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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, the Reverend Asriel McLain, Little Union Baptist Church, Shreveport, LA.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O Lord, how excellent is Your Name. In the mighty Name of Jesus, we praise You for this land of the free and home of the brave.

Lord, bless this U.S. Senate and its leadership on both sides of the aisle. Remind us that Your amazing grace is, indeed, nonpartisan. Use these servants of freedom to represent all the Nation from sea to shining sea. Bless their families, their staffs, and their constituents back home.

Bless us all with the vision to see what is right and the power and strength to do what is right. Help us not to forget the Savior's words that the greatest among us will be servants of all.

Inspire us all to heed the words of the eighth century prophet Amos when we read, "Let justice run down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream."

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, June 13, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Elizabeth Allen, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The distinguished Senator from Louisiana.

WELCOMING REVEREND ASRIEL MCLAIN

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, it is my privilege now to speak to the pastor from my home State who gave the prayer today, the Reverend Asriel McLain of Shreveport.

Reverend McLain is a graduate of Bishop College in Dallas, TX, and he earned his master of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. He has been a pastor, ministering to others in Louisiana, Texas, and Michigan.

Reverend McLain is the son of Mrs. Mildred Oliver McLain and the late Reverend Claude Clifford, the former pastor of the historic Little Union Baptist Church, which was the epicenter of the civil rights movement in Shreveport.

I had breakfast with Pastor McLain this morning and learned of the courage of his father and that of his congregation, while in the face of official oppression, in making sure that one Martin Luther King got to speak in Shreveport and that those in their community had a voice about how they wanted their community to evolve. The courage that his father showed and that the parish showed—I am an Episcopalian—that the congregation showed was quite remarkable.

Much like his father, Reverend McLain has spent much of his life preserving the civil rights history of Louisiana, and much like his father, he is a man of profound faith and is a messenger of God's grace.

He is a proud father of four kids and is a grandfather of four. He is also one of five siblings—Pat, John, Gene, and Clifford—and Clifford is here with him today. Pastor McLain is also accompanied by his son David and grandson Jayden.

It was a pleasure to have Pastor McLain lead us in prayer today, and I look forward to perhaps having him join us once more.

I yield the floor.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, AI, artificial intelligence, is unlike any innovation that has previously come to the attention of Congress. In a few years, this technology will usher in dramatic changes to the workplace, the classroom, our living rooms—to virtually every corner of life—and it is already starting to happen. Maximizing AI's benefits and mitigating its potential and very real risks will require bipartisan cooperation, focus, and speed from the U.S. Congress.

Today, the U.S. Senate is taking an important step in intensifying our focus on AI by holding the first all-Senators briefing solely dedicated to AI. More briefings will soon follow, and they will help lay a bipartisan foundation on which Congress can take appropriate action. These briefings are vital because elected representatives in 2023 cannot afford to be in the dark about how AI works and how it is going to reshape our world and is already reshaping our world for that matter.

Today's briefing will focus on the state of AI as it stands today—its capabilities, its applications, its limitations, its challenges. We will hear from Professor Antonio Torralba of MIT, an expert in machine learning and the head MIT faculty member on AI and decision making. He is the head of AI at MIT. So it is pretty good stuff that people should know.

Next month, our second and third briefings will focus on where AI is headed in the very near future and AI's implications to our national security.

I urge every single Senator to join these briefings. AI is a topic none of us can afford to ignore. It should be treated with the same urgency as national security, job creation, and civil liberties, because AI will impact all of these issues and many others.

The possibilities of AI should excite every single one of us. If used correctly, AI could unlock remarkable breakthroughs in health care, scientific research, national security, and so many other fields.

Much like we did in CHIPS and Science, Congress should look for ways to promote innovation in AI so that American companies can lead the way. But the top AI developers have also made clear that Congress must play a role in safeguarding against AI's many potential risks. They have said it to us directly through congressional testimony.

We must therefore strike a balance to promote innovation and growth, on one hand, while mitigating AI's risks on the other. That will take a lot of bipartisan cooperation, and these briefings will help us move closer to that goal.

Finally, I want to thank my colleagues for the good work they have already done on the issue. I want to espe-

cially thank Senators ROUNDS, HEINRICH, and YOUNG for helping to make all of these Senate briefings possible.

REPUBLICAN TAX PLAN

Now, Mr. President, on the Republican tax plan that is over there in the House, while Democrats have spent the last 2 years lowering energy costs, lowering the price of prescription drugs, and bringing manufacturing jobs to our shores, Republicans are doubling down on what they do best: pushing tax giveaways to large corporations and the ultrawealthy.

A few years ago, the Trump GOP tax cuts proved to be a dud for our economy and a political loser for the Republican Party. We all remember, in 2017, they said: This is going to help us win the election. And, by 2018, they couldn't even bring it up because we Democrats had made clear to the American people that this wasn't aimed at the middle class or working class; it was aimed at the very rich—corporate and individual.

But Republicans don't learn from their mistakes, apparently. This morning, the GOP-led House Ways and Means Committee is going to advance a sweeping array of new tax giveaways that reward the wealthy and the well-connected while leaving ordinary families in the lurch. This latest GOP tax scam feels like a bad rerun, where the biggest winners are giant companies, big oil polluters, and the highest—the very highest—income households.

After the Trump tax law blew a nearly \$2 trillion hole in our national deficit, forecasters say this new Republican proposal would increase the deficit by another trillion dollars. Again, their proposal over in the House increases the deficit by another trillion dollars, by objective forecasters.

These are the same Republicans who just pushed our country to the brink of catastrophic default in the name of fiscal responsibility and deficit reduction, and now, before the ink is even dry on avoiding default, the same Republicans want to blow another trillion-dollar hole into the deficit—what hypocrisy, what hypocrisy.

First, they would say: We have got to default if we don't deal with the deficit. Then they come back and blow a hole—or propose to blow a hole—in the deficit by another trillion dollars so they can help the very, very, most elite in the country.

Of course, Republicans only care about the deficit when it suits them. When the deficit gets in the way, Republicans preach the fantasy that their tax cuts will somehow pay for themselves and that the benefits will magically trickle down to the rest of the country.

But facts are stubborn. The economic reality of the past few decades shows that these Republican trickle-down claims are bunkum. It has been refuted over and over again.

You know, this has come up. I remember Jude Wanniski and all of these rightwingers and Wall Street Journal

editorials in the eighties: Cut taxes, and the deficit will go down.

It didn't happen, especially when you cut taxes on the rarified few at the top of the income scale. So it doesn't work.

We all saw what happened the last time Republicans pushed tax cuts for the very, very elite—for the top, top economic end of America—in 2017. There was no historic wave of economic activity. There was no trickle-down stemming from the huge benefits Republicans gave to the wealthy. Instead, the Trump tax cuts translated into huge profits for shareholders and trillions—record trillions—of dollars in corporate stock buybacks.

We saw the vast majority of Americans reject these Republican policies when they went to the ballot box. We even saw Republicans afraid to talk about it as we got closer to the elections in 2018.

So, if Republicans really want to help working- and middle-class families, if they really want to lower the deficit as they have claimed for years, they will stop pushing this irredeemably flawed tax package.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

NOMINATION OF JARED BERNSTEIN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, since President Biden took office, consumer prices have risen more than 16 percent. American families are paying 20 percent more to put food on the table than they did in January 2021 and 36 percent more on energy. But over more than 2 years of Washington Democrats' runaway inflation, President Biden's top advisers have refused to even admit that it is a problem, let alone that their policies are driving it.

In early 2021, after Senate Democrats helped ram through the administration's reckless taxing-and-spending spree, one top White House adviser insisted that any inflationary effect would be "transitory."

Eight months deeper into the administration's inflationary spiral, the same adviser insisted that inflation would be "growing half as fast a year from now"—another fanciful prediction overcome by the harsh, painful consequence of Washington Democrats' reckless spending and another instance where Jared Bernstein—President Biden's choice to serve as Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers—was simply dead wrong on economic advice, dead wrong.

The CEA was designed to produce objective, empirical economic analysis. With the rarest of exceptions, it has been led by a seasoned economist with a Ph.D. in the field. That streak would end with Mr. Bernstein.

The nominee the Senate will consider this week can more accurately claim expertise in partisan warfare than economics. He has been labeled in the press as President Biden's "man on the left."

In his own words, Mr. Bernstein's long record of progressive fantasies speaks for itself. For example, he said:

We should not kid ourselves into thinking . . . that we can pay for Medicare for All and a jobs guarantee solely by taxing the rich.

The nominee has called abortion "at its core an economic issue." He urged Democrats to "take the Green New Deal seriously." And last year, he praised a nearly \$80 billion plan to expand IRS enforcement as one of his favorite parts of President Biden's so-called Inflation Reduction Act. What a staggering—staggering—lack of awareness of the way his party's policies have hurt working families across our country. So the American people cannot afford Jerry Bernstein at the wheel of CEA.

NATO

Mr. President, now on another matter, this week, NATO Secretary General Stoltenberg is in Washington at an important time for transatlantic alliance.

The Secretary General deserves tremendous credit for his tireless efforts over nearly a decade at the helm. He has helped major allies wake up to the growing threats from ISIS, Putin's Russia, and the People's Republic of China. He has skillfully managed disagreements among members who share values but sometimes have very different views. He has pressed allies to meet their pledges to spend more on collective defense, to modernize their militaries, and to contribute more to the collective security of the alliance.

I just met with him, along with some of my colleagues, this morning. I am encouraged by the progress the alliance is making to become "fit for purpose," but more work remains to be done.

At the Vilnius summit next month, I hope to see allies agree to set 2 percent as a floor for defense spending, not an aspiration. Let me say that again: 2 percent as the floor for defense spending, not an aspiration.

The threats we face will require sustained European investments in modernizing their militaries and expanding their defense industrial bases, not merely a short-term infusion of emergency funds.

We will need greater coherence among NATO allies about how to confront the real and growing threat China poses to our collective security. And after seeing Finland joining the alliance this spring, I know the Senate hopes and expects to see Sweden become a NATO ally by the Vilnius summit. I believe Sweden's leaders understand and respect Turkey's national security interests, and I know it is in NATO's interests to welcome this modern, high-tech economy into the alliance.

When Secretary General Stoltenberg spoke to a joint session of Congress in 2019, he reminded us of the way President Truman saw NATO's purpose at its founding back in 1949. Here is what President Truman had to say:

[W]e hope to create a shield against aggression and the fear of aggression—a bulwark

which will permit us to get on with the real business of government and society, the business of achieving a fuller and happier life for all of our citizens.

I think we can safely say, by and large, NATO has fulfilled that lofty objective. But we can only continue to do so if allies take seriously their obligations to invest in the hard power that has underwritten Western peace and prosperity for more than 70 years.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. 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.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, at the end of last week, President Biden published an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal touting his economic record. It was not exactly new material. The President is well known for attempting to put a rosy spin on his economic record. But I still have to marvel every time the President claims that he is building the economy from the bottom up and the middle out and working to give families "more breathing room" because if there is one thing that can be said about the Biden Presidency, it is that American families have lost a lot of their breathing room.

The inflation crisis the President helped make is costing American families \$880 this month. Let me just repeat that. The inflation crisis the President helped create is costing American families \$880 this month—\$880 for just 1 month. Meanwhile, real wages have declined for 26 consecutive months under President Biden—26 consecutive months; 2-plus years.

So it is no surprise that in a poll last month, 49 percent of Americans reported that their personal financial situation is getting worse or that in another poll, 61 percent said recent price increases had caused financial hardship for them or their household.

Let's be very clear. This is not a random situation that just happened to occur on the President's watch. The President bears direct responsibility for this inflation crisis, which was set off in large part thanks to the bloated, Big-Government American Rescue Plan spending spree the Democrats and President forced through shortly after the President came to office.

You don't have to take my word on that. Here is what one former Obama adviser had to say on the subject:

The \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan passed in the early days of the Biden administration will go down in history as an extraordinary policy mistake.

"Will go down in history as an extraordinary policy mistake"—that from an Obama adviser.

Another former Obama adviser noted:

The original sin was an oversized American Rescue Plan.

Contrary to what he suggested in his op-ed, the President has done exactly nothing to bring down inflation since. Indeed, he has continued to pursue the same kind of Big-Government, big-spending policies that helped land us in this mess in the first place.

It is frankly staggering to me that the President continues to have the audacity to say things like "[h]ardworking families are reaping the rewards" of his policies. Hardworking families are certainly reaping something from the President's policies, but it isn't rewards.

As I said earlier, the President is well known for trying to put a rosy spin on his economic record, and he trots out some of his favorite misleading statistics in this op-ed.

