terrorists and the litigation position of the United States regarding the detention of terrorists would not be weakened by such repeal”.

SA 37. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ PROHIBITING MEDICARE PAYMENTS TO AND ENROLLMENT OF PROVIDERS WHO FURNISH GENDER-TRANSITION PROCEDURES TO MINORS.

Section 1862 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(p) PROHIBITING PAYMENTS TO AND ENROLLMENT OF PROVIDERS WHO FURNISH GENDER-TRANSITION PROCEDURES TO MINORS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective on the date of the enactment of this subsection—

“(A) no payment may be made under this title with respect to any item or service that is furnished by a provider of services or supplier who furnishes a gender-transition pro-

cedure to an individual under the age of 18; and

“(B) a provider of services or supplier who furnishes a gender-transition procedure to an individual under the age of 18 may not enroll or reenroll in the program under this title under section 1866(j).

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) BIOLOGICAL SEX.—The term ‘biological sex’ means the genetic classification of an individual as male or female, as reflected in the organization of the body of such individual for a reproductive role or capacity, such as through sex chromosomes, naturally occurring sex hormones, and internal and external genitalia present at birth, without regard to the subjective sense of identity of the individual.

“(B) GENDER-TRANSITION PROCEDURE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the term ‘gender-transition procedure’ means—

“(I) the prescription or administration of puberty-blocking drugs for the purpose of changing the body of an individual so that it conforms to the subjective sense of identity of the individual, in the case such identity is at odds with the individual’s biological sex;

“(II) the prescription or administration of cross-sex hormones for the purpose of changing the body of an individual so that it conforms to the subjective sense of identity of the individual, in the case such identity is at odds with the individual’s biological sex; or

“(III) a surgery to change the body of an individual so that it conforms to the subjective sense of identity of the individual, in the case such identity is at odds with the individual’s biological sex.

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—The term ‘gender-transition procedure’ does not include—

“(I) an intervention described in clause (i) that is performed on—

“(aa) an individual with biological sex characteristics that are inherently ambiguous, such as those born with 46 XX chromosomes with virilization, 46 XY chromosomes with undervirilization, or having both ovarian and testicular tissue; or

“(bb) an individual with respect to whom a physician has determined through genetic or biochemical testing that the individual does not have normal sex chromosome structure, sex steroid hormone production, or sex steroid hormone action, for a biological male or biological female;

“(II) the treatment of any infection, injury, disease, or disorder that has been caused or exacerbated by the performance of an intervention described in clause (i) without regard to whether the intervention was performed in accordance with State or Federal law; or

“(III) any procedure undertaken because the individual suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness that would, as certified by a physician, place the individual in imminent danger of death or impairment of major bodily function unless the procedure is performed.”.

SA 38. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ PROHIBITION ON REGISTRY OF LAWFUL FIREARM OWNERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 935. Prohibition on registry of lawful firearm owners

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of Justice, any other Federal agency, and any officer or employee thereof may not maintain a registry, database, or system of records with the names, addresses, or social security numbers of, or any other information about, lawful firearm owners or the make, model, or serial number of, or any other information about the nature of, a lawfully owned firearm.

“(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) shall prevent the Federal Government from maintaining a list of individuals prohibited from possessing, receiving, or transferring firearms under Federal law.”.

(b) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“935. Prohibition on registry of lawful firearm owners”.

(c) DESTRUCTION OF REGISTRIES.—The applicable Federal agency shall—

(1) destroy any registry, database, or system of records prohibited under section 935 of title 18, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), immediately upon discovery, including such a registry, database, or system of records in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) notify Congress upon discovery, and upon final destruction, of such a registry, database, or system of records.

SA 39. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF MILITARY FORCE AGAINST MILITIAS IN IRAQ.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to prevent any future acts of international terrorism against the United States, the President is authorized to use, as the President determines to be necessary and appropriate, the Armed Forces against any person or force that is engaged in hostilities against the United States, the Armed Forces, or any other United States personnel, including any person or force that is the recipient of material, practical, or operational support from a state sponsor of terrorism or a foreign terrorist organization.

(b) PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION.—In connection with the exercise of the authority granted in subsection (a) to use force, the President shall, prior to such exercise or as soon thereafter as may be feasible, but not later than 48 hours after exercising such authority, make available to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate a determination that acting pursuant to such authorization is consistent with the United States and other countries continuing to take the necessary actions against foreign terrorist organizations and state sponsors of terrorism.

(c) WAR POWERS RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SPECIFIC STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION.—Consistent with section 8(a)(1) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(a)(1)), Congress declares that this section is intended to constitute specific statutory authorization within the meaning of section 5(b) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(b)).

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section supersedes any requirement of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The term “foreign terrorist organization” means an organization that is designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(2) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.—The term “state sponsor of terrorism” has the meaning given that term in section 301(13) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (22 U.S.C. 8541(13)).

SA 40. Mr. HAWLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR UKRAINE ASSISTANCE.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are as follows:

(1) To provide for the independent and objective conduct and supervision of audits and investigations, including within the territory of Ukraine, relating to the programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine.

(2) To provide for the independent and objective leadership and coordination of, and recommendations on, policies designed to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse in such programs and operations described in paragraph (1).

(3) To provide for an independent and objective means of keeping the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and Congress fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the administration of such programs and operations and the necessity for and progress on corrective action.

(b) OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—There is hereby established the Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance to carry out the purposes set forth in subsection (a).

(c) APPOINTMENT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL; REMOVAL.—

(1) APPOINTMENT.—The head of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance is the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance (in this section referred to as the “Inspector General”), who shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The appointment of the Inspector General shall be made solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations.

(3) DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.—The appointment of an individual as Inspector General shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(4) COMPENSATION.—The annual rate of basic pay of the Inspector General shall be the annual rate of basic pay provided for positions at level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.

(5) PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.—For purposes of section 7324 of title 5, United States Code, the Inspector General shall not be considered an employee who determines policies to be pursued by the United States in the nationwide administration of Federal law.

(6) REMOVAL.—The Inspector General shall be removable from office in accordance with

the provisions of section 403(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(d) ASSISTANT INSPECTORS GENERAL.—The Inspector General shall, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations governing the civil service—

(1) appoint an Assistant Inspector General for Auditing who shall have the responsibility for supervising the performance of auditing activities relating to programs and operations supported by amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine; and

(2) appoint an Assistant Inspector General for Investigations who shall have the responsibility for supervising the performance of investigative activities relating to such programs and operations.

(e) SUPERVISION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Inspector General shall report directly to, and be under the general supervision of, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense.

(2) INDEPENDENCE TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATIONS AND AUDITS.—No officer of the Department of Defense, the Department of State, or the United States Agency for International Development shall prevent or prohibit the Inspector General from initiating, carrying out, or completing any audit or investigation related to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine or from issuing any subpoena during the course of any such audit or investigation.

(f) DUTIES.—

(1) OVERSIGHT OF MILITARY AND NONMILITARY SUPPORT OF UKRAINE.—It shall be the duty of the Inspector General to conduct, supervise, and coordinate audits and investigations of the treatment, handling, and expenditure of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine, and of the programs, operations, and contracts carried out utilizing such funds, including—

(A) the oversight and accounting of the obligation and expenditure of such funds;

(B) the monitoring and review of contracts funded by such funds;

(C) the monitoring and review of the transfer of such funds and associated information between and among departments, agencies, and entities of the United States and private and nongovernmental entities;

(D) the maintenance of records on the use of such funds to facilitate future audits and investigations of the use of such funds;

(E) the investigation of overpayments such as duplicate payments or duplicate billing and any potential unethical or illegal actions of Federal employees, contractors, or affiliated entities and the referral of such reports, as necessary, to the Department of Justice to ensure further investigations, prosecutions, recovery of further funds, or other remedies;

(F) the monitoring and review of all military and nonmilitary activities funded by such funds; and

(G) the tracking and monitoring of all lethal and nonlethal security assistance provided by the United States, including a review of compliance with all applicable end-use certification requirements.

(2) OTHER DUTIES RELATED TO OVERSIGHT.—The Inspector General shall establish, maintain, and oversee such systems, procedures, and controls as the Inspector General considers appropriate to discharge the duties under paragraph (1).

(3) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.—In addition to the duties specified in paragraphs (1) and (2), the Inspector General shall also have the duties and responsibilities

of inspectors general under chapter 4 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS.—In carrying out the duties, responsibilities, and authorities of the Inspector General under this section, the Inspector General shall coordinate with, and receive the cooperation of each of the following:

(A) The Inspector General of the Department of Defense.

(B) The Inspector General of the Department of State.

(C) The Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development.

(g) POWERS AND AUTHORITIES.—

(1) AUTHORITIES UNDER CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE.—In carrying out the duties specified in subsection (f), the Inspector General shall have the authorities provided in section 406 of title 5, United States Code, including the authorities under subsection (e) of such section.

(2) AUDIT STANDARDS.—The Inspector General shall carry out the duties specified in subsection (f)(1) in accordance with section 404(b)(1) of title 5, United States Code.

(h) PERSONNEL, FACILITIES, AND OTHER RESOURCES.—

(1) PERSONNEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General may select, appoint, and employ such officers and employees as may be necessary for carrying out the duties of the Inspector General, subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(B) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the Inspector General may exercise the authorities of subsections (b) through (i) of section 3161 of title 5, United States Code (without regard to subsection (a) of that section).