Since he took office, he claims, the economy has created more than 13 million jobs. That sounds pretty good, right? Until you realize that the vast majority of those jobs weren't newly created but are, rather, just jobs that were naturally added back after the pandemic. Currently, we are just 3.7 million jobs above where we were prepandemic—hardly the historic job boom the President portrays.

The President also mentions that gasoline prices are down from their peak in June of 2022, but he neglects to mention that gas prices are currently up 50 percent from where they were when he took office.

Then, of course, the President brings up one of his favorite claims—that he reduced the deficit by \$1.7 trillion over the first 2 years of his administration.

Here is how the Washington Post Fact Checker column has described that claim: "highly misleading." Highly misleading. The President arrives at this highly misleading statistic by comparing his budget deficit in fiscal year 2022 to the fiscal year 2020 budget deficit, which was unusually large, to put it mildly, as a result of the COVID pandemic.

A much more appropriate comparison would be to compare President Biden's actual 2022 budget deficit to what the Congressional Budget Office was projecting that deficit would be before the President's American Rescue Plan spending spree was enacted. That tells a far different story.

The reality, as the Post points out, is that "the data shows the deficit picture has worsened under Biden."

The Washington Post Fact Checker column recently awarded President Biden a Bottomless Pinocchio for his deficit reduction claims—a rating the column gives for "false or misleading statements repeated so often that they [become] a form of propaganda."

I can't close without mentioning the President's staggering claim that he, again, "fought so hard to bring Democrats and Republicans in Congress together to compromise on the budget and prevent a catastrophic default." As I have already highlighted, the President is fairly well known for revisionist history, but this statement might take the cake.

Can the President possibly think that people have already forgotten that he spent months refusing to negotiate on a debt ceiling agreement and only came to the table at the last minute? Credit to the President for eventually recognizing that divided government requires compromise, but to suggest that he set out from the outset to forge a compromise between Democrats and Republicans is to skate the line between revisionist history and outright falsehood.

After 2 years of painful price hikes at the gas pump and the grocery store, I think few Americans would recognize the positive picture the President paints in his op-ed. Unfortunately, it is clear from the President's column that he plans to continue to pursue policies that will further undermine the economic well-being of the American people. So much for giving American families more breathing room.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the vote now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON ALLEN NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Allen nomination?

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have voted "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 66, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 154 Ex.]

YEAS—66

Baldwin	Fetterman	Menendez
Bennet	Gillibrand	Merkley
Blumenthal	Graham	Moran
Booker	Grassley	Murkowski
Brown	Hassan	Murphy
Cantwell	Heinrich	Murray
Capito	Hickenlooper	Ossoff
Cardin	Hirono	Padilla
Carper	Kaine	Peters
Casey	Kelly	Reed
Collins	Kennedy	Ricketts
Coons	King	Risch
Cortez Masto	Klobuchar	Romney
Crapo	Lujan	Rosen
Duckworth	Manchin	Rounds
Durbin	Markey	Sanders
Feinstein	McConnell	Schatz

Schumer	Sullivan	Warren
Shaheen	Tester	Welch
Sinema	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Smith	Warner	Wyden
Stabenow	Warnock	Young

NAYS—33

Barrasso	Daines	Marshall
Blackburn	Ernst	Mullin
Boozman	Fischer	Paul
Braun	Hagerty	Rubio
Britt	Hawley	Schmitt
Budd	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Johnson	Thune
Cotton	Lankford	Tuberville
Cramer	Lee	Vance
Cruz	Lummis	Wicker

NOT VOTING—1

Tillis

The nomination was confirmed. The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). 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.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 25, Hernan D. Vera, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Baldwin, Margaret Wood Hassan, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Catherine Cortez Masto, Brian Schatz, Gary C. Peters, Alex Padilla, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Hernan D. Vera, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 155 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Coons	Hickenlooper
Bennet	Cortez Masto	Hirono
Blumenthal	Duckworth	Kaine
Booker	Durbin	Kelly
Brown	Feinstein	King
Cantwell	Fetterman	Klobuchar
Cardin	Gillibrand	Lujan
Carper	Hassan	Manchin
Casey	Heinrich	Markey

Menendez	Rosen	Tester
Merkley	Sanders	Van Hollen
Murphy	Schatz	Warner
Murray	Schumer	Warnock
Ossoff	Shaheen	Warren
Padilla	Sinema	Welch
Peters	Smith	Whitehouse
Reed	Stabenow	Wyden

NAYS—48

Barrasso	Fischer	Murkowski
Blackburn	Graham	Paul
Boozman	Grassley	Ricketts
Braun	Hagerty	Risch
Britt	Hawley	Romney
Budd	Hoeven	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Collins	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cotton	Lee	Sullivan
Cramer	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Vance
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Mullin	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Tuberville

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The yeas are 51, the nays are 48.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Hernan D. Vera, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:13 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 171, Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Charles E. Schumer, Sherrrod Brown, Raphael G. Warnock, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Tina Smith, Jeff Merkley, Jack Reed, Ben Ray Lujan, Tammy Baldwin, Gary C. Peters, Jeanne Shaheen, Alex Padilla, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Michael F. Bennet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination

of Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 156 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Lujan	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Lummis	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Mullin	
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—1

Tuberville

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 50, the nays are 49.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Jared Bernstein, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, it is my great privilege to say a very few words in introduction of my friend and fellow Senator, ERIC SCHMITT, as he prepares to give his maiden speech on this floor.

We haven't worked together very long in the Senate, but we have known each other for some time, and I just want to say that if you look at Senator SCHMITT's record, the people of Missouri are tremendously fortunate to have him, and he is already doing tremendous work for them.

As attorney general, Eric led the way in taking on the Biden administration

and holding them accountable for their abuses of power. He led the way in taking on Big Tech and holding them accountable for what they tried to do to our children, what they tried to do to our elections, and what they tried to do to our speech. And already now in the U.S. Senate, he is holding the deep state—the administrative state—accountable, standing up for ordinary, normal, everyday working Missourians who deserve to have a voice in this Chamber, who deserve to have a voice in their government. And he has been standing here fighting for them. I can't wait to continue to have the privilege to serve with him, and I can't wait to hear his remarks today.

So with that, Mr. President, I yield the floor to the Senator from Missouri, ERIC SCHMITT.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

MAIDEN SPEECH

Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, it is an honor to be here with all of you to give this maiden speech, and I want to thank the senior Senator from Missouri. We may be the youngest combo. He is younger than I, but he is the senior Senator. He reminds me of that quite often as we speak to groups. But I want to thank him for his leadership. Senator Blunt is also here, whom I followed in the Senate.

When Benjamin Franklin exited the Constitutional Convention, he was asked what type of government the delegates had come up with. He famously replied:

A republic, if you can keep it.

Those words are as significant today as they were a couple hundred years ago, especially as two major threats loom over our Republic: a supercharged administrative State and the unprecedented stifling of free speech.

If you want to understand some of the frustration that is out there, a lot of it comes from the fact that people believe there is a narrowing of the bandwidth of acceptable speech—what they can say, what they can hear. As it relates to the administrative state, a lot of people are frustrated that no matter whom they send here, they feel like sometimes things never really change, and we must fix that.

But first, let's back up.

Years before Franklin's famous remark, ordinary folks—farmers, blacksmiths, laborers, leatherworkers—who made up the Continental militias achieved something extraordinary. Fed up with an increasingly tyrannical rule of an unaccountable despot thousands of miles away, these ordinary men fought and won our independence at a time that seems very far away but set the stage for the freedoms that we enjoy to this very minute.

That is our origin story. The electrical cord of freedom that has been strung across the centuries is our national identity. We boldly declared to the world that freedom isn't granted to us by a King or a Queen or any government.

We believe in individual rights, a very new concept at the time, and those rights were granted to us by God. Chief among those were life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. If those words are a mission statement—and they are—the Constitution provides the structure to protect and safeguard those freedoms that we enjoy that have made us the envy of the world. That structure has allowed ordinary men and women to achieve incredible things, to pursue their dreams, to pursue happiness, which is a very uniquely American concept.

I grew up in Bridgeton, MO. Bridgeton sits in North St. Louis County in the shadow of the airport. Bridgeton is a working-class, blue-collar neighborhood, and I grew up in a working-class, blue-collar family.

My grandfather was an infantryman in World War II and returned from the war with little more than an eighth grade education and some money he won playing craps on the Queen Elizabeth on the way home. He started a butcher shop and raised a family. My dad and his brothers and sister all worked there growing up. When I was growing up, I saw my dad working 7 days a week on the midnight shift to provide for his family to give me and my sisters every opportunity to succeed.

Speaking of family, my wife Jaime and my two beautiful daughters are here today, and I am very grateful that they are here to share this moment of this inaugural speech, this maiden speech today.

From an early age, I understood the value of hard work. I saw the value of a society where hard work was rewarded, and I appreciated at a young age how the law provided guardrails for individuals to pursue their dreams. So I decided that I wanted to be a lawyer. I didn't know any lawyers growing up, and certainly nobody in my family had any power or prestige, but we believed in this country, and I wanted to fight for people who needed a voice, like the people I grew up around, hard-working people who just wanted to be treated fairly, who did the right things, and worked really hard for everything that they had.

Some of those folks are looked down upon in this town because maybe they didn't go to the right schools or they don't wear the fanciest suits. A lot of journalists will interview these people after elections and wonder what happened. These are my people.

I thought that I could do some good and advocate for them and for protecting those God-given rights that are guaranteed and protected in our Constitution. So I went to law school. I went to college and later earned my law degree.

When my son Stephen was born a few years later, in the mid-2000s, I was working at a law firm, made partner. Life was great. Then one day everything changed in my life forever. My wife Jaime and I noticed that Stephen

had a birthmark on his leg. It looked like an angel's wing. We thought so little of this that Jaime actually allowed me to take Stephen to the doctor.

But when I got there, the doctor had some pretty terrible news. He said Stephen probably had something—which he did—something called tuberous sclerosis, which causes tumors in different organs, including Stephen's brain. Stephen has epilepsy. He is on the autism spectrum and nonverbal. Going through that experience with my son, including a 4-hour seizure, you start to evaluate things. What is important? What do you want to do? Through that process of discernment, I decided that I wanted to do more than what I was doing, and Stephen was my inspiration.

So I ran for office. I ran for the State senate twice and won, was elected and served as State treasurer, was elected and served as Missouri's attorney general, and I am blessed for all the work that I have been able to do on behalf of the people I represented to be a voice for those who needed a voice.

And so I decided to run for Senate, again, to be a voice for people, for all 6 million Missourians but especially the forgotten men and women whom I referenced earlier who work hard every day and just want a fair shake.

So I appear before you today in the U.S. Senate, the most important and deliberative body civilization has ever known. And I believe that. It is an unbelievable story, and, quite frankly, I sometimes find it hard to believe it is my own.

But only in America can a boy from Bridgeton make it here, all the way to the U.S. Senate. And yet each one of us has a uniquely American story to tell. I take this responsibility with great humility. I understand that I have very big shoes to fill—for God's sake, this is Harry Truman's desk. Senator Tom Eagleton, another Missouri attorney general—in addition to the senior Senator and myself who served Missouri in that capacity—also had this desk. When I graduated from the university named after Harry Truman, Truman State University, Tom Eagleton, in 1997, gave the commencement address.

In addition to Truman, I stand on the shoulders of other innovators and leaders and pioneers from my State, the "Show-Me" State, from cities named Liberty and Independence and towns called Freedom and Defiance. Missourians have always blazed their own trail.

Whether it was Lewis and Clark and the Corps of Discovery headed west to see what was on the other side of the mountains or Mark Twain changing the world with his words or Edwin Hubble, who mapped the heavens, Missourians and Missouri proudly represent the best of America. Is Missouri a northern State? Is Missouri a Southern State? Is Missouri a Midwestern State? Is Missouri a Western State? The answer to all those questions is yes. We are all of them. We sit uniquely at the cultural and geographic cross-

roads of America. Missourians are tough and they are honest and have always been skeptical of the Federal Government, 1,000 miles away, telling them how to live their lives. And although we are skeptical of government, we love America.

America was and is a bold experiment in self-government. Before America declared its independence from Great Britain or had a Constitution, the world believed that rights came from a King. The King, in turn, was handed down power simply by being born into a monarchy, certainly not by any achievement or merit. The King was sovereign and free; the rest of us, not so much. We were subjects.

The Founders flipped the script on this concept that had been accepted for literally thousands of years. They challenged the King and boldly proclaimed to the world that everybody else had it wrong. Rights come from God, not Kings or government. This was truly revolutionary and a war was fought over it against the No. 1 superpower on the planet and we won.

We won, which, of course, was a big deal, but the Founders also understood that unless we created something different, a government focused on protecting those rights and our national identity of freedom, we would end up being just like everybody else.

So they brilliantly devised a system of separation of powers and federalism that would spread power out both vertically and horizontally, meant to protect individual liberty. In arguing for the adoption of the Constitution, Madison wrote in *Federalist* 48:

The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed, or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.

He also notes in *Federalist* 47:

[T]he preservation of liberty requires that the three great departments of power should be separate and distinct.

In *Federalist* 51, Madison famously notes:

Ambition must be made to counteract ambition.

The Founders also created a republican—small "r"—form of government never tried before on this scale and made it accountable to the people. And the virtues of this form of government were certainly extolled in Madison *Federalist* 10.

The Founders understood human nature. They knew what tyranny looked like and understood that having a government where power is properly spread out and having elected representatives accountable to the people safeguarded liberty and freedom.

They understood that freedom of speech and, more broadly, principles of pluralism were crucial to the survival of the Republic. They also understood that a Republic spread across a continent needed a pressure release valve to resolve political disputes, not through violence, as we see even in the

world today, but through elections and free expression.

It is in this vein that I want to return to the two grave threats to the Founders' vision, the principles of separation of powers, our republican form of government, and individual liberty: the administrative state and attacks on free speech.

First, the vast expansion of Federal administrative power that we have seen in recent history is destroying representative government by placing immense power in the hands of the unelected. The article I branch, the people's branch, is being diluted of its rightful role—willingly, I might add—and the power exerted by this class of experts is doing great damage to a government based on accountability. These unelected bureaucrats can issue rules, regulations, or guidance letters that can destroy people's lives and their liberty and nobody ever elected these folks to anything.

This massive aggregation of Federal regulatory power is eating away at our freedoms and liberties, deepening political division, and cheapening discourse, and it is completely antithetical to the vision the Founders had. It is called the administrative state. And it falls on each one of us here in the article I branch, in this time and place, to fundamentally dismantle it.

When I say "administrative state," I mean the mess of alphabet Agencies that have slowly yet aggressively aggregated and amassed power over the years, promulgating rules and regulations with reckless abandon. See, you can send your elected representative home. You can send them there, send them back, send them home. But these so-called experts are not really accountable to anybody ever. It is out of control. In short, it is a runaway train with an invisible conductor.

If left unchecked, they will continue to amass power bit by bit until our core principles and our liberties that make our country unique are a mere prologue to history. We need deep structural reform, and we need to return power back to where it belongs—in the hands of the Article I branch, the people's branch.

A second major threat to the Republic is the unprecedented stifling of First Amendment rights in new, innovative, and modern ways. The freedom to speak your mind in the public square or in the virtual town square is vital to the health of the Republic. Far too many Americans are being told what they can say, what they can hear, and what they can see. Censorship—censorship—is on the rise. The desire of governments and powerful elites to control speech is hardly new, but America has always stood as the exception.

Long before the Revolutionary War, Americans witnessed the oppression of speech. More than 1,200 times before 1700, the British prosecuted and punished Americans for what they called seditious speech. Sedition laws prohibited criticism of the government based

on the idea that that criticism could inflame the public against the government. But as the Revolutionary War approached, colonists began standing up for free speech. Colonial juries began refusing British requests to issue indictments for criticizing the government. They acquitted individuals accused of criticizing the government. They tossed tea into the harbor to protest taxes, and we printed publications denouncing the King. We were on our way.

We, the American people, wanted to protect the free expression of ideas, and we did so in the very first amendment to the Constitution. We protected it not just for peaceful times but especially in times of crisis or so-called emergencies. It is easy to forget how fortunate we are here in America to have the First Amendment and how terrifying it is to see how frequently now it is being violated.

Recently, government actors colluded with big tech companies—some of the biggest companies and the most powerful companies in the history of the world—to censor and deplatform individuals for not buying in to the approved narrative. Whether you agree with that narrative or not is hardly the point. The point is it is incredibly dangerous. Suppression of speech and censorship is justified now as it has always been but with a new lexicon, calling it misinformation or disinformation; but the goal is still the same: power and control.

We saw the Department of Homeland Security recently attempt to set up an Orwellian disinformation governance board. We saw individuals silenced and suspended from platforms at the government's behest for challenging the validity of mask mandates and lockdowns or for questioning the official narrative of the origins of COVID-19—for simply speaking their minds. It is not the government's job to tell us what we can hear or what we are supposed to believe. Each one of us can make those decisions ourselves—period.

This vast censorship enterprise was at the behest of some of the highest ranking government officials in the country. For example, the Surgeon General of the United States was messaging with senior Facebook executives, demanding that they censor speech more stringently. Whatever your political persuasion is, this ought to scare the bejesus out of every American. Our government is supposed to be protecting our rights and liberties, not infringing upon them. And we have to ensure that this never happens again.

As Justice Hugo Black wrote:

The freedoms [of the] First Amendment must be accorded to the ideas we hate or, sooner or later, they will be denied to the ideas [that] we cherish.

In short, we have to be willing to defend somebody's ability to say something we vehemently oppose. We must be willing to protect the rights of citizens to speak their minds free from

ensorship and fundamentally dismantle the administrative state.

I mentioned that Missouri is at the crossroads of America; but in many ways, America itself is at a crossroads. It is up to us in this Chamber—the most important legislative body in the history of the world—to address these big issues that directly impact the people we serve. We need to fight back against this censorship industrial complex from controlling what we can say and what we can hear, and we need to ensure that the great wall of the administrative state that separates the people from their elected Representatives comes crumbling down.

When I asked Missourians for their vote last fall, I promised them that I would fight for them. I believe that this is the fight, and the goal is to save our Republic and this grand experiment of self-government.

May God bless each one of you. May God bless the great State of Missouri. May God bless the United States of America.

I yield the floor.
(Applause.)

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 4:30 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:30 p.m., recessed until 4:30 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. WELCH).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

NOMINATION OF JARED BERNSTEIN

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the nomination of Dr. Jared Bernstein to be Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, or CEA.

Dr. Bernstein is highly qualified, with close to four decades of economic experience. He has devoted his career to working on economic policies that ensure growth reaches all Americans, fighting to make our economy fairer—something there is a lot of talk about in here but not enough action.

Since the beginning of the Biden administration, he served as a member of CEA. Before that, his experience, again, tells the story. He served in various senior-level roles inside and outside government—chief economist and economic policy adviser to then-Vice President Biden; Deputy Chief Economist, Department of Labor; a senior fellow at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities; economist at the Economic Policy Institute—all the kinds of qualifications that feed into this job.

Dr. Bernstein is widely respected by his peers from both sides of the aisle. I want to really make that clear. Before his nomination hearing—and I chair the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, from which he

came. Before that hearing, seven—seven—former CEA chairs—the only one that didn't is long, long, long retired. I don't know if he was even asked. But seven former CEA chairs, who served in Republican administrations, wrote to the committee in support of his nomination. Three of them served under President Trump.

Think of that. Seven Republican former CEA chairs—still Republicans, most of them, much more conservative than Jared Bernstein—they all wrote a letter together, initiated by one of the Trump nominees, one of the Trump CEA chairs, Kevin Hassett. He led the effort. He told the *New York Times*:

I disagree with Jared about a lot, and Jared and I have been disagreeing about things for 20 years. But he really is a fundamentally good person who tries to figure things out with an open mind, and [sometimes he] changes his mind.

That is really all you want from a CEA chair.

Again, President Trump's chief economist said that Jared Bernstein has an open mind and changes his mind. That is precisely the kind of openness to ideas from anyone, of any party or point of view, that we should all want in an economic adviser.

Despite Dr. Bernstein's years of experience, despite his impeccable credentials, and despite receiving support from seven—I believe the most recent seven—former CEA chairs serving in Republican administrations, my Republican colleagues on the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee all voted no to Jared Bernstein.

Now, the decision to vote against his nomination is partisanship for the sake of partisanship, and I will give you an example. This sort of tells the whole story, Mr. President. The Banking and Housing Committee has a tradition of members voting for the President's pick. This isn't the Secretary of the Treasury. This isn't the Secretary of Labor. There are major disagreements. This isn't the head of the EPA.

This is essentially the President's personal economic adviser. So regardless of ideology, we support that, as I did—and I will get to that in a second—with the Trump nominees. Whom the President picks, we support in this body. It is one of the good traditions of the Senate. Not all traditions are good here. That is one of the good traditions of the Senate.

In 2017, I voted for Kevin Hassett, President Trump's nominee to serve as CEA Chair. I wasn't wild about Kevin Hassett. I liked him as a person. I wasn't wild about his ideology. He much too much believed that if you cut taxes on rich people and you give corporations all these tax breaks, it will trickle down and grow the economy.

I didn't buy that. I still don't buy that. We saw that huge tax cut. All it did was make rich people richer, make corporations move jobs overseas more quickly. It never trickles down to help middle-class workers. It never honors the dignity of work. We know that,

but, nonetheless, because the President of the United States, duly elected, picked him as his Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers and Kevin Hassett was honest, he was credentialed—he just was wrong on issues, but that shouldn't stop us from supporting for that position.

In 2021, PAT TOOMEY, the ranking member of the Housing, Banking, and Urban Affairs Committee, voted for Cecelia Rouse, President Biden's CEA nomination. The way I voted for a more conservative economist than I wanted, Senator Toomey voted for a more liberal economist than he wanted because she was qualified, she was credentialed, and she was an honest person.

Next step: The Senate confirmed both of them—Dr. Hassett's nomination, 81 to 16. I led our side of the aisle, with my fellow Democrats here, in an overwhelming—only 16 of them voted against, out of 48 or 49 then, because I stood in the committee and said: We owe this to the White House. The tradition is such in the Senate that you support the Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers.

Dr. Rouse's nomination passed 95 to 4. Senator TOOMEY did the same.

So we all used to agree in this body until somebody made it much more partisan. Never before in this nomination was there this kind of partisanship. We have agreed that the President is entitled to have his choice of CEA Chair.

I see no reason why that should change today. Dr. Bernstein's Republican peers and Democratic peers all came together and supported him. There is no reason the Senate shouldn't, in that same bipartisan fashion, vote to confirm his nomination. There are no really good reasons at all to do that.

I urge my colleagues to support Dr. Jared Bernstein's nomination to be Chair of the Council of Economic Advisers.

NOMINATION OF HERNAN D. VERA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Hernan Vera to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. With his years of experience defending equal justice under law, Judge Vera will make an excellent addition to the Federal bench. He received a B.A. from Stanford University and a J.D. from the UCLA School of Law before clerking for Judge Consuelo B. Marshall on the Central District of California. Following his clerkship, Judge Vera entered private practice and focused on complex business disputes with an emphasis on commercial civil litigation and intellectual property issues. He then spent 12 years working for Public Counsel, the Nation's largest pro bono law firm, and eventually became the firm's CEO. During his time with Public Counsel, he exclusively represented low-income clients and litigated hundreds of matters involving consumer fraud, housing, employment, and other civil rights issues.

In 2020, Judge Vera was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court. Since his appointment to the bench, he has presided over more than 200 cases that have gone to verdict or judgment, including cases involving juvenile dependency issues and allegations of child abuse and neglect.

Judge Vera has extensive litigation experience and a proven track record of independent decisionmaking on the bench. And having dedicated such a significant portion of his career to pro bono work, he will bring a unique perspective to the Central District of California.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Vera "well qualified" for the Federal bench, and he has the strong support of his home State Senators: Mrs. FEINSTEIN and Mr. PADILLA.

I urge my colleagues to support his nomination.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the vote scheduled at 5 p.m. begin immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON VERA NOMINATION

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Vera nomination?

Mr. BROWN. 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. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 157 Ex.]

YEAS—51

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Sanders
Booker	Kaine	Schatz
Brown	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Sinema
Carper	Luján	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Fetterman	Ossoff	Welch
Gillibrand	Padilla	Whitehouse
Hassan	Peters	Wyden

NAYS—48

Barrasso	Ernst	Moran
Blackburn	Fischer	Mullin
Boozman	Graham	Murkowski
Braun	Grassley	Paul
Britt	Hagerty	Ricketts
Budd	Hawley	Risch
Capito	Hoeven	Romney
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Collins	Johnson	Rubio
Cornyn	Kennedy	Schmitt
Cotton	Lankford	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Lee	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lummis	
Cruz	Marshall	
Daines	McConnell	

Sullivan	Tillis	Wicker
Thune	Vance	Young

NOT VOTING—1

Tuberville

The nomination was confirmed.