(ii) PERIODS OF APPOINTMENTS.—In exercising the employment authorities under subsection (b) of section 3161 of title 5, United States Code, as provided under clause (i) of this subparagraph—

(I) paragraph (2) of that subsection (relating to periods of appointments) shall not apply; and

(II) no period of appointment may exceed the date on which the Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance terminates under subsection (o).

(2) EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Inspector General may obtain services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at daily rates not to exceed the equivalent rate prescribed for grade GS-15 of the General Schedule by section 5332 of such title.

(3) CONTRACTING AUTHORITY.—To the extent and in such amounts as may be provided in advance by appropriations Acts, the Inspector General may enter into contracts and other arrangements for audits, studies, analyses, and other services with public agencies and with private persons, and make such payments as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the Inspector General.

(4) RESOURCES.—The Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense, as appropriate, shall provide the Inspector General with—

(A) appropriate and adequate office space at appropriate locations of the Department of State or the Department of Defense, as the case may be, in Ukraine or at an appropriate United States military installation in the European theater, together with such equipment, office supplies, and communications facilities and services as may be necessary for the operation of such offices, and shall provide necessary maintenance services

for such offices and the equipment and facilities located therein; and

(B) appropriate and adequate support for audits, investigations, and related activities by the Inspector General or assigned personnel within the territory of Ukraine.

(5) ASSISTANCE FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon request of the Inspector General for information or assistance from any department, agency, or other entity of the Federal Government, the head of such entity shall, insofar as is practicable and not in contravention of any existing law, furnish such information or assistance to the Inspector General, or an authorized designee.

(B) REPORTING OF REFUSED ASSISTANCE.—Whenever information or assistance requested by the Inspector General is, in the judgment of the Inspector General, unreasonably refused or not provided, the Inspector General shall report the circumstances to the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense, as appropriate, and to the appropriate congressional committees without delay.

(i) REPORTS.—

(1) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal-year quarter, the Inspector General shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report summarizing, for the period of that quarter and, to the extent possible, the period from the end of such quarter to the time of the submission of the report, the activities during such period of the Inspector General and the activities under programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine. Each report shall include, for the period covered by such report, a detailed statement of all obligations, expenditures, and revenues associated with military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine, including the following:

(A) Obligations and expenditures of appropriated funds.

(B) Operating expenses of agencies or entities receiving amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine.

(C) In the case of any contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism described in paragraph (2)—

(i) the amount of the contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism;

(ii) a brief discussion of the scope of the contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism;

(iii) a discussion of how the department or agency of the United States Government involved in the contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism identified, and solicited offers from, potential individuals or entities to perform the contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism, together with a list of the potential individuals or entities that were issued solicitations for the offers; and

(iv) the justification and approval documents on which was based the determination to use procedures other than procedures that provide for full and open competition.

(D) An accounting comparison of—

(i) the military and nonmilitary support provided to Ukraine by the United States; and

(ii) the military and nonmilitary support provided to Ukraine by other North Atlantic Treaty Organization member countries, including allied contributions to Ukraine that are subsequently backfilled or subsidized using United States funds.

(E) An evaluation of the compliance of the Government of Ukraine with all requirements for receiving United States funds, including a description of any area of concern

with respect to the ability of the Government of Ukraine to achieve such compliance.

(2) COVERED CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AGREEMENTS, AND FUNDING MECHANISMS.—A contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism described in this paragraph is any major contract, grant, agreement, or other funding mechanism that is entered into by any department or agency of the United States Government that involves the use of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine with any public or private sector entity for any of the following purposes:

(A) To build or rebuild physical infrastructure of Ukraine.

(B) To establish or reestablish a political or societal institution of Ukraine.

(C) To provide products or services to the people of Ukraine.

(D) To provide lethal or nonlethal weaponry to Ukraine.

(E) To otherwise provide military or nonmilitary support to Ukraine.

(3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Inspector General shall publish on a publicly available internet website each report under paragraph (1) of this subsection in English and other languages that the Inspector General determines are widely used and understood in Ukraine.

(4) FORM.—Each report required under this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex if the Inspector General considers it necessary.

(5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize the public disclosure of information that is—

(A) specifically prohibited from disclosure by any other provision of law;

(B) specifically required by Executive order to be protected from disclosure in the interest of national defense or national security or in the conduct of foreign affairs; or

(C) a part of an ongoing criminal investigation.

(j) REPORT COORDINATION.—

(1) SUBMISSION TO SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE.—The Inspector General shall also submit each report required under subsection (i) to the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense.

(2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after receipt of a report under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees any comments on the matters covered by the report. Such comments shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex if the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense, as the case may be, considers it necessary.

(B) ACCESS.—On request, any Member of Congress may view comments submitted under subparagraph (A), including the classified annex.

(k) TRANSPARENCY.—

(1) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after submission to the appropriate congressional committees of a report under subsection (i), the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly make copies of the report available to the public upon request, and at a reasonable cost.

(2) COMMENTS ON MATTERS COVERED BY REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after submission to the appropriate congressional committees under subsection (j)(2)(A) of comments on a report under subsection (i), the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense shall jointly make copies of the comments available to the public upon request, and at a reasonable cost.

(l) WAIVER.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The President may waive the requirement under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (k) with respect to availability to the public of any element in a report under subsection (i), or any comment under subsection (j)(2)(A), if the President determines that the waiver is justified for national security reasons.

(2) NOTICE OF WAIVER.—The President shall publish a notice of each waiver made under this subsection in the Federal Register no later than the date on which a report required under subsection (i), or any comment under subsection (j)(2)(A), is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees. The report and comments shall specify whether waivers under this subsection were made and with respect to which elements in the report or which comments, as appropriate.

(3) SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS.—The President may not waive under this subsection subparagraphs (A) or (B) of subsection (j).

(m) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED OR OTHERWISE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THE MILITARY AND NONMILITARY SUPPORT OF UKRAINE.—The term “amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine” means—

(A) amounts appropriated or otherwise made available on or after January 1, 2022, for—

(i) the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative under section 1250 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92; 129 Stat. 1608);

(ii) any foreign military financing accessed by the Government of Ukraine;

(iii) the Presidential drawdown authority under section 506(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a));

(iv) the defense institution building program under section 332 of title 10, United States Code;

(v) the building partner capacity program under section 333 of title 10, United States Code;

(vi) the International Military Education and Training program of the Department of State; and

(vii) the United States European Command; and

(B) amounts appropriated or otherwise made available on or after January 1, 2022, for the military, economic, reconstruction, or humanitarian support of Ukraine under any account or for any purpose not described in subparagraph (A).

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

(A) the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committees on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(n) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2023 to carry out this section.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2023 for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative is hereby reduced by \$70,000,000.

(o) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance shall terminate 180 days after the date on which amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine that are unexpended are less than \$250,000,000.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—The Inspector General shall, prior to the termination of the Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance under paragraph (1), prepare and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a final forensic audit report on programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the military and nonmilitary support of Ukraine.

SA 41. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, line 5, delete “hereby repealed” and insert “repealed effective 30 days after the Secretary of Defense certifies to Congress that legal authorities permitting the detention of terrorists and the litigation position of the United States regarding the detention of terrorists being held in whole or in part under the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243; 116 Stat. 1498; 50 U.S.C. 1541 note) would not be weakened by such repeal”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, I have 14 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

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 Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10:30 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 Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:45 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP, AND BORDER SAFETY

The Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

The Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted floor privileges until May 5, 2023: Andrew Jarocki, Nicholas Sierco, Leon Kamenev, and Henry Beck.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 23; 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 following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of Calendar No. 25, S. 316; further, that at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on the Lee amendment, No. 22, as provided under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:35 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate March 22, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

GORDON P. GALLAGHER, OF COLORADO, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. WALTER YIN CHINN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Walter Yin Chinn. Mr. Chinn was a community leader in Chinatown and Little Saigon who worked tirelessly to provide opportunities to promote Asian community building.

I proudly recognize Mr. Walter Yin Chinn for his lifelong dedication to the Oakland Community. Mr. Chinn's integrity, ability and devotion to his Country, its citizens and his family enabled him to make a substantial, valuable, and lasting contribution to the City of Oakland, State of California, and his Country.

For many years as a leader in the State of California, Mr. Chinn distinguished himself for his character, and devotion to the interests and growth of the City of Oakland and its Asian community. He would go on to earn the respect and affection of all whom he interacted with, for his infectious personality and unwavering service to the community, not only as a private citizen but as a public servant in various positions.

Due to his reputation for being a consistent resource, Mr. Chinn was recognized as the Oakland Police Department AACC Citizen of the Year, and was twice honored as a distinguished recipient, first in 1993 and again in 2013. Additionally, he was awarded the Oakland Police Department Honorary Gold Badge in 2013 and received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy Reserves for his work on the China Clipper flying boat which connected the U.S. and Asia on Treasure Island during World War II.

Today, I recognize and remember Mr. Walter Yin Chinn, for his lifetime of dedication to his community, and for his service to this country. While we mourn his loss, we celebrate his incredible life, which he lived fully. May he rest in peace and power.