(Mr. MARKEY assumed the Chair.)

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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.

VOTE ON BERNSTEIN NOMINATION

Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Bernstein nomination?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 158 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Kaine	Schumer
Brown	Kelly	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Luján	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NAYS—49

Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Romney
Britt	Hoeven	Rounds
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Schmitt
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Collins	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Lummis	Thune
Cramer	Manchin	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Vance
Cruz	McConnell	Wicker
Daines	Moran	Young
Ernst	Mullin	
Fischer	Murkowski	

NOT VOTING—1

Tuberville

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Illinois.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-46, concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of France for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$160 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-46

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of France.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.
Other \$160 million.
Total \$160 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services Under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case FR-P-GWR for non-MDE E-2C Hawkeye sustainment support was originally valued at \$99.6 million, below the congressional notification threshold. The Government of France has requested the case be amended to include additional non-MDE E-2C Hawkeye sustainment items and services. This case amendment will increase the total case value above the total non-MDE notification threshold and thus notification of the entire FMS case is now required.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Included is an Engine Component Improvement Program (CIP); software

updates; technical publication; U.S. Government and contractor technical and product support and assistance; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (FR-P-GWR).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: FR-P-SBG, FR-P-SBI, FR-P-SBL.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 13, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

France—E-2C Hawkeye Sustainment Support

The Government of France has requested to buy additional non-MDE E-2C Hawkeye sustainment items and services that will be added to a previously implemented case. The original Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case, valued at \$99.6 million, included E-2C Hawkeye sustainment support. Therefore, this notification is for E-2C Hawkeye sustainment support, which includes an Engine Component Improvement Program (CIP); software updates; technical publications; U.S. Government, and contractor technical and product support and assistance; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$160 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

The proposed sale will improve France's capability to meet current and future threats in the European domain by maintaining its E-2C fleet in fully mission-capable status and sustain interoperability with U.S. and NATO forces. France will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal U.S. contractor will be Northrop Grumman, Melbourne, FL. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of the proposed sale will require occasional government personnel to visit France on a temporary basis and one contractor personnel to be permanently assigned in France in conjunction with program technical Oversight and support requirements, including program and technical reviews as well as training and maintenance support.

There will be no adverse-impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 23-13 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Kuwait for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$1.8 billion. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

MIKE MILLER
(For James A. Hursch, Director).

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 23-13

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Kuwait.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$1.8 billion.
Total \$1.8 billion.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(ii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MOE): None.

Non-MDE: Continuation of contractor engineering technical services; contractor maintenance services; Hush House (an enclosed, noise-suppressed aircraft jet engine testing facility) support services; and Liaison Office Support for the Government of Kuwait's F/A-18 C/D/E/F program, to include: F/A-18 avionics software upgrades; engine component improvements; ground support equipment; engine and aircraft spares and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; Engineering Change Proposals (ECP); U.S. Government and contractor programmatic, financial, and logistics support; maintenance and engineering support; F404/F414 engine and engine test cell support; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (KU-P-GHY).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: KU-P-GGX, KU-P-GHI, KU-P-GHJ, KU-P-SBG.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: June 13, 2023.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Kuwait—Follow-On Technical Support

The Government of Kuwait has requested to buy continuation of contractor engineering technical services; contractor maintenance services; Hush House (an enclosed, noise-suppressed aircraft jet engine testing

facility) support services; and Liaison Office Support for the Government of Kuwait's F/A-18 C/D/E/F program, to include: F/A-18 avionics software upgrades; engine component improvements; ground support equipment; engine and aircraft spares and repair parts; publications and technical documentation; Engineering Change Proposals (ECP); U.S. Government and contractor programmatic, financial, and logistics support; maintenance and engineering support; F404/F414 engine and engine test cell support; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated cost is \$1.8 billion.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO ally that has been an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Kuwait's ability to meet current and future regional threats. Kuwait will have no difficulty absorbing this support and services into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractors will be Sigmatech, Inc., Huntsville, AL; Kay and Associates, Inc., Buffalo Grove, IL; Kellogg, Brown, and Root, Houston, TX; L3 Technologies, Melbourne, FL; The Boeing Company, St. Louis, MO; General Electric, Lynn, MA; Industrial Financial Services, Ottawa, ON; and Lockheed Martin, Orlando, FL. Additional principal contractors will be determined by a competitive contractual award process. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of seven hundred thirty-five (735) U.S. Government and contractor representatives to Kuwait for a period of three years to establish and maintain operational capability.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

RECOGNIZING THE NORTHWESTERN WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the Northwestern Wildcats for winning this year's National Collegiate Athletics Association—NCAA—Division I Women's Lacrosse Championship. This historic victory marks the team's first national title since 2012, nearly a decade in the making.

Clinching a championship comes down to a series of moments: split-second decisions during showdowns on the field, putting in extra sprints after practice, and taking time to strategize after a close loss. For the Northwestern women's lacrosse team, this year's victory can be traced back to one moment in 2002. That was the year Northwestern started its varsity women's lacrosse program with Coach Kelly Amonte Hiller at the helm, a role she still holds to this day. A lacrosse legend in her own right, Coach Amonte Hiller has cultivated a culture of excellence at Northwestern.

During her first year, Coach Amonte Hiller built an impressive team, re-

cruiting players from across the country and adding students from around campus. Two players on the inaugural team had never even played lacrosse. Nonetheless, Coach Amonte Hiller saw something in the young team—and her instincts were right: The players, who began as freshmen, went on to finish the 2005 season 21-0. It was the first time the Wildcats were crowned national champions, but not the last. And with their victory in 2005, Northwestern became the first non-Eastern Time Zone school—male or female—to win an NCAA national championship in lacrosse. In every season that followed, Coach Amonte Hiller led the Wildcats to the NCAA finals—and secured the championship eight times.

Throughout her tenure, Coach Amonte Hiller has been applauded for her recruitment efforts—searching for players across the country and shaking up the model for what collegiate lacrosse teams traditionally have looked like. While lacrosse was invented by Native Americans, collegiate teams have been predominantly White, with the majority of recruits coming from the East Coast. Instead of limiting her recruiting efforts to this area of the country, Coach Amonte Hiller has sought to discover talent from all over. In fact, one member of the Wildcats was inspired to play at Northwestern as a young athlete, after watching a fellow Black player and Texas native, who Coach Amonte Hiller had recruited, compete in the NCAA finals. And in 2011, "ESPN The Magazine" named Coach Amonte Hiller one of the 20 best recruiters across all college sports, joining the ranks of other NCAA championship winning coaches.

Resilience can be defined as believing in the possibility of success and remaining determined to overcome any challenge. And the Wildcats rise to this year's NCAA national championship was a masterclass in resilience. Last season, after a bitter loss that knocked Northwestern out of the semifinals, alongside season-long injuries that kept key players on the sidelines, the Wildcats dusted themselves off and committed themselves to bringing home a national title. Several players even made the decision to stay on campus and play in their fifth year of eligibility as graduate students, which meant putting their postgraduation plans on hold. And it was a sacrifice worth making.

The Wildcats never shied away from a challenge, and the team filled their schedule with tough, matchups. They opened the 2023 season with a game against a top-ranked team, which they lost by a single point. It was the Wildcats' first and final loss of the season, and they began a 21-game winning streak.

In the championship game, the Wildcats faced Boston College. With vital contributions from both freshman players and graduate students alike, the depth of the Wildcats' bench was on full display. They finished the game

with a 12-point lead. And as a result, for the first time in 11 years, the Northwestern Wildcats claimed the national title.

The continued success of this program has inspired young athletes throughout the region. The expansion of lacrosse to other colleges and westward, along with the rise in demand for youth lacrosse in Illinois, is a testament to the excitement Northwestern has helped generate. Since that fateful moment in 2002, when Amonte Hiller took the reins as coach, Northwestern has emerged as a powerhouse in women's lacrosse.

I would like to congratulate every member of the Northwestern Wildcats women's lacrosse team, and especially Coach Kelly Amonte Hiller for her years of leadership. This year's national championship will be Amonte Hiller's eighth national title, matching Navy coach, Cindy Timchal, for the most won championships in women's college lacrosse history.

Coach Kelly Amonte Hiller and her team represent the best of Illinois. I hope their resilience, dedication, and commitment will continue to serve as an inspiration for young athletes across the country for years to come.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF EVANSVILLE, WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the Centennial of Evansville, WY. Located in Natrona County, just east of the city of Casper, Evansville is home to 2,746 residents. Settled along the North Platte River, the area boasts many opportunities for outdoor recreation and activities. Visitors to the Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park can enjoy fishing, hiking, canoeing, and biking. Named after Edness Wilkins, a longtime Natrona County legislator, the park is also a great place for wildlife viewing.

Evansville's history is built upon a legacy of opportunity. With its proximity to the North Platte River, the area was a gateway to the West. The area, originally popular with mountain men and fur traders, attracted thousands of American Pioneers along the Oregon, California, and Mormon trails during the 1850s and 1860s.

In the fall of 1852, French trader John Baptiste Richard built the first successful bridge over the North Platte River. He designed the thousand-foot bridge with reinforced wood piers meant to withstand high water and strong currents. Given his accent, many thought Richard pronounced his name "Reshaw." Thus, the crossing became widely known as Reshaw's Bridge. It was completed in 1853 and was immensely popular. That year, nearly 50,000 people paid fees to cross the river safely.

As traffic at the bridge increased, a settlement developed in the area. This included a trading post, where travelers could barter for buckskin clothing, moccasins, and other supplies.

Eventually, competition from other bridges and alternate routes drew visitors away, and the post was abandoned.

In 1855, the US Army established Fort Clay, an outpost of Fort Laramie, where soldiers protected citizens living in the area. By 1856, the fort housed the 10th Infantry, led by Captain Henry Heth. It was renamed Camp Davis in honor of Jefferson Davis. The Army briefly used Camp Davis from 1855 to 1856 and later as a supply post during the Mormon war.

During an especially hard winter in 1865–66, soldiers from nearby Fort Caspar dismantled Reshaw's Bridge and used it for firewood. Today, a replica of the bridge stands in Reshaw Park in Evansville. The town of Evansville also maintains a free exhibit in the community center detailing the site's history.

In 1911, William T. Evans, an English immigrant, homesteaded a plot of land in the area and began a successful ranch. As the area grew, Evans began parceling off property for homes and businesses. He built many of the area's most prominent buildings, including the Bishop House in Casper, which was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places in 2001. Evansville was officially incorporated on May 15, 1923.

Evansville and the surrounding area experienced rapid growth during the oil boom of the 1920s, with the discovery of oil and natural gas at Salt Creek Oil Field. During this time, Evansville was home to two of the State's 16 refineries. The Texas Company, established in 1922, and White Eagle Oil and Refining, established in 1923, boosted the small town's economy. While oil and natural gas development is still a primary economic driver, Evansville has many thriving small businesses whose owners are committed to giving back to the community.

The only Wyoming State Veterans Cemetery—Oregon Trail State Veterans Cemetery—is also located in Evansville. Built in 1983, the cemetery holds regular events to honor our current, former, and fallen U.S. servicemembers.

On November 11, 2022—Veterans Day—I was honored to join members of the Evansville community in honoring the life and service of Leo Sanchez. Leo, a Casper native, served as a U.S. Marine in the Korean war. Officials renamed a bridge leading from the cemetery to Evansville the Leo R. Sanchez Freedom Bridge. It is a testament to his decades of service as a teacher, mentor, and American hero.

There are several events planned to celebrate Evansville's centennial. On May 15, the town's actual centennial, Evansville's first responders hosted a parade. Students at Evansville Elementary School spent time learning about the area's history and contributed to a time capsule. On June 24, town officials and residents will celebrate its 100th birthday with a family-friendly festival in Reshaw Park. There will be vendors, food trucks, and live music and a fireworks show. I appreciate the efforts of

Evansville council member Candace Machado and the members of the centennial planning committee: Alona Vigneault, Town Clerk Janelle Underwood, PW Director Robert Lewallen, Carol Knop, Ardell Breed, Fire Chief Leo Malsom, and Police Chief MIKE THOMPSON.

The Town of Evansville is led by these dedicated individuals:

Chad Edwards, Mayor
Candace Machado, Council Member
Dacia Edward, Council Member
Greg Plesvig, Council Member
Janelle Underwood, Clerk
Lexi Erickson, Treasurer
Shane Porter, Planning/Zoning Director
Robert Lewallen, Public Works Director
Mike Thompson, Police Chief
Leo Malsom, Fire Chief

Evansville is a remarkable place. I applaud the citizens who continue to improve their community, making it a safe and welcoming place for all to visit. In honor of Evansville's centennial celebration, my wife Bobbi joins me in recognizing this special milestone.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOBİ-TV/ NBC5

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I want to recognize and honor KOBİ-TV/NBC5 in Medford on its 70th anniversary. KOBİ went on the air on August 1, 1953, and is an integral part of its parent company California Oregon Broadcasting, Inc., founded in 1933 by William B. Smullin.

In classic KOBİ and "Oregon Way" fashion, this TV station is celebrating seven decades of public service serving southern Oregon by teaming up with the United Way of Jackson County for a "United in Kindness" campaign.

This community campaign is gathering stories of kindness, civility, generosity, and charity that will be featured throughout this year on the air and online.

What a wonderful example of how KOBİ informs and lifts up its community. That has been the case since 1953 when Bill Smullin founded the station—the first VHF TV station in Oregon. Seventy years later, it remains one of the very few locally owned and operated TV stations in the United States.

Bill Smullin's daughter Patricia C. "Patsy" Smullin has guided KOBİ since 1985 as owner and president of California Oregon Broadcasting, Inc., Ms. Smullin has earned numerous honors in that time. Among those honors are the Chuck Sherman Television Leadership Award from the National Association of Broadcasters in recognition of an individual demonstrating leadership, service and commitment to local television in medium and smaller markets; and the Oregon Association of Broadcasters Tom McCall Award for outstanding service to the State and to the nation.

When I am in southern Oregon, for townhalls, community meetings and

more, I make it a regular practice to come into the KOBİ studio. There, I can count on a thorough and fair discussion from well-prepared interviewers about issues affecting southern Oregon.

For 70 years, viewers in southern Oregon have been equally able to count on KOBİ's steadfast commitment to local journalism. I know I speak for all those viewers when I say thank you for that commitment the past seven decades and here is to many more decades of success.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DEVINDER MALHOTRA

● Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the career of Chancellor Devinder Malhotra. Devinder is retiring this summer from his role as chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities.

Devinder has served as chancellor or interim chancellor since 2017. During that time, the system of 26 colleges, 7 universities, and 54 campuses has advanced its strategic priorities towards building a systemwide identity and leveraging the advantages that come from its scale and scope as one of the largest higher education systems in the country.

Under his leadership, Minnesota State launched Equity 2030, a key strategic initiative that set a critical goal of eliminating educational equity gaps, including by race and ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and first-generation status at every Minnesota State college and university by the year 2030. This work is currently underway and has received broad support throughout the system, including from presidents, bargaining units, faculty, staff, and students.

Chancellor Malhotra led the system through the uncertainty of the pandemic. His commitment and dedication has helped thousands create a better future for themselves, their families, and their communities, all while working to address Minnesota's workforce needs.

I have had the pleasure of knowing and working with Devinder for years. I thank him for his service to our State. On behalf of the State of Minnesota, I wish him all the best as he enjoys all that retirement has to offer.●

RECOGNIZING KLYCE TRUE VALUE HARDWARE STORE

● Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, today, June 13, 2023, Klyce True Value Hardware in Sardis, MS, will celebrate its 100th year of business. It is my pleasure to congratulate William "Bill" Klyce, the current owner, on this milestone.

This family-owned local store is a picture of the American dream. In 1923, Fred Walthall Klyce, Sr., opened for

business in downtown Sardis. He never dreamed his shop would become an anchor of the town for the next century. Fred passed the business down to his son John Klyce, Sr., who would then hand it down to his own son Bill Klyce. Through the years, Klyce Hardware has become a repository for the history of Sardis. Visitors will be surprised at the artifacts they find when they walk through the store.

Klyce Hardware has always been characterized by community service. Today, Bill Klyce stocks the nuts, bolts, paints, and brushes his customers expect. But he does even more than that. Occasionally, someone needs an item he does not carry. When they do, he goes out of his way to find it. And sometimes, emergencies happen on a Sunday. When they do, Bill has been known to open the store so his fellow townspeople can repair their homes in a pinch.

Many who hear the story of Klyce Hardware will find it familiar, even if they have never heard of this particular store. They will recognize it because they know and love similar shops in their own towns. They have their own Klyce Hardware and their own Bill Klyce.

Across our Nation stretches a constellation of small businesses that quietly support the American way of life. The entrepreneurs who start them perform a kind of magic. Their enterprises create most American jobs, inject energy into local economies, and meet the practical needs of their neighbors. Without them, the American economy would lack its characteristic strength and optimism.

I want to thank Bill personally for carrying the legacy of his family's dream, and I want to congratulate Klyce Hardware on 100 years of outstanding service to the people of Sardis. The Klyce family represents the best of American enterprise, and I am glad to honor them today.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 662. An act to amend the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 to improve disaster relief funding for agricultural producers, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), the Minority Leader reappoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of 6 years: Ms. TERRI A. SEWELL of Alabama.

At 6:12 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 44. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to "Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached 'Stabilizing Braces'".

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 662. An act to amend the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 to improve disaster relief funding for agricultural producers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following joint resolution was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.J. Res. 44. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to "Factoring Criteria for Firearms with Attached 'Stabilizing Braces'".

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-1506. 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-1507. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under section 7034(D)(5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (Div. K, P.L. 117-328)"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1508. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1509. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the six-month period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1510. A communication from the Chairman, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Com-

mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1511. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1512. A communication from the Board Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report on the Status of Audits for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1513. A communication from the Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1514. 15A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1515. A communication from the Deputy Inspector General for Audit Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Health and Human Services Met Many Requirements, but It Did Not Fully Comply With the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 and Applicable Improper Payment Guidance for Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1516. A communication from the Chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1517. A communication from the Executive Director of the Acquisition, Policy, and Oversight, Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Homeland Security Acquisition Regulation; Safeguarding of Controlled Unclassified Information (HSAR Case 2015-001)" (RIN1601-AA76) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 26, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1518. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-104, "Motor Vehicle and Homeowner Insurance Prior Approval Rate Filing Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1519. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-105, "Migrant Services Eligibility Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1520. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-106, "Historic Preservation of Derelict District Properties Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1521. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-104, "Medical Cannabis Clarification Supplemental Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1522. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-104, "African American Civil War Museum and Ben's Chili Bowl Limited Grant-Making Authority Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1523. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-110, "Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Information Sharing Temporary Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1524. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-98, "Davon T. McNeal, III Way Designation Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1525. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-99, "Cassandra S. Pinkney Way Designation Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1526. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-100, "Wooten Court Designation Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1527. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-101, "Rev. Lloyd Young Court Designation Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1528. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-102, "Copay Accumulator Amendment Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1529. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-103, "William Dorsey Swann Street Designation Act of 2023"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1530. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the first session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1531. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Affiliation and Lending Criteria for the SBA Business Loan Programs" (RIN3245-AH87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1532. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the re-

port of a rule entitled "Affiliation and Lending Criteria for the SBA Business Loan Programs; Correction" (RIN3245-AH87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1533. A communication from the Associate Administrator, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Lending Company (SBLC) Moratorium Rescission and Removal of the Requirement for a Loan Authorization" (RIN3245-AH87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-1534. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Contributions in the Name of Another" (Notice 2023-09); to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-1535. A communication from the Deputy Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Make Non-Substantive Editorial Revisions to Part 2" (ET Docket No. 21-232) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1536. A communication from the Attorney, Office of the General Counsel, Consumer Product Safety Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Direct Final Rule to Amend Safety Standard for Bedside Sleepers" (Docket No. CPSC-2012-0067) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1537. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act Electronic Filing System" (PS Docket No. 22-217) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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-28. A resolution adopted by the Senate of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to enact a trade policy that supports United States businesses and workers while penalizing global polluters; to the Committee on Finance.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 53

Whereas, Chinese government-owned industry is an arm of the communist party and strives to increase its influence over the global economy by pursuing predatory, unfair trade practices designed to steal intellectual property and destroy competition from the United States; and

Whereas, China's dominance of key components of the global supply chain, including those related to critical minerals, represents a threat to United States economic security and economic and social development; and

Whereas, China, by far the world's largest polluter, accounts for approximately thirty percent of global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and subsidizes its exports by not imposing or enforcing reasonable environmental and labor standards; and

Whereas, the United States has eliminated more carbon emissions than any other country in the last fifteen years, and its economy is forty-four percent more carbon efficient than the world average; and

Whereas, United States' manufacturers are more efficient in nearly every industry from steel to solar panels to automobiles and yet are forced to compete with companies in China and elsewhere that face few limits on how much they pollute; and

Whereas, goods produced in China, on average, generate three times the CO₂ emissions of equivalent goods made in the United States, and goods produced in Russia emit four times the emissions; and

Whereas, minerals mined in China are more than twice as carbon intensive as those mined in the United States, the average carbon intensity of Russian oil is at least thirty-three percent higher than United States oil, and Russian natural gas is sixty percent more greenhouse gas intensive than United States natural gas; and

Whereas, many rural Americans are being left behind economically, suffering from severe poverty, poor health care, and few economic opportunities, making them increasingly vulnerable to crime and the opioid crisis; and

Whereas, the average per capita income for rural Americans is only forty-six thousand dollars, compared to roughly sixty thousand dollars for all Americans, and the poverty rate in rural America is fourteen point four percent, compared with eleven point nine percent nationwide; and

Whereas, United States rural communities have lower wages, property taxes, and land prices, which should give them a competitive advantage in attracting investments in manufacturing that provide revenue streams that help fund local schools and infrastructure; and

Whereas, manufacturing jobs pay a more important role in the rural economy than in urban areas, accounting for a greater share of jobs and earnings; and

Whereas, United States' trade policy, which has given foreign polluters an unfair advantage over the past two decades, has encouraged economic restructuring across rural America that has resulted in manufacturing employment falling by close to thirty percent; and

Whereas, China has been the major beneficiary of this poorly designed federal trade policy, with the United States losing roughly five million jobs in the last twenty years, and half of those losses are the result of the United States trade deficit with China; and

Whereas, rewarding United States firms for their environmental performance would bolster domestic manufacturing and generate good paying jobs, particularly in rural areas, and reduce dependence on imports from high emitting producers like Russia and China: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to take such actions as are necessary to enact a trade policy that holds high-polluting countries like China and Russia accountable for their pollution and promotes American economic development and the rebuilding of United States supply chains, particularly in rural communities, by rewarding American businesses and workers for their superior environmental performance while penalizing global polluters; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States Congress.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments:

S. 1528. A bill to streamline the sharing of information among Federal disaster assistance agencies, to expedite the delivery of life-saving assistance to disaster survivors, to speed the recovery of communities from disasters, to protect the security and privacy of information provided by disaster survivors, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-39).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1549. A bill to provide the Congressional Budget Office with necessary authorities to expedite the sharing of data from executive branch agencies, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-40).

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 126. A resolution recognizing the vital importance of the Mekong River to Southeast Asia and the role of the Mekong-United States Partnership in supporting the prosperity of the region.

S. Res. 156. A resolution calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to release United States citizen Paul Whelan.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 158. A resolution condemning the deportation of children from Ukraine to the Russian Federation and the forcible transfer of children within territories of Ukraine that are temporarily occupied by Russian forces.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 308. A bill to end the treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing nation.

S. 1074. A bill to require a strategy for countering the People's Republic of China.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Karl H. Gingrich, to be Lieutenant General.

Navy nominations beginning with Rear Adm. (1h) Kenneth R. Blackmon and ending with Rear Adm. (1h) Robert C. Nowakowski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 14, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Capt. Jeffrey A. Jurgemeyer and ending with Capt. Michael R. Vanpoots, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 14, 2023.