HONORING PAUL CHEVALIER,
USMC SERGEANT MAJOR

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Marine Corps Sergeant Major Paul Chevalier, a distinguished leader within the New Hampshire Veteran community who passed away earlier this month. A Vietnam Veteran who began his service in 1954 and proudly served his Nation in uniform until 1985, Paul's return to civilian life saw him take up the cause of championing his fellow Veterans throughout his professional career. This selfless dedication to our state's greatest heroes

was emblematic of Paul's passion for our armed forces and his tireless commitment to providing those who defended our freedoms with the care and benefits they deserve.

Paul's advocacy on behalf of Veterans saw him rise to the position of Post Commander for New Hampshire, where he became a trusted partner for local and state lawmakers looking to address VA issues and prevent Veteran homelessness. His candor and experience won him many friends, including former Senator John McCain who counted him among his most ardent supporters during his 2008 Presidential run. Those who were fortunate enough to know Paul in life will continue to honor his legacy by carrying on the important work he undertook at the VFW and working to ensure our Veterans have access to the programs and benefits that will help them lead healthy, productive lives.

Paul's absence will be felt across the state, and his memory will serve as the onus to reflect not only on what we have done to serve our Veterans, but how we can best care for and empower them in the years to come. I commend Paul for his lifelong dedication to our state's heroes and extend sincere condolences to his widow Cathy, his family and loved ones. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I thank Paul for his legacy of service that will live on in the next generation of Veterans to take his place.

CELEBRATING REV. DR. BERNICE KING'S 60TH BIRTHDAY

HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th birthday of Rev. Dr. Bernice King. A true representation of Atlanta Influences Everything, Dr. King was born in Atlanta the youngest child of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King, then graduated from Spelman College (where she, like her mother, became a distinguished member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc), one of Atlanta's incredible HBCUs, and earned both a Master's in Divinity and a law degree from Atlanta's Emory University.

As the second woman ever ordained at Ebenezer Baptist Church and the CEO of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center For Nonviolent Social Change, Dr. Bernice King is a trailblazer and civil rights leader in her own right. Though there is perhaps no one in America now who carries such a heavy weight of history on their shoulders, she does so with unparalleled faith, integrity, and power. Dr. King's work to build our Beloved Community reminds us that we must move in the "fierce urgency of now."

Dr. Bernice King has been a church leader, organizing and developing several new ministries. Bernice has been a community leader,

establishing the Be a King Scholarship in honor of her mother at Spelman College and leading the 2013 "Let Freedom Ring" event bringing together a global audience including Presidents Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, and Jimmy Carter, and commemorating the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. And Dr. Bernice King has been a political leader, playing a pivotal role in bringing the Atlanta business community to the table in supporting critical racial equity and social justice issues during the 2020 Black Lives Matter protests, leading to the passage of long-overdue anti-hate crimes legislation.

As her father said, "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." But what we must remember, and Bernice demonstrates for us, is that the arc does not bend on its own. She reminds us that we cannot afford to operate as if we have the luxury of time; "we must fight with a fierce determination to discover a win-win pathway to build the Beloved Community" and we must "forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline."

With that eternal spirit in mind, Bernice kept the Beloved Community together, engaged, and active, even during the pandemic. I was so honored when she included me with the illustrious LaTosha Brown and the amazing Al Vivian for an invaluable conversation in April 2021 about the rampant suppression of the Black vote around the country, and how important our continued advocacy for voting rights is.

During that conversation, Dr. Bernice King reminded us of her father's important imploration "Let us march on ballot boxes until we send to our city councils, state legislatures, and the United States Congress, men who will not fear to do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God."

I remember that lesson every time I walk to the House Floor to vote. I make sure my Carter Cakes remembers that lesson when I take him to vote. And I make sure my colleagues remember the history that brought us here today, and what kind of people they expected us to be. And I thank Dr. Bernice King for keeping that lesson alive and bringing it to the people.

HONORING MICHAEL SACCO

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD the following proclamation honoring the career of Michael Sacco, who recently retired after serving for nearly 35 years as president of the Seafarers International Union.

Whereas, Michael Sacco recently retired following nearly 35 years as president of the Seafarers International Union; and

Whereas, Sacco is universally recognized throughout the American maritime industry as one of its most effective leaders; and

• 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.

Whereas, his long list of noteworthy achievements includes helping secure enactment of the U.S. Maritime Security Program, leading the historic merger of the SIU and the National Maritime Union, powerfully defending the Jones Act, and protecting mariners' rights not only in the United States but also around the globe; and

Whereas, Sacco also had been the longest-serving member of the AFL-CIO Executive Council, where his guidance proved beneficial to numerous other labor leaders; and

Whereas, Sacco also played a crucial role in helping develop the SIU's affiliated school—the Paul Hall Center for Maritime Training and Education—into one of the world's finest, most modern facilities for new and experienced seafarers alike; and

Whereas, Sacco proficiently promoted the success of his union's contracted companies, though never at the expense of his own rank-and-file members; and

Whereas, Sacco's immense popularity both within the union and throughout the labor movement and the maritime industry reflected a healthy respect and admiration for his lifetime of service; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the United States Congress salutes Michael Sacco for his work, his dedication, and his achievements. I appreciate everything he has done on behalf of the U.S. Merchant Marine, and I wish him the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE ROTARY CLUB OF DEARBORN'S SERVICE TO THEIR COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rotary Club of Dearborn on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of their founding. The services that they have provided the city of Dearborn and its residents are worthy of commendation.

For the last 100 years, the members of the Rotary Club of Dearborn have been putting "Service Above Self" and providing humanitarian aid to the residents of Dearborn. Their assistance has been invaluable over the years and it is clear that they have made a lasting imprint on the city. They host fundraisers, organize events to bring the community together, and provide food and supplies to those in need. No matter how they are helping, you can always count on the Rotarians of Dearborn to go above and beyond the call of duty. One of the primary ways that the Rotarians of Dearborn help their community is through scholarships. People of all walks of life, including graduating high school seniors, nursing students, and veterans, have been awarded more than \$700,000 in scholarships since 1999.

For the last 100 years, the Rotarians has been integral to the public spaces of Dearborn. In 2009, they partnered with Henry Ford College to build the beautiful Kingfisher Bluff overlook on the Rouge River. They have planted trees at Fort Street Heritage Park, Salina Elementary, and Greenfield Village. Every year, the Rotary Club is one of the largest patrons of the Dearborn Public Library. This

year, with the proceeds from their 100th Anniversary Gala, the Rotary Club of Dearborn will fund a community project to help renovate the auditorium of Dearborn's Henry Ford Centennial Library, making it more accessible to individuals and groups.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Rotary Club of Dearborn and all of its members and volunteers for 100 years of "Service Above Self." Their efforts have made Dearborn more beautiful, more welcoming, and a community where anyone would be happy to raise their child. Hats off to 100 years of incredible work, and here's to 100 more years.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMES PAUL LOOS III

HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate James Paul Loos III for his retirement from a lifetime of public service.

Born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida, Mr. Loos has dedicated his life to serving the great state of Florida and the United States of America. At the age of 20, he joined the Florida Air National Guard and obtained the rank of Staff Sergeant. However, this was just the beginning of his four decades of public service.

Throughout the last 40 years, Mr. Loos has served in the Florida Air National Guard, Clay County Sheriffs Office, Naval Support Activity, Department of Navy Police, and the Nassau County Sheriffs Office, where he spent 20 of those years.

At every step of his career, Mr. Loos continually received outstanding praise from his superior officers. Nassau County Sheriff Bill Leeper described Mr. Loos as having a heart for helping others, and he expressed gratitude for his tireless advocacy in keeping citizens safe.

Mr. Loos's commitment to serving his community, state, and country should be celebrated, and I am inspired by the example he is setting for the next generation of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating a much-deserved retirement for James Paul Loos III, a true servant and patriot.

HONORING THE NIAGARA MOVEMENT DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Congressional Black Caucus, I rise today to honor the momentous accomplishments of the Niagara Movement Democratic Club. This organization's work has proven vital to our Oakland community, and it continues bearing its fruits more than 50 years after NMDC's inception.

I proudly recognize NMDC's founding President, Virtual Murrell, and co-founders Leo Bazile, Wilson Riles, Jr., AC Taylor, and

Johnnie Harrison for their tremendous work, ongoing support, and commitment to African American education and political representation in our community. I vividly remember sitting in Virtual Murrell's kitchen on a Sunday morning, with excitement during the discussions that led to the establishment of the Niagara Movement Democratic Club.

In 1970, Oakland's population was more than 365,000, and 35 percent was Black. Yet, no Black community members had ever been elected to the Oakland City Council or the County of Alameda Board of Supervisors. The future founding members of NMDC knew this had to change—the Black community needed a voice. These founding members knew it was time for a shift in political power and embraced the challenges that stood before them to attain the representation they desperately needed.

In the fall of 1973, the Niagara Movement Democratic Club was formed. A group of young, energized, and determined individuals came together to continue the dream of the Niagara Movement, a civil rights group founded in 1905 dedicated to obtaining civil rights for African Americans. Inspired by a founding member of the Niagara Movement, W.E.B. DuBois, NMDC's guiding mission was the ideal of the "Talented Tenth," which sought to cultivate strong Black leadership through prioritizing college education and championing social change. As a result, the Niagara Movement Democratic Club surpassed its educational goals and moved toward political advocacy and representation. Because of this, NMDC focused on recruiting young Black professionals and students to grow their club and fulfill their mission of Black representation in local politics.