Navy nomination of Capt. John E. Byington, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. John A. Robinson III, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. David E. Ludwa, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Peter K. Muschinske, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Navy nomination of Capt. Marc F. Williams, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Andrew M. Rohling, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. John B. Richardson IV, to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Jeffrey W. Hughes, to be Vice Admiral.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh, to be General.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Gregory M. Guillot, to be General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Heath A. Collins, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Jeffrey A. Kruse, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael G. Koscheski, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Donna D. Shipton, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Anthony R. Hale, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Laura A. Potter, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. William J. Hartman, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Matthew N. Gebhard, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Katherine M. Braun, to be Brigadier General.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew K. Berkey and ending with Brandon Woods, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Jacquelyn P. Smith, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with David B. Barker and ending with Jocelyn M. Whalen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Daniel J. Wittmer, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Marina F. Perez, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Stephen David Albert and ending with Jamie Taylor Zimmermann, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Robert D. Allen and ending with Nicolas H. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Christopher K. Adams and ending with Raymond P. Zhang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Nicholas F. Aliotta and ending with Jason J. Zummo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew D. Ahn and ending with Oyunchimeg Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Sarah E. Abel and ending with Michelle E. Wyche, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michael J. Alfaro and ending with Sara M. Wil-

son, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Candice L. Pipes, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Michael A. Growden and ending with Hsienliang R. Tseng, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Craig A. Ambrose, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Bibek Joshi, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Adrian K. Williford, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Daniel D. Cole and ending with Edward F. Leonard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Kyle D. Aemisegger and ending with D017212, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 27, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Aileen R. Cabanadalogan and ending with John F. Underwood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on March 27, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Harry T. Aubin and ending with D016621, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Joshua A. Akers and ending with Shenice L. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Alexandra M. Adams and ending with D016620, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Andrea C. Baeder and ending with Peter S. Yoon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Heather R. Alsupmorton and ending with Judiza L. Zelaya, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Boma O. Afiesimama and ending with D016999, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Jamie D. Bell and ending with Justin Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Rachel A. Acciaccia and ending with Laura E. Riddle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Jamilia M. Adamshenderson and ending with John E. Wilson, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Corebrians A. Abraham and ending with Christopher R. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Aaron Crombie and ending with Larry A. Wyatt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Charles E. Bane and ending with Thomas R. Tucker

III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Army nomination of Thomas A. Summers, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Nicholas J. Norton, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Artreese R. Adams, to be Major.

Army nomination of Warren N. Washington, to be Major.

Army nomination of Jacob W. Cavender, to be Major.

Army nomination of Justin M. Fowler, to be Major.

Army nomination of Jason P. Pancoe, to be Major.

Army nomination of Benjamin F. Iverson, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Mark G. Kappelmann, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Leah H. Georgieva, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Nicholas R. Yetman, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Kevin L. Montgomery, Jr., to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with David J. Bedells and ending with Michael D. Zultak, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Molly E. Keith and ending with Dallas D. McMullen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Steven D. Bryant and ending with D011339, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Army nomination of Joseph A. St Pierre II, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Jeffrey A. Banks and ending with Jeffrey R. Weinstein, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Army nomination of Isaac A. Gutierrez, to be Major.

Army nomination of Rick J. Mata, to be Major.

Army nomination of D016094, to be Major. Marine Corps nomination of Dustin B. Kosar, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Steven E. Anderson, to be Major.

Navy nominations beginning with Bryce D. Abbott and ending with Matthew A. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Edward A. Carlton and ending with Genevieve G. Ubina, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Andrea H. Cameron and ending with Warren W. Tomlinson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Mylene R. Arvizo and ending with Ashley S. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Sarah E. Abbott and ending with John A. Walsh, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Curtis Brown and ending with Gary M. Shelley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Mark K. Corbliss and ending with Antoine D. Thornton, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Hannah L. Bealon and ending with Stanley C. Ware, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Cameron M. Balma and ending with Melinda K. Schryver, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Alan M. Brechbill and ending with David J. Tebbe, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Ross M. Anderson and ending with Roger D. Horne, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Homer F. Hensy and ending with Gregory F. Notaro, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Tommie G. Crawford and ending with Shannon P. Thompson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with John E. Fage and ending with Rebecca L. Rebarich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Gavin H. Clough and ending with Matthew G. Zublic, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Jennifer J. Landry and ending with Jonathan A. Savage, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Bradley H. Abramowitz and ending with Chelsey L. Zwicker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 25, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Eric J. Adler and ending with Matthew A. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Lucas R. Argobright and ending with Sarah E. Turse, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nomination of Patrick C. Lazzaretti, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Robert A. Paynter, Jr. and ending with Todd C. Winn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Stanley J. Benes IV and ending with Michael Sullivan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with James P. McDonnell and ending with Joseph E. Walker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nomination of Donna M. Chuba, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Anton B. Allen, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Adam M. Clampitt and ending with Gustavo Perez,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher P. Cook and ending with Matthew E. Hobbs, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Demetrio A. Camua III and ending with Arthur C. Fong, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nomination of Loren C. Hoelscher, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew T. Chatigny and ending with Kevin C. Lien, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Joshua C. Gettle and ending with Gerardo Torres, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with John J. Bridges and ending with Mark H. Overstreet, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2023.

Navy nomination of Ryan H. Metzler, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Dennis L. Avery and ending with Brian D. Wuestewald, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 15, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Khristianne C. Caindoy and ending with Dmitry P. Vincent, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 15, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew D. Gleason and ending with Emily Y. Royse, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 15, 2023.

Navy nomination of Jacob S. Tharp, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher E. Barnes and ending with Chadwick Y. Yasuda, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Kenric T. Aban and ending with Jeffrey C. Worthley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael R. Andersen and ending with Christopher L. Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Dominic J. Antenucci and ending with Christopher C. Swain, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with William H. Abbitt and ending with Thomas W. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Joshua M. Anderson and ending with Alexander G. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with David L. Aguilar and ending with Daniel J. Walker, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Sean A. Brophy and ending with Jesus A. Uranga, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Francis G. Coyle and ending with Daniel A. Tantillo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Rebecca L. Anderson and ending with John L. Vincent, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Nick Avila and ending with Michael P. Wolchko, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael K. Beall and ending with Alanna B. Youngblood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Forrest N. Bush and ending with Nathan J. Richardson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Scott B. Aaron and ending with Clinton M. Woods, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Jessica L. Alexander and ending with Crystal R. Warrene, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Suzanne T. Alford and ending with Eric R. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Nicholas D. Chiudioni and ending with Julian G. Wilson III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Marvin E. Bartholomew and ending with Kirtley N. Yeiser, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Quentin Albea and ending with Edward E. Weekley, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Paul M. Allen and ending with Thomas H. Williams, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Scott P. Ader and ending with Philip R. Saulnier, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nomination of Erika M. Meszaros, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Mary R. Anker and ending with Brandon K. Wolf, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with David W. Alexander and ending with John C. Vandyke, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher S. Casne and ending with Justin D. Spinks, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Kevin L. Borkert and ending with Blake A. Whittle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 30, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Theodore G. Cavoors, Jr. and ending with

Christy L. Rousseau, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Andrew E. Carmichael and ending with David N. Stock, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Kirsten M. Betak and ending with Suzanne J. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Sarah E. Davis and ending with Jeffrey J. Rockwood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Bryan T. Alvarez and ending with Jennifer J. Vogt, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Rodney M. Bonner and ending with Charles C. Thompson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nomination of Julie K. Moss, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Luis E. Alderman II and ending with Melinda S. L. Zalma, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Timothy W. Gleason and ending with Cory A. Woods, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Space Force nomination of Robin J. Glebes, to be Major.

Space Force nominations beginning with Lisa T. Green and ending with Keith D. Van Dyck, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

Space Force nominations beginning with Phoenix L. Hauser and ending with Dustin L. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 6, 2023.

*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.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 1931. A bill to direct the United States Government to support extending the mandate of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Venezuela until a resolution of the Venezuelan crisis is achieved; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1932. A bill to require that certain aspects of bridge projects be carried out by certified contractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 1933. A bill to enhance flight options for consumers flying to and from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. REED, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1934. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to empower the States to set the maximum annual percentage rates applicable to consumer credit transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1935. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a program to provide grants to improve the preparation and representation of certain students in aviation-related fields; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1936. A bill to promote competition in the area of digital energy management tools, enhance consumer access to electric energy and natural gas information, allow for the development and adoption of innovative products and services to help consumers, organizations, and governments manage their energy usage, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve electric grid reliability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 1937. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on indoor tanning services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 1938. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the income cap with respect to the mortgage insurance premium deduction, and to make such deduction permanent; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1939. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 1940. A bill to prohibit the use of M-44 devices, commonly known as "cyanide bombs", on public land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 1941. A bill to permanently authorize the Native Community Development Financial Institutions lending program of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 1942. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the Hazardous Substance Superfund financing rate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LEE, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1943. A bill to establish the Council on Improving Federal Civic Architecture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DAINES, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 1944. A bill to exempt grants received under the Coronavirus Economic Relief for Transportation Services (CERTS) Act from Federal taxation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. OSSOFF, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1945. A bill to establish the John Lewis Civil Rights Fellowship to fund international internships and research placements for early- to mid-career professionals to study nonviolent movements to establish and protect civil rights around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 1946. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to allow the owner or operator of a small hub airport that is reclassified as a medium hub airport to elect to be treated as a small hub airport, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 1947. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a measurement-based national methane research pilot study to quantify methane emissions from certain oil and gas infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WYDEN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1948. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to air pollution control agencies to implement a cleaner air space program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 1949. A bill to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from providing firearms and ammunition to its employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 1950. A bill to extend the temporary order for fentanyl-related substances; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1951. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand entitlement of veterans to care from the Department of Veterans Affairs and to guarantee health care benefits for veterans enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 1952. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for care from the Department of Veterans Affairs to include members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1953. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received from State-based catastrophe loss mitigation programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1954. A bill to improve the provision of health care furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans diagnosed with diabetes and heart disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 1955. A bill to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to authorize expenditures for the conduct of certain water conservation measures in the Great Salt Lake basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. VANCE):

S. 1956. A bill to improve the commercialization of Federal research by domestic manufacturers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1957. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. ERNST, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1958. A bill to identify the standards required to meet the definition of sustainable aviation fuel at the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1959. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of sexual orientation or gender identity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1960. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons responsible for violations of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 1961. A bill to require an interagency risk assessment of the pharmaceutical supply chain to identify and mitigate health and national security risks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 1962. A bill to provide increased funding and opportunities to achieve national, long-term production goals for sustainable aviation fuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. DAINES, Mr. VANCE, Mr. THUNE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr.

WICKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. LEE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. ERNST, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. Res. 246. A resolution honoring the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration on the 50th anniversary of the agency; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 247. A resolution designating June 2023 as National Cybersecurity Education Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 248. A resolution designating June 2023 as "Great Outdoors Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. Res. 249. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July 2023 as "National Sarcoma Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 250. A resolution designating June 6, 2023, as National Naloxone Awareness Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 16

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 16, a bill to prohibit the award of Federal funds to an institution of higher education that hosts or is affiliated with a student-based service site that provides abortion drugs or abortions to students of the institution or to employees of the institution or site, and for other purposes.

S. 265

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 265, a bill to reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 344

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retired pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 416

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 416, a bill to designate the Russian-based mercenary Wagner Group as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

S. 761

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 761, a bill to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States Foreign Service and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

S. 866

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 866, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance tax benefits for research activities.

S. 954

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 954, a bill to provide for appropriate cost-sharing for insulin products covered under private health plans, and to establish a program to support health care providers and pharmacies in providing discounted insulin products to uninsured individuals.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 985, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to ensure campus access at public institutions of higher education for religious groups.

S. 1149

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1149, a bill to amend

the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1170

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1170, a bill to reauthorize and update the Project Safe Childhood program, and for other purposes.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1271, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to trafficking of illicit fentanyl and its precursors by transnational criminal organizations, including cartels, and for other purposes.

S. 1280

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1280, a bill to require coordinated National Institute of Standards and Technology science and research activities regarding illicit drugs containing xylazine, novel synthetic opioids, and other substances of concern, and for other purposes.

S. 1367

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1367, a bill to amend XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care, to amend title XVIII of such Act to modify the requirements for diabetic shoes to be included under Medicare, and for other purposes.

S. 1409

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1409, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1449

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1449, a bill to improve the environmental review process, and for other purposes.

S. 1535

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1535, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to promulgate regulations to allow the transport of firefighters on board a covered aircraft operated on a mission to suppress a wildfire, and for other purposes.

S. 1610

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1610, a bill to authorize administrative absences and travel and transportation allowances for members of the Armed Forces to travel and obtain reproductive health care.

S. 1698

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1698, a bill to require group health plans and group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for over-the-counter contraceptives.

S. 1714

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1714, a bill to provide paid family leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1753

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1753, a bill to amend the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to allow individuals with drug offenses to receive benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1774

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1774, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to provide for an increased Federal medical assistance percentage for State expenditures on certain behavioral health services furnished under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 1802

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1802, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a fund for the conduct of collaborative defense projects between the United States and Israel in emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1811

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 1811, a bill to ensure treatment in the military based on merit and performance, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1829, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in the import of petroleum from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 1832

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1832, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the provision of virtual diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

S. 1856

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1856, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to improve the administration of antidumping and countervailing duty laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1858

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to establish a deadline for applying for disaster unemployment assistance.

S. 1859

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1859, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Conventional Cooking Products", and for other purposes.

S. 1867

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1867, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out an initiative to develop, expand, and improve rural childcare, and for other purposes.