To challenge the status quo, NMDC worked relentlessly to coalesce other major Black organizations behind the common goal of increased representation in their community while challenging Republican efforts to maintain a conservative footprint in our district.

Since its formation some fifty years ago, NMDC has consistently embodied this mission as reflected by its members, including student activists, educators, graduate students, accountants, law students, city planners, and healthcare professionals. In addition, the organization has maintained an acute focus on empowering and integrating Black students and working professionals in the political conversations impacting Oakland.

Today, I recognize the organization's extraordinary members for their unyielding efforts to fight for representation and equity. These individuals challenged and changed the narrative, whether it be through fighting against the Republican establishment, organizing young students, or being elected to public office. NMDC created space for Black residents of Oakland, California to have a political voice. We thank them for the everlasting footprints of change they have made in our community.

The founding members of the Niagara Movement Democratic Club are as follows:

1. Virtual T. Murrell
2. Leo Bazile
3. AC Taylor
4. Johnnie S. Harrison
5. Shirley Douglas
6. Edmund Atkins
7. Art Scott
8. Irene Scott-Murrell
9. Anita Williams
10. Al Rogers

11. Wilson Riles, Jr.
12. Edna Tidwell
13. Esther Tidwell
14. Walter Edwards
15. Sandra Simpson-Fontaine
16. Beverly Brown-Spelman
17. Joyce Wilkerson
18. Barbara Lee
19. Michael Penn
20. William "Bill" Riley
21. Geoffrey Carter
22. Elihu Harris
23. Walter Edwards

MEMBERS ELECTED TO OFFICE

1. Wilson Riles, Jr., Oakland City Council
2. Leo Bazile, Oakland City Council
3. Elihu Harris, Mayor of Oakland and state legislator
4. Don White, Alameda County Treasurer, 32 years as county treasurer
5. Mary King, Alameda County Board of Supervisors, First African American woman
6. Keith Carson, Alameda County Board of Supervisors
7. Sylvester Hodges, Oakland School Board
8. Alfreda Abbott, Oakland School Board, second African American woman.
9. Barbara Lee, First African American woman elected to the state legislature (assembly & senate) from Northern California. Later replaced Representative Ronald V. Dellums in the United States House of Representatives, again the first African American woman from Northern California elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.
10. Sandre Swanson, California Assembly
11. Geoffrey Carter, Judge-Magistrate
12. Dezie Woods-Jones, Oakland City Council
13. Margaret Pryor, Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART)
14. Carol Tolbert, Oakland School Board
15. William "Bill" Riley, Peralta Community College Board of Trustees

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District, congratulations to the Niagara Movement Democratic Club on their many incredible achievements.

RECOGNIZING LINDSAY SLATER

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lindsay Slater, who will be retiring at the end of the month after 23 years as my chief of staff. Lindsay has been a trusted chief of staff and good friend for many years, and while I hate to see him go, I am excited for him as he embarks on a new adventure after 26 years on Capitol Hill.

Lindsay is originally from Wallowa in eastern Oregon, and he began working for Congress for Representative Bob Smith in 1997 after getting his law degree from Southwestern Law School and working for the Oregon Cattle-men's Association. In 1999 he became Legislative Director for my friend Greg Walden after working on his campaign. I watched as Lindsay negotiated a difficult agreement between environmental groups and ranchers that ended in collaborative legislation to conserve, protect, and manage the Steens Mountains in Harney County, Oregon. Lindsay impressed me with his work ethic and his ability to develop creative solutions that took all stakeholder views into account. When I found myself needing a new chief of staff in my second year in Con-

gress, I turned to Lindsay. During the first few months that he worked for me, Lindsay not only took over managing my staff, but he also brought his work in the Steens to completion, helping Congressman Walden pass the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area of 2000.

Lindsay had only been with me a few months when I put his creativity and flexibility to the test. He was spending August break touring the Idaho National Lab and familiarizing himself with the needs and priorities of Idaho's second congressional district when a massive wildfire began to rage in the Salmon National Forest. I called Lindsay up and said, "Hey, let's go fight a wildfire." Lindsay surely thought I was a little crazy, but he was game for the adventure, so he called the Forest Service and asked if they would let the two of us come, no press or fanfare, to see what it takes to fight a major wildfire. They agreed, and within the next day or two we were being registered at the camp and issued our pup tents like rank-and-file firefighters. We helped serve dinner to those who had been doing the grueling work of fighting wildfires all day and saw firsthand that it takes a small city of 5,000 people to make that important work possible. When we were done, Lindsay and I packed up our pup tents and left them to it, taking our firsthand knowledge of what it takes to fight a wildfire into the next two decades of our work together.

Lindsay spent the next fifteen years using his experience and skills to help me develop an integrated community, recreation, and conservation plan for central Idaho to provide a comprehensive solution to the challenges that ranchers, recreationists, conservationists, and local leaders faced for many years. This project was not for the faint of heart, and Lindsay spent a decade and half meeting with all sides, listening to their concerns and ultimately finding common ground. It was long, often thankless work, but in 2015 we passed the Central Idaho Economic Development Act. The Boulder-White Clouds is now protected, in perpetuity, by creating 275,665 acres of wilderness area, and Lindsay was instrumental in making this happen.

Over the past three years, Lindsay has applied his patient problem-solving skills to the Columbia Basin Initiative, working with stakeholders, tribes, elected representatives and others to try and understand the challenges surrounding salmon recovery, dams, and energy and transportation in the Columbia River and Lower Snake River Basin and find real solutions to those challenges. This is the largest river restoration project in the world, and Lindsay's office is the war room, with maps and data and legislative proposals papering the walls. I do not know what the ultimate outcome will be for the management challenges of the Columbia and Lower Snake River, but I truly believe that people will come to view the Columbia Basin Initiative as the most comprehensive, thorough, and fair solution to the challenges we face there. Just as he did with the Boulder-White Clouds and the Steens, Lindsay threw himself into this complicated problem and deftly worked to unravel the knots to produce a comprehensive solution to problems others are unwilling to take on.

In fact, Lindsay's fingerprints are all over all the major legislative victories I have had during my time in Congress. He played a crucial role in crafting the original Land and National

Park Deferred Maintenance (LAND) Act, which eventually became the Great American Outdoors Act, a widely supported and bipartisan recreation and public lands bill. Lindsay was also instrumental in crafting and passing legislation to fix the wildfire suppression budget, ending the practice of fire borrowing and restoring the funding intended for those important land management projects that make our forests healthier and more resistant to fire. Of all we have accomplished over the past two decades, I believe this will have the greatest and longest-lasting impact, and in fixing wildfire funding, Lindsay and I came full circle from that weekend at the fire camp all those years ago.

Amid all these major legislative accomplishments, Lindsay has led my staff with compassion, support, and encouragement. He is notorious for calling people into his office just to "see how things are going," because he genuinely cares how people are doing and wants to know that the office is functioning well. I know that there is a generation of staffers who have left my office and gone on to do incredible things who still view Lindsay as one of their greatest mentors and cheerleaders. Lindsay showed up with a steady, calm, and positive attitude every day, and as a result both past and current members of Team Simpson would claim that ours is the happiest office on Capitol Hill.

I have often said that I may get the credit for these things, but it is my staff who does the real work. Lindsay has been an exemplar in this respect, and, as my chief of staff, he has taken it to the next level by taking good care not only of me but of the staff that works for me. He has been loyal and trustworthy, and I would not be where I am today without him diligently paving the way. I will miss him as a chief of staff but am glad to have him as a friend, and I wish him the best of luck as he begins his next adventure.

HONORING JOE BOLOGNA

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of a special man, Mr. Joe Bologna. Joe is a resident of Lexington, Kentucky.

Joe was born in Detroit. He served our nation in the United States Air Force. While serving in Vietnam, he learned to cook for thousands. Following his discharge, he and his wife Anne moved to Lexington and decided to enter the restaurant business. On March 1, 1973, he opened Joe Bologna's restaurant near the University of Kentucky's campus. Serving authentic Sicilian pizza and his famous breadsticks, the restaurant quickly grew in popularity. He moved across the street to a larger location in 1989 to accommodate his growing business. Joe Bologna's is housed in a historic building erected in 1891, which first housed a Presbyterian church and then a Jewish synagogue. The beautiful building features stained glass windows and a cathedral ceiling.

Joe Bologna knows the secret to being successful in the restaurant business is hard work and persistence. His business has survived

through fire, recessions, inflation, and the COVID pandemic. At the age of 77, Joe is still found at his restaurant cooking, serving, greeting customers, and even busing tables.

Joe Bologna is the picture of the American success story. I congratulate him on the 50th anniversary of his restaurant and thank him for his service to our country in the Air Force. It is my honor to recognize Mr. Joe Bologna and Joe Bologna's restaurant before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
JUDGE SHEILA TILLERSON
ADAMS AND CELEBRATING HER
CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARYLAND
AND PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of the finest judges to ever serve Prince George's County and the state of Maryland: my friend, Sheila R. Tillerson Adams—Chief and Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County and the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland. We in Maryland have long benefitted from her keen legal mind, her character, and her commitment to service. After a long and distinguished career, she retired from the Bench at the end of last year.

Sheila has been a trailblazer ever since she started practicing law decades ago. In 1984, she became only the second Black woman to serve as a State's Attorney in Prince George's County. She quickly demonstrated her aptitude not only as an attorney but also as a leader through her work for her office's sexual assault and child abuse unit. Her important work to uphold justice for vulnerable Marylanders continued when she became Deputy County Attorney four years later. Recognizing Sheila's legal prowess and her deep knowledge of the county, Governor William Donald Schaefer appointed her to the District Court of Maryland in Prince George's County in 1993—making her the first Black woman in history to serve as a judge on that court. Governor Parris Glendening elevated her to serve on the bench of the Prince George's County Circuit three years later. After Sheila's fourteen successful years as an associate judge, Maryland Court of Appeals Chief Judge Robert Bell selected her to become Administrative Judge of the Circuit Court for Prince George's County and the Seventh Judicial Circuit of Maryland in 2010.

Sheila's legacy, however, will not be defined by the titles she held or the number of years she served but by all that she accomplished for her fellow Prince Georgians. From presiding over high-profile cases to ushering in key systematic changes that improved our courts, Sheila's commitment to justice never wavered. One of her greatest contributions was her successful effort to expand Maryland's Problem-Solving Courts. These specialized programs continue to support groups of vulnerable Marylanders—such as truants, veterans, people struggling with addiction, at-risk youth, and formerly-incarcerated individuals—who face unique challenges in their communities and in the justice system. Similarly,

Sheila played a key role in launching the Prince George's County Family Justice Center (PGCFJC), which acts as a 'one-stop' hub where survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, human trafficking, elder abuse, and sexual assault can receive counseling, legal assistance, safety-planning support, and a variety of other services. As a cosponsor of both the original Violence Against Women Act and its reauthorization, I have been proud to work with Sheila to support these survivors, and I fondly recall touring the PGCFJC with her shortly after it opened in 2016. Sheila also helped lead Prince George's County through the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, serving as a key member of the Prince George's Forward Task Force.

When explaining the mission statement of her court, Sheila once said: 'the Circuit Court welcomes all—a forum for justice.' Although she has retired from that court, I am sure this ethos will continue to define its work. And I know that Sheila will continue to live by the same principles of justice, service, and integrity that she has displayed her whole life. She will remain an influential community leader, a respected legal expert, and an essential advocate for Maryland's families. She ought to know how much I appreciate everything that she has done for her county, state, and country, and I look forward to seeing all that she will do to build on that progress as she starts this exciting new chapter. I ask that all my colleagues join me in thanking her for her service and in congratulating her on this milestone.

HONORING MRS. SVIATLANA
TSIKHANOUSKAYA DURING HER
UPCOMING VISIT TO WASH-
INGTON, D.C., ON MARCH 22-28,
2023, AND RECOGNIZING HER AS
A LEADER IN BELARUS'S STRUG-
GLE FOR DEMOCRACY AND
FREEDOM

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, since the 2020 Presidential Elections, Mrs. Tsikhanouskaya has been an inspirational voice and global symbol of the ongoing peaceful struggle for democracy and freedom in the world.

Mrs. Tsikhanouskaya selflessly stepped in to replace her husband, Mr. Siarhei Tsikhanouski, following his illegal arrest during his campaign for the Belarusian presidency.

While initially disregarded by Belarusian Dictator, Alexander Lukashenko, she went on to win the elections, and has since been forced into exile where she continues her peaceful campaign for the restoration of democracy in her country.

She continues to do so under the threat of arrest in Belarus, recently receiving a 15-year prison sentence in absentia from Belarus's autocratic regime.

Following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, Mrs. Tsikhanouskaya has met with leaders around the world to underline that Belarus's people do not support this conflict and stand in solidarity with their Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

Mrs. Tsikhanouskaya's character is the epitome of 'Asking not what her country can do

for her, but what she can do for her country. She is not just an inspirational leader in the fight for democracy, but a symbol of global female leadership.

Among dozens of distinctions, she received the Sakharov Prize awarded by the European Parliament, the 2022 International Four Freedoms Award, and the Charlemagne Prize.

In 2021 and 2022, she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda and Members of the Norwegian Parliament respectively.

I welcome her to the United States of America and praise her strength of character and determined campaign to provide her citizens in Belarus the opportunity for a brighter, freer, and democratic future.

HONORING ANITA WILLIAMS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Anita Williams, an incredible activist, a founding member of the Niagara Movement Democratic Club, a former member of my team, and a dear friend of mine. I would like to extend my condolences to Anita's family, her sisters Sandra Herbert and Paula Carter, and her beloved friends and Church community. They are in my prayers during this difficult time.

Ms. Williams was born on December 5, 1945, in Memphis, Tennessee but relocated to California during her childhood. Anita attended Pacific Union College and went on to earn her nursing degree from Contra Costa Community College. Her passion for service eventually led her to politics and organizing, as Ms. Williams set out to uplift the underrepresented voices in Oakland, particularly the voices of African American women.

Ms. Williams was a charter member of the non-profit, Black Women Organized for Political Action, which seeks to increase political engagement and participation amongst African American women through advocacy and education. Their organization successfully helped elect the late Congressman Dellums and raised over \$75,000 for his campaign.

Ms. Williams was also a founding member of the New Niagara Movement Democratic Club, an organization that is near to my heart. The Niagara Movement Democratic Club has been integral in increasing African American representation in Oakland and organizing the community. Ms. Williams impressively served as their second president and led the charge in fundraising efforts.

Anita's commitment to advancing racial justice and equity throughout her life will ensure that her legacy lives on. The outcome of her years of hard work and advocacy is ever-present throughout our community, as the city of Oakland has been a leader in the national fight for racial justice. In remembrance of all the good that Ms. Williams extended to the world, let us continue in her footsteps.

Anita was a kind, dedicated, and selfless woman whose life was spent serving her community and those around her. She was a political force in the Bay Area and an unbelievable field and casework staffer and was committed to progressive causes that improved the lives of the most vulnerable.

Anita and my late mother had a special and loving relationship, as she did with my two sons. I've been fortunate enough to speak with her several times over the last few weeks before her passing, and it brings me comfort that she was able to spend her final days with her sister and family in Louisiana, surrounded by those who loved her. I know that because of her deep faith, she was ready to be called home to her maker. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and loved ones during this difficult time. She will be truly missed.

Ms. Williams will be remembered as a fierce advocate and a true force for good. Today, I recognize and celebrate her beautiful life. May she rest in peace and power.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR GPS EDUCATION PARTNERS

HON. GLENN GROTHMAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, GPS Education Partners (GPSEd) is a nonprofit organization that carries out innovative advancements in the development and work readiness of our next-generation workforce. The program has served Wisconsinites for 23 years, graduating over 1,100 students, 35 percent of which have either a cognitive or physical disability. The program prides itself on achieving a 97 percent graduation rate with students obtaining accolades such as industry-recognized certifications to students' pursuing full-time or part-time post-secondary education paths.

GPSEd partners with 200 students each school year serving both first-year juniors and second-year seniors. The program discovered that high school students found difficulty in connecting their education to an attainable career. As the gap for skilled workers continues to expand, GPSEd encourages the pursuance of technical careers within various industries. Bridging efforts between educators, communities, and businesses fuses the change that GPSEd strives for.

Through the utilization of an accelerated program, GPSEd is able to properly prepare students for technical careers in a more efficient and effective manner compared to traditional pathways. Each student is given a specialized, unique solution that enables them to become their own emergent leaders at the conclusion of the program. Effective employer engagement practices have assisted in the expansion of employer involvement within GPSEd's programs. Due to a lack of exposure and quality training, nearly 94 percent of students are uninterested in skilled trades. However, 85 percent of the students enrolled in GPSEd pursue technical careers following their exposure to work based learning.

It is encouraging to see organizations such as GPSEd educating our youth to the ample amount of opportunities the career and technical field can provide. Too often, students find themselves pressured into seeking four-year college degrees. It is time to reaffirm students that job training programs, apprenticeships, and career and technical education are fields that are at a high demand with employers eager to fill positions. I want to extend my gratitude to GPSEd for carrying out this important mission.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STATE SENATOR RONALD RICE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to New Jersey State Senator Ronald Rice after his passing on March 15, 2022. State Senator Rice was one of the most dedicated distinguished public servants in my district and a tireless fighter for civil rights throughout my district. State Senator Rice spent most of his life serving the people of New Jersey's 28th District and his country. He was the longest-serving Black legislator in our state's history.

State Senator Rice graduated from Malcolm X. Shabazz High School in Newark and later joined the Marine Corps. He spent four years in the Marine Corps, including two years in Vietnam during the Vietnam War. When his service was completed, he retired with the rank of Sergeant and earned Presidential and Navy Unit Citations. Then State Senator Rice spent eight years as a police detective, four years as Newark's Deputy Mayor, and served on the Newark City Council. During this time, Rice earned an associate's degree in police science at Essex County Community College, a bachelor's degree at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York, and his master's degree at the Rutgers University Graduate School of Criminal Justice. Rice worked for Public Service Electric and Gas (PSE&G) as a member of the safety and security team until he was elected to the New Jersey State Senate.