S. 1899

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1899, a bill to encourage the use of hydrogen in the aviation sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1902

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1902, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration and the Secretary of Energy to exercise leadership in the creation of Federal and international policies relating to the safe and efficient use of hydrogen to increase aviation decarbonization and reduce air and noise pollution, and for other purposes.

S. 1911

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1911, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve the accessibility of airline information and

entertainment programming provided by air carriers on passenger flights, and for other purposes.

S. 1914

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1914, a bill to amend the air traffic controller staffing report, and for other purposes.

S. 1920

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1920, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to assess certain fees on shipping and other vessels, and for other purposes.

S. 1924

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1924, a bill to protect human rights and enhance opportunities for LGBTIQI people around the world, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 31

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 31, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "Federal 'Good Neighbor Plan' for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards".

S. CON. RES. 8

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 8, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that tax-exempt fraternal benefit societies have historically provided and continue to provide critical benefits to the people and communities of the United States.

S. RES. 144

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 144, a resolution recognizing that it is the duty of the Federal Government to develop and implement a Transgender Bill of Rights to protect and codify the rights of transgender and nonbinary people under the law and ensure their access to medical care, shelter, safety, and economic safety.

S. RES. 174

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 174, a resolution condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 188, a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 208

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 208, a resolution expressing support for the designation of November 12, 2023, as "National Warrior Call Day" and recognizing the important of connecting warriors in the United States to support structures necessary to transition from the battlefield, especially peer-to-peer connection.

S. RES. 243

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 243, a resolution recognizing the month of June 2023 as "Immigrant Heritage Month", a celebration of the accomplishments and contributions of immigrants and their children in making the United States a healthier, safer, more diverse, prosperous country, and acknowledging the importance of immigrants and their children to the future successes of the United States.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 246—HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AGENCY

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 246

Whereas the Drug Enforcement Administration (referred to in this preamble as the "DEA") was—

(1) established on July 1, 1973 by Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1973 (87 Stat. 1091; 5 U.S.C. App.); and

(2) given the responsibility to coordinate the whole of the Federal Government approach related to the enforcement of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.);

Whereas the more than 10,000 men and women of the DEA, including special agents, intelligence research specialists, diversion investigators, program analysts, forensic chemists, attorneys, and administrative support staff, as well as more than 3,000 task force officers, representing hundreds of State and local law enforcement agencies across the country—

(1) serve the United States with courage; and

(2) are committed to serving and protecting public safety, public health, and the national security of the United States from drug trafficking, drug misuse, and related violence;

Whereas, during the 50 years since the establishment of the DEA, the agency has targeted and dismantled transnational drug

trafficking organizations and brought to justice the most dangerous and prolific drug trafficking criminals from around the world;

Whereas, throughout the 50-year history of the DEA, the agency has continually adapted to evolving trends of major transnational drug cartels, targeting the organizations involved in the manufacturing, trafficking, and distribution of drugs, including fentanyl, methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, controlled prescription drugs, and other synthetic opioids;

Whereas the DEA has deployed enforcement and regulatory tools and strategies to address the threat posed by new synthetic opioid substances, which—

(1) mimic the effects of known licit and illicit controlled substances, including fentanyl;

(2) are largely responsible for driving the opioid epidemic that claimed the lives of more than 107,000 individuals in the United States in 2021; and

(3) present the most significant threat to public health, public safety, and the national security of the United States;

Whereas, with 93 foreign offices located in 69 countries, the DEA has the largest international presence of any Federal law enforcement agency, facilitating—

(1) close collaboration with international partners around the world through information sharing, training, and technology; and

(2) the provision of resources that have resulted in the disruption or dismantling of hundreds of transnational criminal organizations around the world;

Whereas, throughout the history of the DEA, employees and members of task forces of the agency have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty, including Emir Benitez, Gerald Sawyer, Leslie S. Grosso, Nickolas Fragos, Mary M. Keehan, Charles H. Mann, Anna Y. Mounger, Anna J. Pope, Martha D. Skeels, Mary P. Sullivan, Larry D. Wallace, Ralph N. Shaw, James T. Lunn, Octavio Gonzalez, Francis J. Miller, Robert C. Lightfoot, Thomas J. Devine, Larry N. Carwell, Marcellus Ward, Enrique S. Camarena, James A. Avant, Charles M. Bassing, Kevin L. Brosch, Susan M. Hoefler, William Ramos, Raymond J. Stastny, Arthur L. Cash, Terry W. McNett, George M. Montoya, Paul S. Seema, Everett E. Hatcher, Rickie C. Finley, Joseph T. Aversa, Wallie Howard, Jr., Eugene T. McCarthy, Alan H. Winn, George D. Althouse, Becky L. Dwojeski, Stephen J. Strehl, Richard E. Fass, Frank Fernandez, Jr., Jay W. Seale, Meredith Thompson, Juan C. Vars, Frank S. Wallace, Jr., Shelly D. Bland, Rona L. Chafey, Carrol June Fields, Carrie A. Lenz, Kenneth G. McCullough, Shaun E. Curl, Larry Steilen, Royce D. Tramel, Alice Faye Hall-Walton, Elton Lee Armstead, Terry Loftus, Donald C. Ware, Jay Balchunas, Thomas J. Byrne, Jr., Samuel Hicks, Forrest N. Leamon, Chad L. Michael, Michael E. Weston, James Terry Watson, Brent L. Hanger, Jorge R. DelRio, Stephen C. Arnold, Michael G. Garbo, and Jody W. Cash; and

Whereas many other DEA employees and task force officers have been wounded or injured in the line of duty, including 79 individuals who have received the DEA Purple Heart Award; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Drug Enforcement Administration on the occasion of its 50th anniversary;

(2) honors the heroic dedication of the employees of the Drug Enforcement Administration who have paid the ultimate price and sacrificed their lives or have been wounded or injured in the service of the United States; and

(3) gives heartfelt thanks to all the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Admin-

istration for their past and continued efforts to protect the health and safety of the people of the United States from transnational criminal networks and drugs causing harm, violence, and death in the communities of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 247—DESIGNATING JUNE 2023 AS NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION MONTH

Ms. ROSEN (for herself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 247

Whereas recent cyberattacks and vulnerabilities present cybersecurity risks to individuals and organizations and increase the urgency to grow and sustain a knowledgeable and skilled cybersecurity workforce in both the public and private sectors;

Whereas, according to CyberSeek.org, as of June 2023, in the United States, there are 1,129,659 individuals in the cybersecurity workforce and 663,494 open jobs in cybersecurity;

Whereas a 2017 report entitled “Supporting the Growth and Sustainment of the Nation’s Cybersecurity Workforce: Building the Foundation for a More Secure American Future”, transmitted by the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Homeland Security, proposed a vision to “prepare, grow, and sustain a cybersecurity workforce that safeguards and promotes America’s national security and economic prosperity”;

Whereas expanding cybersecurity education opportunities is important in order to address the cybersecurity workforce shortage and prepare the United States for ongoing and future national security threats;

Whereas cybersecurity education can—

(1) provide learning and career opportunities for students across the United States in elementary through postsecondary education; and

(2) bolster the capacity of the domestic workforce to defend the United States and secure the economy of the United States;

Whereas, in 2021, Congress authorized, as part of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283; 134 Stat. 3388), the Cybersecurity Education Training Assistance Program (referred to in this preamble as “CETAP”), a Department of Homeland Security initiative to provide cybersecurity career awareness, curricular resources, and professional development to elementary and secondary schools;

Whereas CYBER.ORG, a grantee of CETAP, has introduced cybersecurity concepts to more than 4,000,000 students and provided resources to more than 30,000 K-12 educators in all 50 States and 4 territories of the United States;

Whereas the mission of NICE is “to energize, promote, and coordinate a robust community working together to advance an integrated ecosystem of cybersecurity education, training, and workforce development”;

Whereas cybersecurity education is supported through multiple Federal programs and other related efforts, including—

(1) the Office of the National Cyber Director;

(2) the NICE Community Coordinating Council;

(3) the Advanced Technological Education program administered by the National Science Foundation;

(4) the CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service program administered by the National

Science Foundation, in collaboration with the Office of Personnel Management and the Department of Homeland Security;

(5) the Department of Defense Cybersecurity Scholarship Program administered by the Department of Defense;

(6) the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative administered by the Partnership for Public Service;

(7) the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cybersecurity administered by the National Security Agency;

(8) the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award;

(9) Career Technical Education (CTE) CyberNet Academies administered by the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education of the Department of Education;

(10) the GenCyber program administered by the National Security Agency, in collaboration with the National Science Foundation;

(11) widely used resources, including CareerOneStop, Occupational Outlook Handbook, and O*NET OnLine administered by the Department of Labor; and

(12) the Registered Apprenticeship Program administered by the Office of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor; and

Whereas ensuring access to cybersecurity education for all students in the United States regardless of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, sex, or geographic location will expand opportunities for high-earning jobs in high-demand fields: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2023 as “National Cybersecurity Education Month”;

(2) invites individuals and organizations in the United States—

(A) to recognize the essential role of cybersecurity education; and

(B) to support Federal, State, and local educational efforts;

(3) encourages educational and training institutions to increase the understanding and awareness of cybersecurity education at such institutions; and

(4) commits to—

(A) raising awareness about cybersecurity education; and

(B) taking legislative action in support of cybersecurity education to effectively build and sustain a skilled cybersecurity workforce.

SENATE RESOLUTION 248—DESIGNATING JUNE 2023 AS “GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH”

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KING, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 248

Whereas hundreds of millions of individuals in the United States participate in outdoor recreation annually;

Whereas Congress enacted the Outdoor Recreation Jobs and Economic Impact Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-249; 130 Stat. 999) to assess and analyze the outdoor recreation economy of the United States and the effects attributable to the outdoor recreation economy on the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account, updated in November 2022 by the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, shows that outdoor recreation generated more than

\$862,000,000,000 in economic output in 2021, comprising approximately 2 percent of the current-dollar gross domestic product;

Whereas the Outdoor Recreation Satellite Account shows that, in 2021, the outdoor recreation sector grew 3 times faster than the overall economy of the United States, while also providing 4,500,000 jobs across the United States;

Whereas the Great American Outdoors Act (Public Law 116-152; 134 Stat. 682) provides billions of dollars to help eliminate the maintenance backlog on public lands and waters and fully funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund;

Whereas regular outdoor recreation is associated with economic growth, positive health outcomes, and better quality of life;

Whereas outdoor recreation activities at the Federal, State, and local levels have seen a recent surge in participation;

Whereas many outdoor recreation businesses are small businesses that are cornerstones of rural communities, and outdoor recreation is part of the national heritage of the United States;

Whereas it is imperative that the United States ensure that access to outdoor recreation is available to all its people for generations to come; and

Whereas June 2023 is an appropriate month to designate as “Great Outdoors Month” to provide an opportunity to celebrate the importance of the great outdoors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2023 as “Great Outdoors Month”; and

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to responsibly participate in recreation activities in the great outdoors during June 2023 and year-round.