Rice spent more than 35 years as a State Senator. He was known for his strong support and advocacy for social justice and civil rights. State Senator Rice has sponsored legislation in the areas of criminal justice, healthcare, affordable housing, tenant rights, employee rights and education. Recently, he had a street and sports complex named in his honor in my district to commemorate his legacy. Both honors are well deserved. I congratulate State Senator Rice on his tremendous career as a public servant and I know his work for Newark and the people of New Jersey will be missed.

I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating his life of public service and extend deepest condolences to his children, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and all his family and friends.

REMEMBERING U.S. ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL CARLTON "SHADY" SCHELHORN

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the life and service of my friend, Virginia native, and United States Army Lieutenant Colonel Carlton "Shady" Schelhorn. Colonel Schelhorn, who for 23 years dedicated his life to protecting our country's freedom, is being interred today at Arlington National Cemetery.

The late grandfather of a member of my staff and teammate, Ryland Bennett, Colonel Schelhorn was a loving parent, friend, and inspiration to many. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee and proud advocate of those willing to sacrifice everything for the sanctity of our nation, I am deeply honored to include in the RECORD this hero's obituary.

[From the Richmond Times-Dispatch]

CARLTON "SHADY" SCHELHORN, LTC., 1931–2022

LTC Carlton "Shady" Schelhorn of Mechanicsville, formerly of Alexandria, passed away on December 14, 2022.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 68 years, Pat; children, Chip Schelhorn (Julie), Lynn Michaux (Jody), Cathy D'Antuono (Steve) and Nancy Bennett (Mark); nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Shady was a 1955 University of Virginia graduate, where he played football and was a member of Phi Delta Theta.

He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army for 23 years, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Known for his incredible sense of humor and charm, Shady never met a stranger. He was always the loudest voice in the room, an excellent dancer and fond of martinis. His family was his greatest pride and joy; "G-Dad" was adored in return.

Some of his favorite pastimes included golfing, especially with the Over-The-Hill Hoos, spending winters in Marco Island, Florida and lately watching "Grit" TV.

COMMEMORATING JOSEPH P. BERKEY'S SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Joseph P. Berkey, a resident of Grosse Ile, Michigan who has served his Nation and community admirably over the last 100 years. His dedication to duty and mentorship of our youth is worthy of commendation.

Joe was born on March 15, 1923 in the former Yugoslavia. Shortly afterwards, his father took his family and immigrated to Canada before eventually settling down in the Delray neighborhood of Detroit. Shortly after his 18th birthday, Joe enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He completed Boot Camp in San Diego where he earned the Navy Good Conduct Medal and was subsequently assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Wasp (CV-7) working on the ship's engines. In September of 1942, while serving as part of a task force supporting the invasion of Guadalcanal, the Wasp was hit with three torpedoes by a Japanese submarine. Seaman Berkey along with 1945 of a total crew of 2,400 were rescued and later that day the Wasp was scuttled due to severe damage beyond repair. In his five years of service, Joe served in Africa, Malta, the Middle East, and Asia.

After discharge, Joe took full advantage of the G.I. Bill, attending both Eastern Michigan University and Western Michigan University and earning a Bachelors in Science. Joe spent the next 30 plus years teaching at various elementary and middle schools throughout Detroit. His greatest accomplishment was that he

never missed a single day of work, tirelessly dedicating himself to the education of our youth. During those decades Joe met and married his lovely wife, Anne, and raised two children, Jerry and Anne Marie. Joe has stayed involved with his local VFW in Grosse Ile as well as being heavily involved in his local parish. His secret to staying active this late into life? "I always feel young because I married an older woman." Anne turned 100 this Valentine's Day, a month before her husband.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the incredible life of Joseph P. Berkey, a man who served our country honorably during its darkest hours and who has been a positive influence on thousands of children who were lucky enough to learn inside his classroom over the decades. I thank him for his service to this Nation and to his community.

RECOGNIZING HISTORIC VICTORIES IN THE IDITAROD

HON. MARY SATTLER PELTOLA

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the winner of this year's Iditarod Trail Sled Dog race, also known as the Last Great Race. This year's winner, Ryan Redington, finished the 1,000-mile race from Willow to Nome with his team of six dogs in 8 days, 21 hours, 12 minutes, and 58 seconds.

This win means a lot to Ryan, his family, and all of Alaska. Ryan's grandfather, Joe Redington, Sr., was there at the very beginning of the modern Iditarod race and to this day is known as the "father of the Iditarod". He competed in seventeen races—finishing his last at 80 years old. With Ryan's victory, the Redington family has brought the Iditarod trophy home.

I also want to highlight this year's second and third place finishers, Pete Kaiser and Richie Diehl. For the first time, all 3 top finishers of this year's race are Alaska Natives from rural communities. The spirit of mushing is truly alive and well across the state.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the achievements of Ryan Redington, Pete Kaiser, and Richie Diehl, as this year's Iditarod champion, and second and third place finishers.

REMEMBERING PAT SCHROEDER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, today, we recognize and honor the impactful life of Congresswoman Pat Schroeder, who broke barriers becoming the first woman in history to represent Colorado in this House. With her intelligence and profound talent for political rhetoric, she completely redefined what women could achieve in our government.

I grew up watching her confidently advocate for issues that mattered, like paid family leave and reproductive rights. Her legacy is clear

today, as my colleagues and I tackle those same issues—building off Pat's victories and continuing her battles where she left off.

Congresswoman Pat Schroeder will be remembered as a trailblazer who paved the way and inspired an entire generation of women to lead, including me. With her two children, she demonstrated how a mother can fiercely represent her community, even while raising kids.

As I work hard to take care of my son Davis while serving in Congress, I remember that Pat proved it's possible. When I became involved in politics myself, Pat Schroeder was always a relentless source of encouragement.

While I was running to become the first woman to represent Colorado's 7th Congressional District, Pat gave me her full support and endorsement. Although she stepped down from her seat in Congress, she never retired from supporting and elevating her fellow women.

I thank Congresswoman Pat Schroeder for all that she has achieved.

We will never forget her contributions or sacrifice.

HONORING DR. BARBARA STAGGERS

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Barbara Staggers, a fierce advocate, civil servant, and a trailblazer in the medical community. I would like to extend my condolences to Dr. Staggers' husband, Chester Elmore, and their three children, William, Celeste, and Spencer, and her granddaughters, Allyson & Isabelle. They are in my prayers during this difficult time.

Dr. Staggers was born on March 6, 1954, in New York but spent her first years in Japan, during her father's service with the Navy. Upon her family's return to the United States, Dr. Staggers was raised here in the Bay Area, the community she later spent the remainder of her life serving.

Dr. Staggers boasted a brilliant academic record, earning a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California, Berkeley, a Master of Public Health, and a Doctor of Medicine from the University of California, San Francisco.

Improving medical services for young boys and girls was Dr. Staggers' guiding mission. She hoped to uplift and inspire young people, most especially at-risk teenagers. This noble pursuit led Dr. Staggers to become an adolescent health specialist, with an incredibly distinguished thirty-year career. During her tenure with the Children's Hospital, Oakland, she became the director of the Adolescent Health Clinic. She oversaw the implementation of groundbreaking care and mentorship programs that has inspired generations of health care providers. She also founded the Community Health and Adolescent Mentoring Program for Success, an award-winning, three-year program that seeks to support minority high school students to explore health professions.

Dr. Staggers distinguished medical career served as a framework for her civil service to our community. She spent her career advocating for equitable healthcare for all low in-

come and historically marginalized children, founding mentorship programs for at-risk youth, and fighting for a healthcare system that serves all Americans.

I had the honor to work with Dr. Staggers on several issues and projects. Her enthusiasm, brilliance and commitment to our young people always inspired me. I am deeply grateful for her friendship and support. While I mourn her loss, I celebrate her incredible life, which she lived fully. May she rest in peace and power.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ROSCOE POLICE CHIEF JAMIE EVANS

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor and congratulate Police Chief Jamie Evans on her retirement from the Roscoe Police Department after 25 years of service to the community. Jamie Evans was hired as a Police Officer by the Village of Roscoe on August 31, 1998.

Starting as a Patrol Officer and eventually working her way through the ranks of Sergeant and Lieutenant, Chief Evans played an essential role in our community—working to keep citizens safe, upholding the rule of law, and responding to emergencies. On November 6, 2008, Chief Evans was unanimously approved by the village board as the first female chief of police in Winnebago County.

Under Chief Evans's leadership, the Roscoe Police Department grew and modernized, including an expansion of its community outreach efforts, and the building of the new police department facility for better accessibility to the public. In 2021, the department achieved accreditation through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP) through the hard work of Chief Evans. The Roscoe Police Department is 1 of 44 agencies with an ILEAP accreditation in the State of Illinois. As a testament to her leadership, the Village of Roscoe Board will rename the police department facility as the "Jamie Evans Public Safety Building."

Chief Evans has always been committed to her work and her community. It is my privilege to congratulate Chief Evans on her service to the Roscoe Police Department. I want to thank her for her leadership. The Village of Roscoe is a better place because of her service.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily

Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 23, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 28

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, and Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Labor, Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, and Deirdre Hamilton, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, and other pending calendar business.

S-216

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Navy and Marine Corps.

SD-192

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine recent bank failures and the Federal regulatory response.

SD-106

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. support of democracy and human rights.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Justice.

SD-192

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Seapower

To hold hearings to examine Navy and Marine Corps investment programs in review of the Defense Authorization

Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

3 p.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine state and local perspectives on election administration.

SR-301

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine navigating U.S. export controls for Ukrainian victory.

HVC-200

4:45 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine regional nuclear deterrence.

SR-222

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-124

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity

To hold hearings to examine enterprise cybersecurity to protect the Department of Defense Information Networks.

SR-222

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Agriculture.

SD-192

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine the cost of oil dependence in a low-carbon world.

SD-608/VTC

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine advancing next generation aviation technologies.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the EPA Good Neighbor rule, focusing on healthier air for downwind states.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the need to end illegal union busting at Starbucks.

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 670, to improve services for trafficking victims by establishing, in Homeland Security Investigations, the Investigators Maintain Purposeful Awareness to Combat Trafficking Trauma Program and the Victim Assistance Program, S. 311, to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border

Protection Officers, S. 285, to provide for the perpetuation, administration, and funding of Federal Executive Boards, S. 264, 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. 211, to authorize the Administrator of General Services to establish an enhanced use lease pilot program, S. 709, to improve performance and accountability in the Federal Government, S. 717, to improve plain writing and public experience, S. 666, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Chief Operating Officer of each agency to compile a list of unnecessary programs, S. 824, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a national risk management cycle, S. 884, to establish a Government-wide approach to improving digital identity, S. 885, to establish a Civilian Cybersecurity Reserve in the Department of Homeland Security as a pilot project to address the cybersecurity needs of the United States with respect to national security, S. 479, to modify the fire management assistance cost share, S. 780, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to analyze certain legislation in order to prevent duplication of and overlap with existing Federal programs, offices, and initiatives, S. 108, to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, S. 111, to require each agency, in providing notice of a rule-making, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule, S. 349, to amend title 5, United States Code, to authorize the appointment of spouses of members of the Armed Forces who are on active duty, disabled, or deceased to positions in which the spouses will work remotely, S. 243, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities, S. 310, to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal, S. 257, to prohibit contracting with persons that have business operations with the Maduro regime, S. 206, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to regularly review and update policies and manuals related to inspections at ports of entry, S. 679, to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective, S. 829, to amend the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 to clarify a provision relating to certain contents of registrations under that Act, S. 794, to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, an original bill

entitled, “Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act”, an original bill entitled, “Securing Open Source Software Act”, an original bill entitled, “Reporting Efficiently to Proper Officials in Response to Terrorism Act”, an original

bill entitled, “No Congressionally Obligated Recurring Revenue Used as Pensions to Incarcerated Officials Now Act”, and an original bill entitled, “Federal Data Center Enhancement Act”.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Health Care
To hold hearings to examine the oral health crisis, focusing on identifying and addressing health disparities.
SD-215

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S883–S915

Measures Introduced: Forty-five bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 907–951, S.J. Res. 21, and S. Res. 117. **Pages S908–10**

Measures Considered:

Authorizations for Use of Military Force Against Iraq—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of S. 316, to repeal the authorizations for use of military force against Iraq, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S887–S903

Pending:

Schumer Amendment No. 15, to add an effective date. **Page S887**

Rejected:

By 9 yeas to 86 nays (Vote No. 65), Paul Amendment No. 2, to repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the amendment, having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S902**

By 36 yeas to 60 nays (Vote No. 66), Graham Amendment No. 14, to provide for more targeted authority under the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002.

Pages S902–03

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate vote on or in relation to Lee Amendment No. 22, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption. **Page S915**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, March 23, 2023; and that at 11:30 a.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Lee Amendment No. 22. **Page S915**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 53 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 64), Gordon P. Gallagher, of Colorado, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado.

Pages S883–87

Messages from the House:

Pages S906–07

Executive Communications:

Pages S907–08

Petitions and Memorials:

Page S908

Executive Reports of Committees:

Page S908

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S910–11

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S911–12

Additional Statements:

Page S906

Amendments Submitted:

Pages S912–15

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S915

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S915

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—66) **Pages S887, S902–03**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 11 a.m. and adjourned at 7:35 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 23, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S915.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: USFS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Forest Service, after receiving testimony from Randy Moore, Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department

of State, after receiving testimony from Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State.

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of the Treasury, after receiving testimony from Janet L. Yellen, Secretary of the Treasury.

APPROPRIATIONS: HHS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

APPROPRIATIONS: LOC AND AOC

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Library of the Congress and the Architect of the Capitol, after receiving testimony from Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress; and Chere Rexroat, Acting Architect of the Capitol and Chief Engineer.

MILITARY RECRUITING CHALLENGES

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the recruiting challenges facing the United States military, after receiving testimony from Gabe Camarillo, Under Secretary of the Army, Erik K. Raven, Under Secretary of the Navy, and Kristyn E. Jones, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Financial Management), performing the duties of the Under Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

ENHANCING THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support concluded a hearing to examine Department of Defense small business tools for enhancing the industrial base, after receiving testimony from Farooq A. Mitha, Director, Office of Small Business Programs, Kimberly Buehler, Director, Army Small Business Programs, Jimmy D. Smith, Director, Office of Small Business Programs, Department of the Navy, and Scott A. Kiser, Director, Small Business Programs, Department of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine how climate change is changing insurance markets, after receiving testimony from Eric Andersen, Aon, Chicago, Illinois; Nancy Watkins, Milliman Inc., San Francisco, California; Benjamin J. Keys, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, Philadelphia; Judith A. Curry, Climate Forecast Applications Network, Atlanta, Georgia; and Jerry Theodorou, R Street Institute, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 66, to establish a task force on improvements for notices to air missions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 90, to require the disclosure of a camera or recording capability in certain internet-connected devices, with amendments;

S. 127, to prevent unfair and deceptive acts or practices and the dissemination of false information related to pharmacy benefit management services for prescription drugs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 318, to amend the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Foundation, to amend to Marine Debris Act to improve the administration of the Marine Debris Program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 467, to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies, with amendments.

Also, Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress:

Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations, and Innovation: Senators Duckworth (Chair), Tester, Sinema, Rosen, Hickenlooper, Warnock, Moran, Thune, Wicker, Sullivan, and Young.

Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband: Senators Luján (Chair), Klobuchar, Schatz, Markey, Peters, Baldwin, Duckworth, Tester, Sinema, Rosen, Hickenlooper, Warnock, Welch, Thune, Wicker, Fischer, Moran, Sullivan, Blackburn, Young, Budd, Schmitt, Vance, Capito, and Lummis.

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Data Security: Senators Hickenlooper (Chair), Klobuchar, Schatz, Markey, Baldwin, Duckworth, Luján, Welch, Blackburn, Fischer, Moran, Sullivan, Young, Budd, and Lummis.

Subcommittee on Oceans, Fisheries, Climate Change, and Manufacturing: Senators Baldwin (Chair), Schatz,

Markey, Luján, Warnock, Welch, Sullivan, Wicker, Moran, Blackburn, and Vance.

Subcommittee on Space and Science: Senators Sinema (Chair), Markey, Peters, Luján, Hickenlooper, Schmitt, Fischer, Vance, and Lummis.

Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports: Senators Peters (Chair), Klobuchar, Schatz, Markey, Baldwin, Duckworth, Warnock, Welch, Young, Thune, Wicker, Fischer, Schmitt, Capito, and Budd.

Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion: Senators Rosen (Chair), Klobuchar, Duckworth, Sinema, Hickenlooper, Budd, Thune, Blackburn, and Capito.

Senators Cantwell and Cruz are ex officio members of each subcommittee.

RAIL SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving rail safety in response to the East Palestine derailment, after receiving testimony from Senators Brown and Vance; Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, Columbus; Jennifer L. Homendy, Chair, National Transportation Safety Board; David Comstock, National Volunteer Fire Council, Poland, Ohio; Clyde Whitaker, SMART-Transportation Division, Gahanna, Ohio; Alan Shaw, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Atlanta, Georgia; Ian Jeffries, Association of American Railroads, Washington, D.C.; and Misti Allison, East Palestine, Ohio.

EPA BUDGET

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Environmental Protection Agency, after receiving testimony from Michael S. Regan, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE BUDGET

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of State, focusing on American diplomacy and global leadership, after receiving testimony from Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State.

DRUG SHORTAGE

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine drug shortage health and national security risks, focusing on underlying causes and needed reforms, after receiving testimony from Andrew G. Shuman, University of Michigan Medical School Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine, Ann Arbor; Vimala Raghavendran, U.S. Pharmacopeia, Rockville, Maryland; Erin R. Fox, University of Utah Health, Salt Lake City; and John C. Goodman, Goodman Institute for Public Policy Research, Dallas, Texas.

COVID VACCINE

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Moderna considering quadrupling the price of the COVID vaccine, after receiving testimony from Stephane Bancel, Moderna, Inc., Cambridge, Massachusetts; Christopher J. Morten, Columbia Law School, New York, New York; Ameet Sarpatwari, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts; and Craig L. Garthwaite, Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, Evanston, Illinois.

NATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 2023 FARM BILL

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Native priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization, after receiving testimony from Madeline Soboleff Levy, Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Juneau; Mahina Paishon-Duarte, Aina Aloha Economic Futures, Honolulu, Hawaii; Kelsey Scott, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Gettysburg, South Dakota; Ryan Lankford, Montana State FSA Committee and Island Mountain Development Group, Chinook, Montana; Vincent Cowboy, Navajo Agricultural Products Industry, Farmington, New Mexico; Trenton Kisse, Agriculture and Natural Resources for Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Claremore, Oklahoma; Mary Greene Trottier, National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations, Fort Totten, North Dakota; and Dustin Schmidt, Rosebud Sioux Tribe, White River, South Dakota.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Amanda K. Brailsford, to be United States District Judge for the District of Idaho, who was introduced by Senators Crapo and Risch, S. Kato Crews, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, who was introduced by Senators Bennet and Hickenlooper, and Molly R. Silfen, of the District of Columbia, to

be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

U.S. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS PROGRAM

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety concluded a hearing to examine the need to bolster the United States Refugee Admissions Program, after receiving testimony from Brigadier General Christopher M. Burns, USA (Ret.), Department of Defense; William Canny, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C.; and Dauda Sesay, Refugee Congress, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Dilawar Syed, of California, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BUDGET

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine

the Small Business Administration and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2024, after receiving testimony from Isabella Casillas Guzman, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION FOR THE VA WORKFORCE

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine strengthening methods of recruitment and retention for the VA's workforce, after receiving testimony from Tracey Therit, Office of Human Resources and Administration, Operations, Security and Preparedness, and Jessica Bonjorni, Chief, Human Capital Management, Veterans Health Administration, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 43 public bills, H.R. 1690–1732; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 242–245, were introduced. **Pages H1325–27**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H1329–30**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 241, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to ensure the rights of parents are honored and protected in the Nation's public schools (H. Rept. 118–12). **Page H1325**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Molinaro to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1303**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:37 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H1307**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:12 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m. **Page H1309**

Recess: The House recessed at 6:02 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1316**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Directing the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States: H.R. 1093, to direct the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on implementation of the advanced capabilities pillar of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 393 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 144; and **Pages H1309–11, H1316–17**

Amending the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines H.R. 1159, to amend the Taiwan Assurance Act of 2020 to require periodic reviews and updated reports relating to the Department of State's Taiwan Guidelines, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 404 yeas to 7 nays, Roll No. 145. **Pages H1311–13, H1317**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Providing Appropriate Recognition and Treatment Needed to Enhance Relations with ASEAN

Act: H.R. 406, to provide for the treatment of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations as an international organization for purposes of the International Organizations Immunities Act; and

Pages H1313–14

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust: H. Con. Res. 25, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

Pages H1314–16

Senate Referral: S. 30 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H1307.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1316–17 and H1317.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Committee Meetings

THE ORTEGA-MURILLO REGIME'S WAR AGAINST THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN NICARAGUA: BISHOP ALVAREZ, POLITICAL PRISONERS, AND PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations; and Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a joint hearing entitled “The Ortega-Murillo Regime’s War Against the Catholic Church and Civil Society in Nicaragua: Bishop Alvarez, Political Prisoners, and Prisoners of Conscience”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PARENTS BILL OF RIGHTS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5, the “Parents Bill of Rights Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5, the Parents Bill of Rights Act under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–2 shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 5 made in order as original text. The rule further makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed

in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against the amendments are waived. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Foxx, and Representatives Scott of Virginia, McCormick, Self, Frost, and Landsman.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, p. D49)

H.J. Res. 26, disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Revised Criminal Code Act of 2022. Signed on March 20, 2023. (Public Law 118–1).

S. 619, to require the Director of National Intelligence to declassify information relating to the origin of COVID–19. Signed on March 20, 2023. (Public Law 118–2).

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Transportation, 10 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of United States Northern Command and United States Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2024 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine enhancing consumer protections and connectivity in air transportation, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments for the 118th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the steps needed to address the cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the United States’ energy infrastructure, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President’s 2023 trade policy agenda, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine modernizing the government's classification system, 10 a.m., SD-562.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology, hearing entitled "A Review of Title VII: USDA Implementation of Research Programs", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General, 9:30 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the U.S. Forest Service, 9:30 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Government Accountability Office", 9:30 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Member Day", 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Public Witness Day", 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Energy, 10:30 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Member Day", 1 p.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the Library of Congress, 11 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Commerce, Office of Inspector General, 1:30 p.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on Army Military Construction and Family Housing, 2 p.m., 2358 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on State Foreign Operations and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of State, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, hearing entitled "President Biden's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request and Economic Outlook", 3 p.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "U.S. Military Posture and National Security Challenges in the Greater Middle East and Africa", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Military Personnel, hearing entitled "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Impacts to the Department of Defense and the Armed Services", 3 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Cyber, Information Technologies, and Innovation, hearing entitled "Science, Technology,

and Innovation at the Department of Defense", 3:30 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The President's Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request", 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled "Breaking the System: Examining the Implications of Biden's Student Loan Policies for Students and Taxpayers", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Full Committee, hearing entitled "TikTok: How Congress Can Safeguard American Data Privacy and Protect Children from Online Harms", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1338, the "Satellite and Telecommunications Streamlining Act"; H.R. 675, the "Secure Space Act"; H.R. 1339, the "Precision Agriculture Satellite Connectivity Act"; H.R. 682, the "Launch Communications Act"; H.R. 1353, the "Advanced, Local Emergency Response Telecommunications Parity Act"; H.R. 1345, the "NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act"; H.R. 1354, the "Information and Communication Technology Strategy Act"; H.R. 1370, the "Communications Security Act"; H.R. 1360, the "American Cybersecurity Literacy Act"; H.R. 1340, the "Open RAN Outreach Act"; H.R. 1343, the "ITS Codification Act"; H.R. 1377, the "Promoting U.S. Wireless Leadership Act"; H.R. 1341, the "Spectrum Coordination Act"; H.R. 501, the "Block, Report, and Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act"; H.R. 498, the "9-8-8 Lifeline Cybersecurity Responsibility Act"; H.R. 485, the "Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act of 2023"; H.R. 467, the "Halt All Lethal Trafficking of Fentanyl Act"; H.R. 801, the "Securing the Border for Public Health Act of 2023"; and H.R. 1603, the "Homeowner Energy Freedom Act", 3 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions, hearing entitled "Follow the Money: The CCP's Business Model Fueling the Fentanyl Crisis", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "The State of American Diplomacy in 2023: Growing Conflicts, Budget Challenges, and Great Power Competition", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

Subcommittee on the Indo-Pacific, hearing entitled "Renewed U.S. Engagement in the Pacific: Assessing The Importance of the Pacific Islands", 2 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection, hearing entitled "CISA 2025: The State of American Cybersecurity from a Stakeholder Perspective", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security, hearing entitled "Securing America's Maritime Border: Challenges and Solutions for U.S. National Security", 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled "2022 Midterms Look Back Series: Election Observer Access", 10:30 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled “Looking Ahead Series: Office of the Attending Physician”, 3 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government, hearing entitled “Free Speech: The Biden Administration’s Chilling of Parents’ Fundamental Rights”, 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 764, the “Trust the Science Act”; H.R. 886, the “Save Our Seas 2.0 Amendments Act”; H.R. 1245, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to reissue a final rule relating to removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the Federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife, and for other purposes; and H.R. 1419, the “Comprehensive Grizzly Bear Management Act of 2023”, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on H.R. 200, the “Forest Information Reform Act”; H.R. 1473, the “Targeting and Offsetting Existing Illegal Contaminants Act”; H.R. 1567, the “Accurately Counting Risk Elimination Solutions Act”; and H.R. 1586, the “Forest Protection and Wildland Firefighter Safety Act of 2023”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs; and Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance of the House Committee on the Judiciary, joint hearing entitled “ATF’s Assault on the Second Amendment: When is Enough Enough?”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation, hearing entitled “Unpacking the White House National Cybersecurity Strategy”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Advanced Air Mobility: The Fu-

ture of Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Beyond”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled “Unleashing American Power: The Development of Next Generation Energy Infrastructure”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight of the Small Business Administration”, 2 p.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “FAA Reauthorization: Navigating the Comprehensive Passenger Experience”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Review of Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Request for Federal Maritime Transportation Programs, and Implementation of the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022”, 2 p.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, business meeting to Authorize the Women Veterans Task Force, 10 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025”, 10 a.m., 390 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Why Health Care is Unaffordable: The Fallout of Democrats’ Inflation on Patients and Small Businesses”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on National Intelligence Enterprise, hearing entitled “Budget hearing for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Energy, Department of State, and Department of the Treasury”, 10 a.m., HVC-304 Hearing Room. This hearing is closed.

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and The Chinese Communist Party, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The CCP’s Ongoing Uyghur Genocide”, 7 p.m., 390 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, March 23

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 316, Authorizations for Use of Military Force Against Iraq, and vote on or in relation to Lee Amendment No. 22, at 11:30 a.m.

Senators should expect additional roll call votes.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, March 23

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 5—Parents Bill of Rights Act (Subject to a Rule). Veto Message on H.J. Res. 30—Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to “Prudence and Loyalty in Selecting Plan Investments and Exercising Shareholder Rights”.

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