SENATE RESOLUTION 249—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JULY 2023 AS “NATIONAL SARCOMA AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: S. Res. 24

S. RES. 249

Whereas sarcoma is a rare cancer of the bones or connective tissues, such as nerves, muscles, joints, fat, and blood vessels, that can arise nearly anywhere in the body;

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) about 16,000 individuals are diagnosed with sarcoma each year;

(2) approximately 7,200 individuals die from sarcoma each year; and

(3) about 50,000 individuals struggle with sarcoma at any given time;

Whereas, each year, about 1 percent of cancers diagnosed in adults and around 15 percent of cancers diagnosed in children are sarcoma;

Whereas more than 70 types of sarcoma have been identified;

Whereas the potential causes of sarcoma are not well understood;

Whereas treatment for sarcoma can include surgery, radiation therapy, or chemotherapy;

Whereas sarcoma is often misdiagnosed and underreported; and

Whereas July 2023 would be an appropriate month to designate as National Sarcoma Awareness Month—

(1) to raise awareness about sarcoma; and

(2) to encourage more individuals in the United States to get properly diagnosed and treated: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the designation of July 2023 as “National Sarcoma Awareness Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 250—DESIGNATING JUNE 6, 2023, AS NATIONAL NALOXONE AWARENESS DAY

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted

the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 250

Whereas the opioid epidemic continues to devastate communities across the United States, leading to a significant loss of life and widespread societal impact;

Whereas, as of December 2022, opioid overdoses during the previous 12 months claimed a reported 79,770 lives in the United States;

Whereas fatal overdoses are often witnessed by a bystander;

Whereas, in 2022 alone, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized more than 379,000,000 doses of potentially deadly fentanyl, enough to kill every individual in the United States;

Whereas, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fentanyl-related poisonings are currently the leading cause of death for individuals in the United States between 18 and 49 years of age;

Whereas naloxone is a safe and effective medication that can reverse opioid overdoses and save lives when administered promptly by rapidly reversing the effects of opioids;

Whereas naloxone plays a vital role in preventing long-term brain damage and reducing the risk of fatality associated with opioid overdoses;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has declared naloxone to be a key tool in preventing opioid overdose deaths;

Whereas it is imperative to educate individuals, families, healthcare professionals, and first responders about—

(1) the benefits of naloxone, including the potential naloxone has to reduce opioid-related fatalities; and

(2) how to administer naloxone;

Whereas it is imperative to identify current or potential barriers, including cost, for individuals, organizations, and Federal, State, and local governments to obtain and distribute naloxone;

Whereas increasing access to naloxone can ensure that individuals struggling with opioid use disorder have a chance at recovery and a future free from the grip of substance use disorder;

Whereas the Food and Drug Administration took action to authorize the over-the-counter sale of 4 milligram doses of naloxone; and

Whereas recognizing National Naloxone Awareness Day will contribute to the ongoing efforts to educate the public, reduce stigma associated with substance use disorder, and promote access to lifesaving naloxone: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 6, 2023, as National Naloxone Awareness Day;

(2) recognizes the life-saving benefits of naloxone in reversing opioid overdoses and preventing unnecessary deaths;

(3) acknowledges that increased access to naloxone empowers individuals, families, healthcare professionals, and first responders to intervene in emergency situations and provide immediate assistance to those experiencing an opioid overdose;

(4) recognizes that National Naloxone Awareness Day serves as an opportunity to educate members of the public about the importance of recognizing the signs of opioid overdose and equipping themselves with naloxone to save lives;

(5) encourages Federal, State, and local governments, as well as private and non-profit organizations, to collaborate and allocate resources toward increasing naloxone access, education, and distribution efforts; and

(6) calls upon Federal agencies, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and all other Federal agencies engaged in the National Drug Control Strategy of the President to continue supporting public awareness, harm reduction, and overdose and poisoning prevention.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 135. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 305, 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.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 135. Mr. DURBIN (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 305, 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; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act”.[S13JN3-358][S2075]SEC. 2. FI

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) November 10, 2025, marks the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

(2) The United States Marine Corps has, over the course of its illustrious 250-year history, fought gallantly in defense of the United States.

(3) The United States Marine Corps has established itself as a leading military force, always prepared for tomorrow’s challenges and to contend with the future character of war.

(4) The United States Marine Corps continues to exemplify the warrior ethos that has made it a fighting force of international repute.

(5) All Americans should commemorate the legacy of the United States Marine Corps and recognize the significant contributions the values embodied in the Corps have made in protecting the United States against its enemies.

(6) In 2000, Congress authorized the construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center as a multipurpose facility for historical displays for the public viewing, curation and storage of artifacts, research facilities, classrooms, offices and associated activities consistent with the mission of the Marine Corps.

(7) On November 10, 2006, the Marine Corps Heritage Center opened to the public, with exhibits that share the history of the Marine Corps from 1775 until 1975, and with planned future exhibits on modern day Marine Corps history from the end of the Vietnam War through the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

(8) The United States should pay tribute to the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps by minting and issuing a commemorative coin.

(9) The surcharge proceeds from the sale of a commemorative coin, which would have no net costs to the taxpayers, would raise valuable funding for the continuation of educational programs of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) **\$5 GOLD COINS.**—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) **\$1 SILVER COINS.**—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) **HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.**—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) **LEGAL TENDER.**—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.

(a) **DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.**—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

(b) **DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.**—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (1) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (2) an inscription of the year “2025”; and
- (3) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(c) **SELECTION.**—The designs for the coin minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation; and
- (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) **QUALITY OF COINS.**—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) **PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.**—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2025.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) **SALE PRICE.**—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of

machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) **BULK SALES.**—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) **PREPAID ORDERS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) **DISCOUNT.**—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include—

(1) a surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;

(2) a surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and

(3) a surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half dollar coin.

(b) **DISTRIBUTION.**—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of title 31, United States Code, all surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and shall only be used for the purposes of supporting the mission of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

(c) **AUDITS.**—The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) **LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 2 p.m., to conduct a subcommittee hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 10 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 Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hybrid hearing.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 248, 249, and 250.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 305.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 305) 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.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I further ask unanimous consent that the Blumenthal substitute amendment be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 135), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) November 10, 2025, marks the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

(2) The United States Marine Corps has, over the course of its illustrious 250-year history, fought gallantly in defense of the United States.

(3) The United States Marine Corps has established itself as a leading military force, always prepared for tomorrow’s challenges and to contend with the future character of war.

(4) The United States Marine Corps continues to exemplify the warrior ethos that has made it a fighting force of international repute.

(5) All Americans should commemorate the legacy of the United States Marine Corps and recognize the significant contributions the values embodied in the Corps have made in protecting the United States against its enemies.

(6) In 2000, Congress authorized the construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center as a multipurpose facility for historical displays for the public viewing, curation and storage of artifacts, research facilities, classrooms, offices and associated activities consistent with the mission of the Marine Corps.

(7) On November 10, 2006, the Marine Corps Heritage Center opened to the public, with exhibits that share the history of the Marine Corps from 1775 until 1975, and with planned future exhibits on modern day Marine Corps history from the end of the Vietnam War through the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

(8) The United States should pay tribute to the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps by minting and issuing a commemorative coin.

(9) The surcharge proceeds from the sale of a commemorative coin, which would have no net costs to the taxpayers, would raise valuable funding for the continuation of educational programs of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 8.359 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 0.850 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent gold.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

- (A) weigh 26.73 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.500 inches; and
- (C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

- (A) weigh 11.34 grams;
- (B) have a diameter of 1.205 inches; and
- (C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 4. DESIGNS OF COINS.

(a) DESIGN REQUIREMENTS.—The designs of the coins minted under this Act shall be emblematic of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

(b) DESIGNATION AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

- (1) a designation of the value of the coin;
- (2) an inscription of the year “2025”; and
- (3) inscriptions of the words “Liberty”, “In God We Trust”, “United States of America”, and “E Pluribus Unum”.

(c) SELECTION.—The designs for the coin minted under this Act shall be—

- (1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation; and
- (2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2025.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

- (1) the face value of the coins;
- (2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and
- (3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.

(c) PREPAID ORDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall accept prepaid orders for the coins minted under this Act before the issuance of such coins.

(2) DISCOUNT.—Sale prices with respect to prepaid orders under paragraph (1) shall be at a reasonable discount.

SEC. 7. SURCHARGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—All sales of coins issued under this Act shall include—

- (1) a surcharge of \$35 per coin for the \$5 coin;
- (2) a surcharge of \$10 per coin for the \$1 coin; and
- (3) a surcharge of \$5 per coin for the half dollar coin.

(b) DISTRIBUTION.—Subject to section 5134(f)(1) of title 31, United States Code, all

surcharges received by the Secretary from the sale of coins issued under this Act shall be promptly paid by the Secretary to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and shall only be used for the purposes of supporting the mission of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

(c) AUDITS.—The Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, shall be subject to the audit requirements of section 5134(f)(2) of title 31, United States Code, with regard to the amounts received under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), no surcharge may be included with respect to the issuance under this Act of any coin during a calendar year if, as of the time of such issuance, the issuance of such coin would result in the number of commemorative coin programs issued during such year to exceed the annual 2 commemorative coin program issuance limitation under section 5112(m)(1) of title 31, United States Code (as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act). The Secretary may issue guidance to carry out this subsection.

SEC. 8. FINANCIAL ASSURANCES.

The Secretary shall take such actions as may be necessary to ensure that—

(1) minting and issuing coins under this Act will not result in any net cost to the United States Government; and

(2) no funds, including applicable surcharges, are disbursed to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation until the total cost of designing and issuing all of the coins authorized by this Act (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping) is recovered by the United States Treasury, consistent with sections 5112(m) and 5134(f) of title 31, United States Code.

The bill (S. 305), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

OSWALDO PAYÁ WAY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be discharged from further consideration of S. 376, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 376) to designate the area between the intersections of 16th Street, Northwest and Fuller Street, Northwest and 16th Street, Northwest and Euclid Street, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia, as “Oswaldo Payá Way”.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 376) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 376

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the revolution led by Fidel Castro in Cuba in 1959 started 64 years of an ongoing dictatorship, systemic human rights abuses, and a lack of basic freedom of press, religion, assembly, and association that continue to this day under the Communist rule of Raúl Castro and his successor, Miguel Díaz-Canel;

(2) Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas was a Cuban political dissident and activist dedicated to promoting democratic freedoms and human rights in Cuba;

(3) the Communist Party of Cuba has always viewed individuals with a commitment to democracy and freedom as a threat to the existence of the Communist Party of Cuba;

(4) on July 22, 2012, a violent car crash, widely believed to have been carried out by the Castro regime, took the lives of Oswaldo Payá and Harold Cepero, another democratic activist;

(5) the official investigation conducted by the Cuban regime into the crash has been demonstrated to be compromised, and the Cuban regime has blocked all efforts to conduct a credible and independent investigation into the crash, leaving the circumstances of the death of Oswaldo Payá unknown;

(6) opposition by Oswaldo Payá to the Communist Party of Cuba began at a young age, when he refused to become a member of the Young Communist League as a primary school student, and continued through high school, when he publicly criticized the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union;

(7) the Communist Party of Cuba responded to the opposition by Oswaldo Payá to the invasion of Czechoslovakia by the Soviet Union by sending Oswaldo Payá to a labor camp for 3 years;

(8) Oswaldo Payá forewent a chance to escape Cuba in the 1980 Mariel boatlift, deciding instead to continue the fight for democracy in Cuba, saying, “This is what I am supposed to be, this is what I have to do.”;

(9) by creating the Varela Project in 1998, Oswaldo Payá demonstrated his staunch commitment to peacefully advocating for freedom of speech and freedom of assembly for his fellow Cubans;

(10) in recognition of his determination for political reforms through peaceful protests, Oswaldo Payá was awarded the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought by the European Parliament in 2002 and the W. Averell Harriman Democracy Award from the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs in 2003 and was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize by former Czech President Václav Havel in 2005;

(11) on April 11, 2018, the Senate unanimously passed S. Res. 224, recognizing the sixth anniversary of the death of Oswaldo Payá Sardiñas, commemorating his legacy and commitment to democratic values and principles, and calling on the Cuban Government to allow an impartial, third-party investigation into the circumstances surrounding his death; and

(12) renaming the street in front of the Embassy of Cuba in the District of Columbia after Oswaldo Payá serves as an expression of solidarity between the people of the United States and the people of Cuba, who are engaged in a long, nonviolent struggle for fundamental human rights.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF OSWALDO PAYÁ WAY.

(a) DESIGNATION OF WAY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The area between the intersections of 16th Street, Northwest and Fuller Street, Northwest and 16th Street, Northwest and Euclid Street, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia, shall be known and designated as “Oswaldo Payá Way”.

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the area referred to in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to be a reference to Oswaldo Payá Way.

(b) DESIGNATION OF ADDRESS.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—The address of 2630 16th Street, Northwest, Washington, District of Columbia, shall be redesignated as 2630 Oswaldo Payá Way.

(2) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the address referred to in paragraph (1) shall be deemed to be a reference to 2630 Oswaldo Payá Way.

(c) SIGNS.—The District of Columbia shall construct 2 street signs that shall—

(1) contain the phrase “Oswaldo Payá Way”;

(2) be placed immediately above existing signs at the intersections of 16th Street, Northwest and Fuller Street, Northwest and 16th Street, Northwest and Euclid Street, Northwest in Washington, District of Columbia; and

(3) be similar in design to the signs used by the District of Columbia to designate the location of Metro stations.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY,
JUNE 14, 2023

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 14; that following the prayer and pledge,

the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, 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 proceed to executive session and, notwithstanding rule XXII, resume consideration of the Pitts nomination until 11:30 a.m.; further, that at 11:30 a.m., the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Pitts nomination followed by an immediate cloture vote on the Ho nomination; further, that if cloture is invoked on either nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations in the order in which cloture was invoked; further, that the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Choudhury nomination at 5:15 p.m., and if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday’s session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:09 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate June 13, 2023:

THE JUDICIARY

HERNAN D. VERA, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ELIZABETH ALLEN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

JARED BERNSTEIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISERS.