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No. 118

## House of Representatives

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

### DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,  
July 11, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable LISA C. McCLAIN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

### MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

### DEMAND ACCOUNTABILITY FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, for the past 2 years, the American people have been led by a President that has failed to bring accountability to the executive branch.

This weekend, the House Energy and Commerce Committee uncovered the embarrassing and disastrous fact that HHS Secretary Becerra failed to law-

fully reappoint key NIH officials before their terms expired.

This failure to reappoint the above NIH directors jeopardizes the legal validity of more than \$25 billion in Federal biomedical research grants made in 2022 alone. This is yet another example of the Biden administration's reckless decisionmaking.

Our Republican Commitment to America means creating a government that is accountable. Since January, House Republicans have fought to expose the wrongdoing by President Biden and those that he appointed.

It is time to put a stop to the reckless actions that the Biden administration continues to pursue that has led to 74 percent of Americans believing that our Nation is on the wrong track.

Madam Speaker, it is time to demand accountability from the President. It is time, once again, to have a Federal Government that is worthy, worthy of the American people.

CELEBRATING 285 YEARS OF WORSHIP AT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF UPPER WEST CONOCOCHIEAGUE

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, this year marks 285 years of worship at the Presbyterian Church of Upper West Conococheague, located in Franklin County, Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1738, the Presbyterian Church has been in its current location since 1794, during President George Washington's second term as President.

Since that time, the church has grown into a pillar and a major part of the community that it serves, working tirelessly among so many local charities and missions. These works include Bountiful Blessings, Operation Christmas Child, and the Giving Tree, a program the Presbyterian Church launched in order to ensure that every school student in local schools has the clothing and the resources that they need to be fulfilled and successful in their education.

This great Nation was born on the fundamental belief that no government and no king can tell us what to believe or how to worship. For the past 285 years, Presbyterian Church of Upper West Conococheague has stood as a testament to that principle.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I congratulate them on reaching such a significant milestone and wish Presbyterian Church and their congregation every continued success.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Dierdre Kelly, one of his secretaries.

### SUPPORTING THE NDAA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the conservative priorities included in the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act.

In recent years, our military has struggled with a severe recruiting crisis that will have enormous implications for our strategic position in an increasingly unstable global stage. There are several factors exacerbated by the Biden administration that have made military service less compelling to young Americans, and I say this as a 24-year Army veteran.

For instance, discharging servicemembers who declined to take the COVID-19 vaccine, despite requesting an exemption, upended careers and negatively impacted many servicemembers and their hard-earned benefits.

This year's NDAA provides critical steps to gut the administration's political agenda that has no place in our

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

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



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military. For instance, it provides a pathway back to the Armed Forces for servicemembers who declined to take the COVID vaccine. It also continues to prohibit the DOD from mandating that servicemembers take an emergency use vaccine.

Additionally, this legislation includes an extremely important provision of a 5.2 percent increase in servicemember pay. This is tremendously important for our enlisted ranks, and it is the largest pay raise in over 20 years.

I urge all my colleagues to support this important legislation that supports our military families and ensures our national security.

CONGRATULATING THE QUAD CITY STRIKERS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I will use this time as a chance to congratulate the Quad City Strikers U15 Soccer Club who represented the State of Iowa in the 2023 US Youth Soccer National Presidents Cup, which took place in Wichita, Kansas, from July 6-11.

This is the third year in a row that they competed in the Midwest Regional, and this year, after a runner-up finish in the regional, they successfully clinched their place in the national tournament. They were one of eight teams who qualified for the tournament and the only one that represented the State of Iowa.

These boys worked hard all year long and were able to represent Iowa at the highest amateur level. I congratulate every player on the team and their coach, Juan Nuci.

We thank him for his dedication and for making Iowa, and especially the First District, proud.

CONGRATULATING CAITLIN CLARK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, today, I congratulate Ms. Caitlin Clark of Des Moines, Iowa, for winning the National Player of the Year award for her performance this past season for the University of Iowa Hawkeyes Women's Basketball Team.

Caitlin is a junior at the University of Iowa and averaged almost 28 points a game, while leading the Hawkeyes to the NCAA Women's Basketball championship game. While averaging 28 points a game, she also averaged seven rebounds and almost nine assists through her historic season, where she swept the National Player of the Year award.

Caitlin Clark is a prime example of our constituents in Iowa, extremely talented and hardworking, while also remaining humble through all of their success. We congratulate Caitlin, and we thank her for making Iowa, the University of Iowa, and the Hawkeye nation proud.

CONGRATULATING JUDGE WILLIAM KELLY

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Judge William Kelly on his selection to be a magistrate judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa. Judge Kelly is a member of the Iowa National Guard and

will now serve our country in a different way.

Judge Kelly has an accomplished legal and judicial career. He obtained an undergraduate degree from Brown University. After graduation, he moved to Iowa to attend Drake University Law School in Des Moines. For 8 years he served as a State District Court Judge for District 5C in Iowa State courts, serving Polk County.

Becoming a magistrate judge happens after a rigorous selection process, and candidates are selected based on their merit by the district judges to help assist with the smooth and speedy legal process that we enjoy in the United States. Good judges in our U.S. court system are vital to keeping our constitutional republic together. I applaud Judge Kelly for taking the position, and I wish him luck in serving southeast Iowa.

Madam Speaker, I also extend a happy birthday to my sister, Mari-Eleanor Martino. Happy birthday Mari-Eleanor.

FISCAL YEAR 2024 NDAA

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, this week the House will consider the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act, otherwise known as the NDAA.

The NDAA primarily authorizes the spending levels for our military and the Department of Defense, but it also serves as the legislative vehicle for how our military ought to operate.

That is why I was proud to submit numerous amendments to this year's NDAA to ensure our military is focused on fighting our enemies and deterring our adversaries and that Congress is well-informed of the Department of Defense's goals and initiatives to ensure stringent oversight and accountability and to push back on wokeness in the military being advanced by President Biden.

One of my amendments would require that all Members of Congress receive a briefing on the joint multiyear plan to fulfill defensive requirements for Taiwan. The underlying bill only makes this briefing available to appropriate congressional committees, but my amendment would make this briefing available to all Members because I think it is important that all of the people's Representatives are included in this important process.

I also filed two additional amendments, one to require a briefing, and the other to require a report on the People's Republic of China's actions in Africa that pose a threat to U.S. national security and the Defense Department's plan to counter such threats.

We can all agree that we must continue to do everything in our power to assess the threat that China poses to our national security, which includes its actions in Africa.

On that same note, I also proposed another amendment that would prohibit the Department of Defense's Office of Strategic Capital from investing or facilitating investments in Chinese-owned firms. As we continue to counteract China's aggression, including their use of stolen intellectual property and U.S. trade secrets, we must ensure that U.S. taxpayer dollars are not being invested or facilitating investments in Chinese-owned firms.

Lastly, I joined a number of my colleagues in cosponsoring a bipartisan amendment that would establish the United States-Israel Artificial Intelligence Center to leverage the experience, knowledge, and expertise of our two countries to develop more robust research and development cooperation in the field of artificial intelligence.

I believe that all of these amendments I mentioned today would strengthen the NDAA and help provide for a stronger national defense. I urge the Rules Committee to make all of my amendments in order.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF FRANK KONCILYA

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

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor a great Montanan whose service to this country will never be forgotten and whose passing will be mourned by many across the Treasure State.

Frank Koncilya was born in Roundup, Montana, where he graduated high school in 1942. After graduation, Frank was drafted into the United States Army and was quickly shipped off to England in preparation for the invasion of Normandy.

Frank landed on Utah Beach nearly 2 hours before the main invasion on D-day and served with distinction on that fateful day. After the Allies secured northern France, Frank's platoon was deployed to Belgium, where he was one of only two survivors in a fierce battle.

Frank was awarded five Bronze Star Medals for his heroic service. After the war, Frank became a teacher and an active member of the American Legion in Lewistown, Montana.

Frank's service to his country and his commitment to education are a perfect example of Montana values. It was an honor to represent him in Congress, and it is a privilege to recognize his legacy in the United States House of Representatives.

STRENGTHENING OUR ARMED FORCES

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, our troops risk their lives and make sacrifices every day in service to our

great country. Many have given their lives to defend the freedoms we take for granted, including my Uncle Roy, who died fighting Nazis in France during World War II.

Unfortunately, our military has become a victim of the woke agenda. The Federal Government should focus on strengthening our Armed Forces, but Democratic leaders lost sight of that a long time ago.

Defense leaders in the Biden administration are now focused on creating the most diverse military instead of the best military. They spend time and taxpayer money pandering to those folks because it scores political points, Madam Speaker. It scores points with the woke mob, and the world is laughing at us for it.

Military leaders are forcing soldiers to read books on critical race theory and scheduling drag shows on the bases, of all things.

□ 1215

President Biden requested around \$150 million in the defense budget for diversity and inclusion programs. That is the American people's money spent on this nonsense, Madam Speaker.

If the Biden administration is so serious about prioritizing so-called equity, then no one should have a problem with my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which would require anyone who identifies as a man to register for the Selective Service. If these folks want to be treated like men, they need to act like men.

I don't support the woke agenda, as you know. I am fully against it, but if Democrats want to play ball, then let's play some ball. Let's see what excuses they come up with for opposing this plan that puts some real responsibility on the folks.

We are all sick of these games. We are sick of the Democrat leaders' hypocrisy. If they insist on going down this road, they should expect the responsibility that comes with it, or we could toss the whole woke agenda in the garbage can where it belongs.

#### ENACTING LARGEST INCREASE TO SERVICEMEMBER COMPENSATION IN OVER 20 YEARS

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

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, this week, the House will be debating a critically important piece of legislation, the Fiscal Year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act.

The bill that we are considering this week provides a much-needed 5.2 percent increase in compensation to our servicemen and -women. This is of critical importance because we are one of the few countries in the world that believes in an all-volunteer military force, and the only way that we are able to attract the best and the brightest into our military is if we pay competitive wages.

This bill will enact the largest increase to servicemember compensation in over 20 years. That is a very meaningful gesture in improving the retention and recruitment of quality men and women into our military.

Madam Speaker, I also thank the House Armed Services Committee for including my amendment to perform studies to direct more resources to remote and isolated military bases like the five that exist in my district.

Civilian contractor services are critical for providing the services that make life bearable on bases like the ones that I represent. This study will be a meaningful improvement in the quality of lives of the servicemen and -women who serve in my district.

I also urge adoption of an amendment that I have offered to increase permitting flexibility for the Marine Corps' Twentynine Palms Air Ground Combat Center for the permitting of a joint exercise that allows the annual King of the Hammers event to take place in my district.

This is one of the largest off-road racing events in the world. It is beloved by residents of my district and Marines alike. It brings over 80,000 people annually to the Johnson Valley in my district. It is a major economic driver.

We want to continue to see this event take place in the future as a joint exercise between the King of the Hammers event and the Marine Corps. This amendment will make that possible, and I urge its adoption.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of the entire NDAA this year. This will make some meaningful improvements in the quality of life for our military men and women. It allocates an additional \$15 million to the U.S. Northern Command to improve drug interdiction like the scourge of fentanyl that has been affecting my district.

Madam Speaker, this is a good thing for our national security and for the men and women in uniform who serve our country. I urge its adoption in Congress this week.

#### BRAZIL UNDERMINED THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SANTOS. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to address a grave concern about our relationship with Brazil. This nation, which holds non-NATO ally status with the United States, has constantly undermined us in recent years in ways that warrant our undivided attention.

Just recently, the former convicted criminal and now reinstated President of Brazil, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, known as Lula, hosted and praised the infamous dictator Nicolas Maduro from Venezuela.

Lula's actions have legitimized a man who is currently sought by the U.S. Department of Justice for narco-

terrorism, a man who, because of his alleged humanitarian crimes, cannot even set foot on U.S. soil without fear of arrest. In addition, Lula has publicly criticized the United States for support to Ukraine and has even suggested that our Nation is purposely prolonging the war for commercial interests.

This is the same leader who has actively sought to undermine U.S. currency through their BRICS agreements with Russia and China and who maintains strong ties with the Chinese Communist Party.

Madam Speaker, Brazil is not a minority player on the world stage. It is the largest economy in South America and the 10th largest globally, the 4th largest food producer in the world, the 2nd largest producer of iron ore, and a significant player in the energy sector. It holds strategic importance in the Southern Hemisphere, a fact that the CCP seems to understand better than us.

We should be working to forge stronger ties with Brazil, encouraging it toward democratic and capitalist values rather than standing by as it deepens its ties with communistic and autocratic regimes around the globe.

Brazil's growing alignment with the Chinese authoritarian government is already yielding dangerous impacts on its democracy. Even mainstream USA media outlets' reports are showing an unsettling trend: a rise in state-sanctioned actions against free speech, free press, and civil liberties in Brazil. Increasingly, the country's judicial system is being weaponized, and censorship is on the rise.

We must take decisive action to condemn Brazil's current engagement in suppressing civil liberties, its deepening ties with authoritarian regimes, and the serious risk this trend poses to Western democracies.

Madam Speaker, as the first Brazilian American elected to this House, I implore all my colleagues to treat this matter with the urgency it deserves. It is a matter that affects not only America but the free world as a whole.

#### RECOGNIZING DONNA FARGO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a Grammy Award-winning country music artist and a proud native of Mount Airy, North Carolina, Donna Fargo.

On July Fourth, the town of Mount Airy unveiled a mural honoring Donna and the countless contributions she has made to the country music community.

I was incredibly fortunate to attend this event and to hear Donna speak about her unwavering faith in God, her small-town roots, and why she believes that Mount Airy is the best place in all the world to live. It is no wonder why

hundreds of Mount Airy citizens lined the streets that day to celebrate Donna, view her mural, and listen to her speak. Her story and her music continue to touch the lives of many.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Donna on this well-deserved recognition. Not only is she Mount Airy's favorite daughter, but she is also a shining example of the best that western North Carolina has to offer.

#### CHARTER SCHOOL SUCCESS STUDY

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, it is undeniable that charter schools provide students with excellent opportunities in education, which give them capabilities they can use to pursue the American Dream.

When students are allowed to learn in an environment that works best for them and one that accounts for their individual proficiencies, they flourish. This is a simple fact.

A recent study conducted by Stanford University's Center for Research on Education Outcomes analyzed the educational performances of 1.8 million charter school students. The study found that these students outperformed their traditional public school counterparts on multiple metrics.

The typical charter school student gained the equivalent growth of 16 additional days of learning in reading and 6 additional days in math compared to their peers in traditional public schools.

At a time when the reading and math scores of our Nation's students have plummeted, the results of this study serve as a beacon of hope for millions of American families.

Simply put, charter schools serve as conduits of opportunity.

For example, the study revealed that, on average, Black students who were enrolled in charter schools gained the equivalent growth of 35 days in reading and 29 days in math compared to their public school counterparts. Hispanic students in charter schools were recorded as having a sizable leg up, as well. When it came to reading, they were 30 days ahead. In math, they were 19 days ahead.

These results make a succinct and compelling argument as to why charter schools are viable alternatives to traditional public schools.

Unfortunately, the success of charter schools is being outright ignored by the Biden administration. This is predictable behavior, mainly because the educational bureaucracy and teachers unions have President Biden wrapped around their little fingers.

The defenders of the status quo, those who fight tooth and nail to prop up failing public schools, can rest assured that the Education and the Workforce Committee will not be joining them in their future efforts. Instead, the committee will continue to promote choice so parents and students are empowered to choose the best learning environment that meets their needs.

The status quo is withering and dying on the vine. This is sad, but there is an alternative, and that is something to celebrate.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at 2 p.m.

#### PRAYER

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

This is the day that the Lord has made. While we were yet asleep, O Lord, You watched over us, protected us from the worries of the past, and restored us to face the future ahead. As we face this new day, grant us that same peace as it unfolds. May our eyes be open to Your creative spirit and guiding presence. For this is the day You, O Lord, have made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the week the Lord has made. While these legislators have been dispersed from one another, attending to both the well-being of their communities and the needs of their own families, You, O Lord, directed their steps and equipped their souls, readying them to address the tasks ahead. Now that they have returned to these hallowed Halls, grant them that same guidance. May all our minds be open to Your edifying spirit and enlightening presence. For this is the week, O Lord, that You have given us. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Ours are the lives You, O Lord, have made. While we have, time and again, tried to take the reins, masterminding the course our lives should take, You have safeguarded us from our folly and upheld us in Your mercy. Now, in this moment, we turn our sights to You. We ask that You would grant us the courage that we would yield our lives to You, as well. May our hearts be open to Your design for our days and Your righteous intent for the stewardship of all Your gracious gifts.

For this is the day, the time, and the lives You have made. Let us rejoice and be glad in them.

We glorify You, O Lord, as we offer these prayers in Your name.

Amen.

#### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

#### BIDENOMICS REDUCES INCOME

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, sadly, Biden wants Americans to believe his policies are working, but his borrow, tax, and spend Bidenomics created a 40-year-high inflation, causing families to suffer from skyrocketing energy and grocery costs and from discouraging increases in rent and mortgages.

While Biden says that his hourly wages have increased, the reality is that prices have risen faster and incomes have actually reduced.

According to the Committee to Unleash Prosperity, using Bureau of Labor Statistics data, the number of hours worked per week has declined. This amounts to the average family losing \$5,600 in annual purchasing power.

The Republican House majority is working to correct this, having recently passed the Fiscal Responsibility Act to rein in government overreach and limit inflationary spending, creating jobs.

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

**RECOGNIZING PAKISTANI COMMUNITY LEADER HAFEEZ KHAN**

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

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to commemorate a leader of the north Texas Pakistani community, Mr. Hafeez Khan.

There are over 50,000 Pakistani Americans living in my home of north Texas, a prosperous, hardworking community that grows every single year.

Mr. Kahn has used his position as a prominent business leader in Dallas to advocate for the Pakistani-American community, both in Texas and across the country.

When Mr. Kahn heard that part of the beautiful Pakistani Embassy here in Washington was set to be sold, he stepped up to purchase the property and preserve its historical and cultural significance. For the Pakistani-American community, the Embassy building here in our Nation's Capital is more than just a piece of property. It has served as a place of welcome, community, and support for this vibrant, thriving immigrant community.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to Mr. Kahn's philanthropy, this setting will serve as a landmark of Pakistani culture for years to come.

**STRIKING DOWN UNCONSTITUTIONAL STUDENT LOAN GIVEAWAY**

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, a little over a week ago, the Supreme Court of the United States handed a victory over to the American people when it struck down President Biden's obviously unconstitutional and egregious student loan giveaway plan.

The High Court held that President Biden and his administration needed Congress' authority on this matter before pursuing this costly program for American taxpayers. Of course, Republicans in Congress, like me, have been calling Mr. Biden's student loan plan unconstitutional from its inception. Even some Democrats, including former Speaker NANCY PELOSI, have joined us in standing up for the American people as their elected Representatives.

This is just one of many examples of how House Republicans are demanding accountability of the Biden administration and doing everything in our power to conduct proper oversight on the President's out-of-touch, liberal, and sometimes unconstitutional agenda.

**MILITARY FAMILIES NEED HELP WITH CHILDCARE, NOT WEAPONS**

(Mr. CASAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, I am GREG CASAR, and I represent the heart of Texas.

Throughout my time in office, I have heard from and spoken with military families about what their greatest needs are. The answer that has most consistently come up isn't about the latest tanks or the latest guns. It is childcare.

In fact, based on a 2021 survey from the Military Family Advisory Network, they found that 78 percent of military families have found it difficult to get childcare for their kids. This need is ever present in San Antonio, Texas, Military City USA.

Military readiness means more than just stocking up on more and more weapons and gadgets. It means investing in the people of the military.

Right now, the extreme rightwing is trying to bring forward a bill to spend more and more money on weapons that the Pentagon hasn't even asked for, and it happens nearly every year.

The NDAA, our annual defense spending bill, provides funds that the Department of Defense is told to spend on obsolete weapons and programs. That is why I am proposing an amendment to the NDAA, alongside Congressman CASTRO, to provide adequate childcare for our military families.

**HONORING FALLEN FIREFIGHTER MATT HANENKRATH**

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the patriotic life of Matt Hanenkrath, a pillar of Defiance County, Ohio.

Matt served as chief of the South Richland Volunteer Fire Department, assistant chief of the Highland Township Volunteer Fire Department, and director of the Defiance County 911 Communications Center.

Matt passed suddenly in the line of duty responding to a fire call.

Chief Hanenkrath was a true public servant. He embodied the very essence of bravery, selflessness, and unwavering commitment to community and country. He ran toward danger and faced flames with an unyielding determination to safeguard his community.

His dedication to public service didn't stop there. Matt was also the president of the Ayersville Board of Education and coached softball and football. He exemplified the spirit of putting others before self and tirelessly working to better his community.

He is survived by his wife, Ashley, and three children, Haleigh, Brynn, and Bentley.

Mr. Speaker, in his memory, let us recommit ourselves to supporting our firefighters. Let us value their heroic efforts.

Chief Hanenkrath's sacrifice will never be forgotten. His legacy as a

community leader will live on through the countless lives he impacted. Chief Hanenkrath is an American hero.

**CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO HONG KONG—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-51)**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Hong Kong that was declared in Executive Order 13936 of July 14, 2020, is to continue in effect beyond July 14, 2023.

The situation with respect to Hong Kong, including recent actions taken by the People's Republic of China to fundamentally undermine Hong Kong's autonomy, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in substantial part outside the United States, to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13936 with respect to the situation in Hong Kong.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.,  
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 2023.

**NEW HOPE FOR AMERICANS WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

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

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, as a geriatric nurse practitioner, I have had the privilege of taking care of our Greatest Generation in various long-term care facilities, including many patients with cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease.

Currently, more than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease. This disease denies millions of families the opportunity to cherish memories and robs people of their ability to remember their family members and loved ones.

Until 6 days ago, all FDA-approved Alzheimer's drugs merely targeted the symptoms of the disease, never its progression. Thankfully, last Wednesday,

the FDA issued a long-awaited approval of Leqembi, the first-of-its-kind drug that changes the underlying course of early Alzheimer's disease.

This drug, which has shown promising results of slowing the progression of Alzheimer's by more than 25 percent over 18 months, will be fully available to Medicare patients, but providers will have to enter patients into a registry to collect information, and many families will still have to pay a significant out-of-pocket copay.

It is imperative that CMS continues to find ways to lift these barriers to this life-changing treatment and that CMS also changes its policy to allow for more than one PET scan, which has the ability to detect the amyloid plaque that causes Alzheimer's disease.

By having more treatment options available, patients can maintain their independence longer, get more precious time with their families, and have renewed hope for the future.

I will continue to work across the aisle in Congress and with the FDA and CMS to ensure all Alzheimer's patients have equitable and affordable access to innovative drugs such as this.

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 14 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. GREENE of Georgia) at 5 o'clock p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

#### AMENDING THE INVESTMENT ADVISERS ACT OF 1940 TO CODIFY CERTAIN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NO-ACTION LETTERS THAT EXCLUDE BROKERS AND DEALERS COMPENSATED FOR CERTAIN RESEARCH SERVICES FROM THE DEFINITION OF INVESTMENT ADVISER

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2622) to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commis-

sion no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2622

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

#### SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF NO-ACTION LETTER; STUDY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Securities and Exchange Commission staff first granted temporary no-action relief in 2017, prior to the implementation of European rules designed to protect European investors from excessive costs and conflicts of interest.

(2) The Commission staff did not engage in any meaningful cost-benefit analysis of the issues raised by the no-action relief requested either prior to or following the granting of no-action relief in 2017.

(3) The Commission staff revised and extended the temporary no-action relief in 2019, again without any meaningful cost-benefit analysis of the issues raised by the no-action relief requested prior to or following the granting of the relief.

(4) There are currently approximately 15,300 registered investment advisers, including affiliates that provide the vast majority of investment research.

(5) The Commission has received complaints from investors and investor advocacy groups expressing concerns with the no-action relief, as it currently exists.

(6) The Commission has received concerns from broker-dealers related to the potential expiration of the no-action relief.

(b) EXTENSION OF NO-ACTION LETTER.—The Commission shall provide an additional 6-month extension of the October 26, 2017, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, SEC Staff No-Action Letter, set to expire on July 3, 2023.

(c) STUDY REQUIRED.—After the announcement extending the expiration date of the no-action letter under subsection (b), the Commission shall conduct, through notice and comment, a study of the impact of allowing the no-action letter's expiration or maintenance of the no-action letter, and give due regard to any comments received in conducting the study. The Commission or delegated staff shall report their findings and conclusions, including findings related to the expiration of the no-action relief, to the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(d) CONTENTS OF STUDY.—The study required under subsection (c) shall include potential impacts on the research market for smaller issuers, including—

(1) the availability of such research, including—

(A) the number and types of firms who provide such research;

(B) the volume of such research over time; and

(C) competition in the research market;

(2) any unique challenges faced by minority-owned, women-owned, and veteran owned small issuers in obtaining research coverage;

(3) the impact on the availability of research coverage for small issuers due to Commission rules;

(4) a cost-benefit analysis of regulatory options that will support research coverage of small entities and increase transparency in the cost of research provided by broker-dealers;

(5) the impact of the no-action relief on investors in registered investment companies and exempt investment funds, pension funds, endowments, and other asset owners, investment advisers, broker-dealers that provide both investment research and trading services, independent investment advisers that do not provide trading services, broker-dealers that do not provide investment research, and other market participants, including issuers of securities; and

(6) the potential impacts of the expiration of the no-action relief on investors in registered investment companies and exempt investment funds, pension funds, endowments, investment advisers, and other asset owners, broker-dealers that provide both investment research and trading services, independent investment advisers that do not provide trading services, broker-dealers that do not provide investment research, and other market participants, including issuers of securities.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2622, a bill that would ensure broker-dealers can continue to provide investment research to Europe. This research is incredibly important for smaller and midsize public companies that rely on our capital markets.

I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, Representatives Sessions and Gottheimer, for finding common ground and coming to a sensible agreement to ensure that policies enacted by the European Union's Markets in Financial Instruments Directive, MiFID, do not needlessly burden U.S. broker-dealers.

H.R. 2622 extends an SEC no-action letter originally issued in 2017, and extended again in 2019, for another 6 months, granting U.S. broker-dealers much-needed relief and giving the SEC time to properly study the impact of the no-action letter's expiration.

Widespread dissemination of research by U.S. broker-dealers to investment managers is critical to capital formation and to maintaining the competitiveness and efficiency of the U.S. capital markets. Moreover, non-U.S. and global investment managers rely on the excellent research conducted and provided by U.S. broker-dealers to inform their decisionmaking and fulfill their fiduciary duties to U.S. investors.

Unfortunately, the EU's MiFID II threatens to disrupt the current

broker-dealer research market by requiring separate payments for research services and trade execution. This small change would capture U.S. broker-dealers receiving unbundled payments for research services and put them under the Investment Advisers Act, subjecting them to an entirely new regulatory regime.

The SEC no-action letter, which H.R. 2622 extends, permits broker-dealers to accept separate cash payments from investment advisers without adding new, burdensome regulatory requirements.

Studies have shown that since MiFID II was introduced, there has been a reduction in the availability of research. Many broker-dealers have said that they will significantly curtail or eliminate their research services altogether if this no-action letter expires. Plus, as of last month, several European Union member states are seeking to reverse MiFID II.

Madam Speaker, to ensure the continued availability of investment research and better understand the consequences of allowing the SEC no-action letter to expire, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2622, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 2622, sponsored by the gentleman from Texas. To put this in context, we have one regulatory scheme to deal with broker-dealers and another to deal with registered investment advisers.

Traditionally in the United States, a broker-dealer is only registered as a broker-dealer, subject to that regulatory scheme, and the broker-dealer not only executes transactions but also gives advice and does research.

Our friends in Europe have required that under certain circumstances, a broker-dealer must charge separately for the research and advice on the one hand and for the execution of the transaction on the other.

Following that pattern would ordinarily cause that broker-dealer to be subject to that second regulatory scheme, the regulatory scheme for registered investment advisers. It is appropriate that since 2017 the SEC has had a no-action letter, saying that if broker-dealers under these circumstances do not register as investment advisers, the staff of the SEC will recommend to the board that it take no action, no enforcement action. Basically, it is a pass for the broker-dealer to follow the European rules but not register as a registered investment adviser, continuing to be subject to regulation only as a broker-dealer.

Now, this bill in its original form would have made this no-action letter, this pass permanent, but several investor groups expressed concerns about that original version of the bill. For example, a joint letter from the Council of Institutional Investors, the CFA Institute, and others argued against taking that approach without further thought.

During the committee markup, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER) offered an amendment to change this bill from the permanent exemption to instead only relief for 6 months. It requires the SEC to study the impact of letting the no-action letter expire, something that the Financial Services Committee is very interested in understanding.

The bill would also review other tangential issues, including conflicts of interest and the provision of financial services by middle-market financial intermediaries.

With Mr. GOTTHEIMER's amendment adopted, I think this bill is a reasonable compromise, and I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS), the author of this piece of legislation and my friend and colleague.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for the time, and I appreciate the gentleman from California standing in support of this bill, H.R. 2622.

In fact, this was a bipartisan agreement that we came to. The gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER), and I worked on this, and he included some language he felt was very important.

The bottom line is that the SEC will be required to extend MiFID II relief and study its effects as part of long overdue and larger review of the regulatory framework for investment research.

I believe this agreement that we passed in the House Financial Services Committee on May 24 by a vote of 45-2 represents not just the thinking and thought process, but it really meets the needs of the investor community. For that reason, we believe that we are on the floor today.

I thank the chairman of the committee, Mr. MCHENRY, for not only bringing this but also for his leadership in a series of bills that we will have on the floor today. Mr. MCHENRY has served well, and I appreciate his service.

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

There is an image in the country that nothing is getting done in Washington, that we are tied up in partisan knots. As the gentleman from Texas points out, this bill passed our committee 45-2. Congress continues to function, although it is much more exciting for the press to cover the fights than the progress.

The amended version of H.R. 2622 being considered on the floor today represents a bipartisan compromise. It gives the SEC the time to address potential concerns laid out by stockholders related to the no-action letter for broker-dealers that offer research services from needing to register as investment advisers.

It is a well-thought-out response to our current situation. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I would just simply urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2622, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 2622, a bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser.

This bill provides statutory authority for specified Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) guidance allowing broker-dealers to receive payments for research services provided to investment managers.

Under current law, broker-dealers that receive payments for performing this service must register as investment advisors.

However, the SEC currently waives enforcement against these broker-dealers.

The current no-action relief, which was temporarily granted in 2017 by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), has received multiple complaints from investors and advocacy groups who have expressed reservations about the current no-action relief.

This bill helps to address these concerns, correct the defects of the current no-action relief, and resolve issues regarding the potential expiration of the current relief.

H.R. 2622 helps to strengthen American capital markets by providing U.S. brokers and dealers relief from undue external security market regulations and prevent a reduction in investment research that can potentially harm investment managers and the retail investor customers that they serve.

This bill also helps to further strengthen the standard conduct of investment advisory by ensuring that the best interests of customers are protected without regard to the financial and other private interests of brokers and dealers.

H.R. 2622 ensure that the SEC provides secure framework of rules and regulations that help to enhance investors' confidence in the system and safeguards their investment by ensuring transparency of the records.

This bill provides more concrete measures for the over 15,000 Registered Investment Advisors (RIAs) to effectively carry out their primary duties of providing tailored financial advice to their clients, management of investment portfolios, and other services to the public.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2622, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### IMPROVING ACCESS TO SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION ACT

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the

bill (H.R. 1548) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1548

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Improving Access to Small Business Information Act".

**SEC. 2. EXCLUSION FROM THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.**

Section 4(j) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78d(j)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(10) EXCLUSION FROM THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Actions taken by the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation under this subsection shall not be a 'collection of information' for purposes of subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Paperwork Reduction Act').

"(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the requirements under subsections (c)(1), (c)(4), and (i) of section 3506 of such title and section 3507(a)(1)(A) of such title, except that the Commission shall not be required—

"(i) to submit a collection of information by the Advocate to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, as described under section 3506(c)(1)(A) of such title;

"(ii) to display a control number on a collection of information by the Advocate, as described under section 3506(c)(1)(B)(i) of such title (or to inform a person receiving a collection of information from the Advocate that the collection of information needs to display a control number, as described under section 3506(c)(1)(B)(iii)(V) of such title); or

"(iii) to indicate a collection of information by the Advocate is in accordance with the clearance requirements of section 3507 of such title, as described under section 3506(c)(1)(B)(ii) of such title."

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1548, the Improving Access to Small Business Information Act.

I thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), the author of this legislation, and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER), for working on this commonsense piece of

bipartisan legislation that will help ensure America's small businesses and entrepreneurs are heard at the SEC.

H.R. 1548 provides a simple fix that will allow the SEC's Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation, or the Advocate, to become a more impactful voice in support of American entrepreneurs and capital formation.

Each year, the Advocate and its staff host events around the country to support small businesses and to better understand their most pressing issues when it comes to raising capital. Such interactions help the Advocate analyze the potential impact of policy changes likely to affect small businesses and their investors.

Under current law, however, the Advocate may not collect information—such as through surveys or studies—from small businesses and entrepreneurs without triggering the burdensome requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act. This, in turn, introduces a host of bureaucratic hurdles the Advocate must navigate in carrying out its mission.

By clarifying that such actions of the Advocate are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act and providing exemptions from the most burdensome aspects of the Paperwork Reduction Act, H.R. 1548 enables the Advocate to engage with American small businesses with less friction.

With fewer hurdles in place, the Advocate will gain a better understanding of the capital formation challenges that small businesses face, which will result in better policymaking decisions here in Washington, D.C.

□ 1715

Madam Speaker, H.R. 1548 is a balanced and thoughtful bill that cuts unnecessary and onerous red tape to allow the SEC's Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation to become a more effective champion in support of American small businesses and capital formation. For this reason, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1548, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1548, the Improving Access to Small Business Information Act, sponsored by Representative YOUNG KIM from the great State of California.

The Paperwork Reduction Act mandates that all Federal agencies receive approval from the Office of Management and Budget before putting forth a paper form or survey that will impose an information collection burden on the general public.

Although this is well-intentioned, the Paperwork Reduction Act may often prevent Federal agencies like the SEC from obtaining data from the public, the very data that assists agencies in carrying out this mission.

This bill streamlines the ability of the SEC's Advocate for Small Business

Capital Formation to carry out its mission by exempting it from the requirements of the Act in the same way that a sister agency, the SEC's Investor Advocate, is currently exempted.

In effect, it enables the small business advocate to properly conduct its job, which will strengthen the ability of the SEC to craft regulations that help small businesses raise capital.

I also want to note that as part of the negotiations that resulted in this bipartisan compromise bill, Chairman MCHENRY and Ranking Member WATERS agreed that in the months ahead they will work together on bills to strengthen the independence and capacities of the investor advocate and of the small business advocate at the SEC.

These two offices, both of which are congressionally created, must be given sufficient resources to satisfy their unique roles within the SEC. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), the author of this piece of legislation, and my friend and colleague.

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairwoman WAGNER for yielding.

I rise in strong support of my bill. This is a bipartisan bill, H.R. 1548, the Improving Access to Small Business Information Act.

H.R. 1548 is very simple. The legislation would amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that certain actions by the Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paper Reduction Act.

Currently, the office must adhere to a prolonged process to get approval from OMB on surveys that could help get better information on the capital formation challenges small businesses and their investors face on a daily basis.

Former Director of the SEC's Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation, Martha Miller, told our office, "The office went through a yearlong process just to collect registration information for our annual forum and ask a few basic questions to understand the audience attending."

So, by the time her office got a response from OMB, the circumstances of the economy had changed, and some of the survey questions were outdated and did not serve their intended purpose.

Rather than answering these unrelated questions to the difficulties facing small businesses, it would have been so much more effective for small business owners and investors attending the forum to be focused on analyzing the substantive issues and share effective perspectives on capital formation policies.

The SEC's Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation is the primary office that looks to advance the interests of the small businesses and their investors at the SEC and in the capital markets.



With the ever-changing economic and regulatory environment, the office is required to adapt quickly to the needs of the small businesses and gather timely feedback to improve capital raising policy.

H.R. 1548 reduces red tape and streamlines access to tools that the office can utilize to gather more effective and timely data. The better information that the office can gather, the better Congress and the public can identify policy gaps and facilitate small business capital formation.

I thank Chairman JAMES COMER and House Oversight and Accountability Committee staff for working with my staff and Financial Services Committee staff to address standing policy on the PRA and get H.R. 1548 through the finish line.

I also thank my colleague and friend, Mr. GOTTHEIMER of New Jersey, for co-leading H.R. 1548, the Improving Access to Small Business Information Act, with me. I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote “yes” on H.R. 1548.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close if the gentlewoman from Missouri has no further speakers.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, so I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I commend the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM) for her excellent work on this bill.

H.R. 1548 streamlines the ability of the SEC’s small business advocate to better support small businesses’ efforts to raise capital. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I would simply urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1548, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1548, Improving Access to Small Business Information Act.

The Securities Exchange Act of 1934 regulates transactions of securities in the secondary market.

The act typically governs transactions which take place between parties which are not the original issuer, such as trades that retail investors execute through brokerage companies.

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 is a federal law designed to reduce the total amount of paperwork burden the federal government imposes on private business and citizens.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, agencies must comply with specific procedures when gathering information from the public.

H.R. 1548 will amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information undue the Paperwork Reduction Act.

In other words, this bill excludes from the Paperwork Reduction Act actions taken by the Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation within the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation does hard work to provide an annual report to the United States House and Senate to ensure that we understand the state of small business capital formation.

The Office of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation will continue to advocate for solutions to improve the capital raising opportunities for the dreamers, builders, doers, creators, and investors who you don’t see in the headlines today.

For this reason, it is vital that we pass H.R. 1548.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1548, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1096) 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.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1096

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “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 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, the Congress authorized the construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center as a multipurpose fa-

cility 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, to be completed by 2025.

(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.—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 section 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

#### SEC. 4. DESIGN 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 design 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) MINT FACILITY.—Any facility of the United States Mint may be used to strike any particular quality of the coins minted under this Act.

(c) 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 a surcharge of—

(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 of the Treasury 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 result in no net cost to the Federal 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 SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Mem-

bers may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1096, a bill that will mint a series of coins to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

I would like to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), for their work on this bill and for their service.

The Marines are one of the most storied branches of the United States Armed Forces. On November 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress meeting in Philadelphia, passed a resolution stating that “two Battalions of Marines be raised” for service as landing forces with the fleet.

This resolution established the Continental Marines and forever marked the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

Now, that may be the official inception of the Marines, but if you ask any corpsman, they will tell you that the Marines were formed in a bar.

According to Marine legend, newly commissioned Captains Samuel Nicholas and Robert Mullan organized the first Marine Corps muster at Tun Tavern, a popular watering hole in Philadelphia.

The two officers are said to have lured potential marines with mugs of beer and a promise of adventures on the high seas. They were looking for “a few good men,” the “Few and the Proud.” Their recruits later made up the first five companies who served aboard Continental Navy ships.

Shortly after their beginning, the marines became known for their unconventional and fierce combat.

The first amphibious assault in Marine Corps history came on March 3, 1776, when a force under Captain Nicholas stormed the beaches of the British-held island of New Providence in the Bahamas. These 220 marines captured the town and successfully seized several brass canons and mortars that were directly shipped to George Washington’s Continental Army.

The Marines served in every American war of the 18th and 19th centuries, but their role as naval troops was limited until June of 1918.

In 1918, under General James Harbord, marines clashed with German forces positioned in a French hunting preserve known as Belleau Wood.

Ignoring calls to withdraw, one captain famously said, “Retreat? Hell, we just got here.” The marines held their ground against a German assault and later spearheaded an Allied counter-attack on June 6, earning their nickname of “Devil Dogs.”

The Marines have a history that is far too expansive for a floor speech alone. However, every historical battle the Marines took part in left a lasting impact.

The “leathernecks” of Derna, the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II, and the Montford Point marines all paved the way for generations of marines to come, including the 15 corpsmen in the 118th Congress.

In August of 2021, marines were among the last U.S. forces on the battleground in Afghanistan, going above and beyond the call of duty to defend Afghan and American civilians alike who were fleeing the Taliban’s advance.

Eleven of the 13 courageous and honorable servicemembers killed in the terrorist attack on the Kabul airport were members of the United States Marine Corps. These fearless marines lived and embodied their motto, “Semper Fidelis,” or “Always Faithful,” a motto I am sure will be the centerpiece of the commemorative coin series.

I again thank my Congressional colleagues who answered the call to service in the Marine Corps, and especially those marines back home in Missouri’s Second Congressional District. It is your warrior spirit that we are honoring here today.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for reprising for us the proud history of the United States Marines, and I join her in support of H.R. 1096, the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act, sponsored by Representative SETH MOULTON of Massachusetts.

I want to thank Representative MOULTON, first, for his service in the United States Marines and, second, for offering H.R. 1096. I also want to mention Senator BLUMENTHAL for leading the Senate version of this bill.

This important legislation would authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a series of commemorative coins honoring the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps in 2025.

These coins will be sold to collectors at a profit. The sale of these coins will then support programs for the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, which funds programs for the National Museum of the Marine Corps. The museum has been open since 2006, allowing the public to honor the Marine Corps and learn about its important work, as well as allowing for the storage of artifacts and research. The foundation also supports educational programming and cultural events.

Representative MOULTON, as a proud marine, has been a tireless advocate in advancing this legislation to commemorate this important anniversary.

The Marine Corps has protected the United States for two-and-a-half centuries and deserves the highest level of

honor, including the minting of these commemorative coins. I am so appreciative of their dedication to this important issue and am pleased to support this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in that support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1730

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN), one of the authors of this coin legislation for the U.S. Marine Corps and a great friend, colleague, and patriot.

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I also thank Representative SHERMAN for the articulate history of the Marine Corps and also the articulate present of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation and the museum.

We don't get to where we are going in life without looking at history and looking at the commitment of others over time to ensure that those times when we had to use American force to preserve our freedoms and the freedoms of others that the Marines were and are the force in readiness. It is called the 911 force, ready to fight tonight. That is who we are. That is our ethos, and we will always remain that.

This coin bill is just the tip of the iceberg for the next generations as they hold that coin to understand what it means for the United States to have the Marine Corps, but also what it means to a young man or woman to become a marine.

By the way, marines are not afraid of work. In fact, we kind of pride ourselves on the fact that we can get 25 hours out of every 24-hour day. That is just the way we are.

Getting a coin bill done takes a lot of work. Unlike more substantive policy bills, which require countless hours of research, meetings, and hearings, a coin bill requires two-thirds of all the Members of the House to cosponsor the legislation. By the way, two-thirds of the House is a significant number of people—290, to be exact.

To highlight how high of a bar that is, since I arrived in Congress in 2017, the House has seen more than 36,000 bills introduced. Of those, just 0.72 percent of the bills have received 290-plus cosponsors. We are in that top 1 percent, with the number of Members of the House who got behind this bill. That is a big deal.

This was a labor of love on my part and, I am sure, on Mr. MOULTON's part. I enjoyed the literally hundreds of conversations I had with fellow Members here on the floor to hit that 290 mark, to talk about the Marine Corps and the huge benefits and proceeds of this bill, which costs the taxpayer nothing but will provide revenue to the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation.

In an attempt to educate some of my colleagues on the importance of this bill, if they didn't understand the Ma-

rine Corps, I said: Just remember, this bill is going to commemorate 250 years of tradition of the Marine Corps unmarred by progress. They looked and said: Are you serious? I said: Well, think about it. I just want your signature.

The bottom line is, when they stopped laughing, they saw how serious we were as marines. We are all serious, but we laugh. Yes, we were founded in a bar in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia. Yes, there were some recruiters there probably making some outlandish promises, but on November 10, every marine everywhere in the world does celebrate that day in Tun Tavern.

The heritage center is located very close to D.C. It is in Triangle, Virginia. It exists to preserve and promulgate the history, tradition, and culture of the Marine Corps and to educate all Americans and all who visit it on the virtues of what the Marine Corps stands for. As my colleague said, "Semper Fidelis" is our motto. We believe it. We live it.

After we pass this bill and it is signed into law, the next best thing happens: The U.S. Mint will work with the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation on the coin's design. Once the design has been approved, the coin celebrating the illustrious 250 years of history of the Marine Corps will be minted at the only facility where the United States produces precious metals and commemorative coins.

There is a little irony here. It will be produced at the West Point Mint aboard the campus of the United States Military Academy, the preeminent institution for educating our next generation of Army leaders.

By the way, one of my grandsons is in his second year at West Point. I told him he gets a free tour of the mint, and I will buy him a coin.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, colleague, and fellow marine, SETH MOULTON, for starting the ball rolling here and for helping to get this bill over the finish line, and Chair MCHENRY for his kind words in the process.

Madam Speaker, again, I thank all my colleagues here in the House, all the folks in the Senate who have made this coin possible because it is the right thing to do for the country to show the young men and women who will someday decide to become marines that it is worth it. I urge all Members to support H.R. 1096.

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, as a proud Army mom whose son is a graduate of West Point, I insist that the lieutenant general take my son, Raymond, the good captain, to the mint also.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOULTON), the sponsor of this legislation.

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 1096, a bill

to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

This is a particular honor for me as a Marine Corps veteran myself. Serving as an infantry officer in the Iraq war, I was proud to lead some of the best Americans I have ever met—brave, selfless, honorable heroes who could have let others go in their place.

Indeed, marines are on watch tonight, standing on the ramparts of freedom around the globe so that we all can sleep softly in our beds at home.

The first time I remember meeting a marine was on my under-10 soccer field in my hometown of Marblehead, Massachusetts. Marblehead has the distinction of being the birthplace of Marine Corps Aviation because it was back in 1912 that Lieutenant Alfred Cunningham took his first solo flight out of Marblehead and became the first marine aviator.

A marine landed a Cobra helicopter on our soccer field, and I had never seen something like this before. I remember walking around this remarkable machine in awe. Then, I came up to the Marine Corps major who was the pilot, and I looked up at him and said: Wow, you are lucky to get to fly this every day. That Marine Corps major looked down at me and said: I am not lucky, kid. I am good.

Indeed, marines know that nobody cares if you are lucky or not. Marines make their own luck and have throughout history, being the first to fight in every clime and place, in battles that defined our Nation for two-and-a-half centuries: Belleau Wood in World War I, where the marines earned our reputation as Devil Dogs; the beaches of Guadalcanal and Iwo Jima in World War II; the Battle of Chosin Reservoir in the Korean war; the grueling jungles of Vietnam; and, of course, the Gulf wars, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

I will never forget the bravery of the young marines that I witnessed at Abbey Gate during the final days of the Afghanistan withdrawal. After 13 American heroes lost their lives, what happened next is the definition of what it means to be a marine: Another platoon of marines went right back out to continue the mission, saving hundreds more of our Afghan allies.

Yet, the thing about the Marines is that we don't dwell on our history. We charge forward. Under the leadership of now-retired General Berger, the 38th Commandant of the Marine Corps, the force is undertaking the most aggressive modernization plan of any service in the last 50 years.

Force Design 2030 addresses everything from personnel to warships. It shifts resources from armor, artillery, and manned aircraft to invest in longer range missiles and unmanned aerial systems, better sensors and surveillance on the battlefield, and developing and retaining new cyber forces.

If we are to deter a war with China—and we must deter a war with China—

this type of forward-thinking is essential across all the services, and once again, the Marine Corps is setting the example and leading the way.

The Marine Corps is, therefore, at an inflection point, so it is particularly fitting that we have this opportunity to honor the indomitable spirit of the corps while also looking forward to its future.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my esteemed colleagues to support this bill and to recognize the valor, bravery, and sacrifice of "The Few, The Proud, The Marines."

Madam Speaker, I conclude with the final verse of "The Marines' Hymn"

If the Army and the Navy  
Ever look on Heaven's scenes;  
They will find the streets are guarded  
By United States Marines.

Semper Fidelis.

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

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

H.R. 1096 will commemorate the important 250th anniversary of the creation of the United States Marine Corps.

I am pleased that my colleague, Representative MOULTON, chose to champion this issue so that we can all honor the work of the Marine Corps in protecting our freedom and our liberty over the past two-and-a-half centuries.

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Madam Speaker, I thank my congressional colleagues for their work on this bill, Captain SETH MOULTON and General JACK BERGMAN. Their steadfast commitment and determination to commemorate the Marine Corps truly shows once a marine, always a marine.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1096, a bill authorizing the U.S. Treasury to mint commemorative coins in honor of the Marine Corps' 250th Anniversary in 2025 and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

The 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act will allow Americans to continue their substantial contributions toward the preservation of the Marine Corps history without any costs to the taxpayers.

November 2025 marks the 250th anniversary of the Navy Marine Corps' founding at Tun Tavern, Philadelphia, on November 10, 1775.

Since its founding, the Marine Corps has gone on to safeguard our freedom in every climate and region, and in almost every war our nation has fought.

As this House may fervently remember, the coin minted in 2005 for the 230th anniversary of the Marine Corps turned out to be one of the most popular in U.S. Mint history.

The revenue from that coin supported the funding of the construction of the National Museum of the Marine Corps—an award-winning cultural institution which continues to welcome visitors from around the world.

No reason to doubt that a coin marking the 250th anniversary of the Marine Corps will be just as popular.

Revenue from the 250th Anniversary coin will support Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's historical and cultural programs that preserve, showcase, and educate the public on Marine Corps, history, traditions, and culture and support to the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

H.R. 1096 will also help to take the history, tradition, culture, and values of the Marine Corps beyond the museum's walls to Americans across the country.

Today's Marine Corps is an integrated air-ground team, capable of rapidly deploying to any conflict or crisis location in the world.

The men and women of the Marine Corps, Always Faithful, remain our nation's finest examples of Honor, Courage, and Commitment for nearly 250 years.

This legislation is an opportunity for Congress to help Americans honor the Marine Corps legacy of bravery and selfless service on a national scale, in a way that won't cost taxpayers a single cent.

I am honored to join with a bipartisan group of Marine veterans, and other veterans of the armed forces serving in Congress, in supporting a legislation that directs the Treasury Department to issue more than one million coins in 2025 for the commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1096.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

#### RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 1548;

H.R. 1096; and

Agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

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

#### IMPROVING ACCESS TO SMALL BUSINESS INFORMATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1548) to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 398, nays 11, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 290]

YEAS—398

Adams	Castro (TX)	Ezell
Aderholt	Chavez-DeRemer	Fallon
Aguilar	Cherfilus	Feenstra
Alford	McCormick	Ferguson
Allen	Chu	Finstad
Allred	Ciscomani	Fischbach
Amodei	Clark (MA)	Fitzgerald
Armstrong	Clarke (NY)	Fitzpatrick
Arrington	Cleaver	Fleischmann
Auchincloss	Cline	Fletcher
Babin	Cloud	Flood
Bacon	Clyburn	Poster
Baird	Cohen	Poushee
Balderson	Collins	Foxx
Balint	Comer	Frankel, Lois
Banks	Connolly	Franklin, C.
Barr	Correa	Scott
Bean (FL)	Courtney	Frost
Beatty	Craig	Fry
Bentz	Crawford	Fulcher
Bera	Crenshaw	Gallagher
Bergman	Crockett	Garamendi
Beyer	Crow	Garbarino
Bice	Cuellar	Garcia (TX)
Bilirakis	Curtis	Garcia, Mike
Bishop (GA)	D'Esposito	Garcia, Robert
Blunt	Davidson	Gimenez
Boebert	Davidson	Golden (ME)
Bost	Davis (IL)	Goldman (NY)
Bowman	Davis (NC)	Gomez
Boyle (PA)	De La Cruz	Gonzales, Tony
Brown	Dean (PA)	Gonzalez,
Brownley	DeGette	Vicente
Buck	DeLauro	Good (VA)
Bucshon	DelBene	Gooden (TX)
Budzinski	Deluzio	Gotthelmer
Burchett	DeSaulnier	Granger
Burgess	DesJarlais	Graves (LA)
Bush	Diaz-Balart	Graves (MO)
Calvert	Dingell	Green (TN)
Caraveo	Doggett	Green, Al (TX)
Carbajal	Donalds	Greene (GA)
Cárdenas	Duarte	Griffith
Carey	Duncan	Grijalva
Carl	Dunn (FL)	Grothman
Carson	Edwards	Guthrie
Carter (GA)	Ellzey	Hageman
Carter (LA)	Emmer	Harder (CA)
Carter (TX)	Escobar	Harris
Casar	Eshoo	Harshbarger
Case	Españillat	Hayes
Casten	Estes	Hern
Castor (FL)	Evans	Higgins (LA)

Higgins (NY) McClain  
 Hill McClellan  
 Himes McClintock  
 Hinson McCollum  
 Horsford McCormick  
 Houchin McGarvey  
 Houlihan McGovern  
 Hoyer McHenry  
 Hoyle (OR) Meeks  
 Hudson Menendez  
 Huffman Meng  
 Huizenga Meuser  
 Hunt Mfume  
 Issa Miller (IL)  
 Ivey Miller (OH)  
 Jackson (IL) Miller (WV)  
 Jackson (NC) Miller-Meeks  
 Jackson (TX) Mills  
 Jackson Lee Molinaro  
 Jacobs Moolenaar  
 James Mooney  
 Jayapal Moore (AL)  
 Jeffries Moore (UT)  
 Johnson (GA) Moore (WI)  
 Johnson (LA) Moran  
 Johnson (OH) Morelle  
 Johnson (SD) Moskowitz  
 Jordan Moulton  
 Joyce (OH) Mrvan  
 Joyce (PA) Murphy  
 Kamlager-Dove Nadler  
 Kaptur Napolitano  
 Kean (NJ) Neal  
 Keating Neguse  
 Kelly (IL) Nehls  
 Kelly (MS) Newhouse  
 Kiggans (VA) Nickel  
 Kildee Norcross  
 Kiley Norman  
 Kilmer Nunn (IA)  
 Kim (CA) Obernolte  
 Kim (NJ) Ocasio-Cortez  
 Krishnamoorthi Omar  
 Kuster Owens  
 Kustoff Pallone  
 LaHood Palmer  
 LaLota Panetta  
 LaMalfa Pappas  
 Lamborn Pascarell  
 Landsman Payne  
 Langworthy Pelosi  
 Larsen (WA) Peltola  
 Larson (CT) Pence  
 Latta Perez  
 LaTurner Peters  
 Lawler Pettersen  
 Lee (CA) Pfluger  
 Lee (FL) Phillips  
 Lee (NV) Pingree  
 Lee (PA) Pocan  
 Leger Fernandez Porter  
 Lesko Pressley  
 Letlow Quigley  
 Levin Ramirez  
 Lieu Raskin  
 Lofgren Reschenthaler  
 Loudermilk Rodgers (WA)  
 Lucas Rogers (AL)  
 Luetkemeyer Rogers (KY)  
 Luna Rose  
 Luttrell Ross  
 Lynch Rouzer  
 Mace Ruiz  
 Magaziner Ruppersberger  
 Malliotakis Rutherford  
 Mann Ryan  
 Manning Salinas  
 Mast Sánchez  
 Matsui Santos  
 McBath Sarbanes  
 McCaul Scalise

NAYS—11

Biggs  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Brecheen  
 Clyde

Crane  
 Gaetz  
 Gosar  
 Massie

NOT VOTING—24

Barragán  
 Blumenauer  
 Bonamici  
 Buchanan  
 Burlison  
 Cammack  
 Cartwright  
 Cole

Costa  
 Gallego  
 Garcia (IL)  
 Guest  
 Kelly (PA)  
 Khanna  
 Mullin  
 Ogles

Posey  
 Salazar  
 Smith (NE)  
 Trone  
 Waters  
 Wexton  
 Williams (NY)  
 Wilson (FL)

□ 1850  
 Messrs. GAETZ and ROSENDALE changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”  
 Mrs. FOUSHEE changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”  
 So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.  
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:  
 Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I regret to inform you that I missed the vote on rollcall No. 290. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 290.

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 290.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the recorded vote on H.R. 1548. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 290.

250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1096) 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, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.  
 The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.  
 The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 1, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 291]  
 YEAS—409

Adams  
 Aderholt  
 Aguilar  
 Alford  
 Allen  
 Allred  
 Amodei  
 Armstrong  
 Arrington  
 Auchincloss  
 Bacon  
 Baird  
 Balderson  
 Balint  
 Banks  
 Barr  
 Bean (FL)  
 Beatty  
 Bentz  
 Bera  
 Bergman  
 Beyer  
 Bice  
 Biggs  
 Bilirakis  
 Bishop (GA)  
 Bishop (NC)  
 Blunt Rochester  
 Boebert  
 Bonamici

Bost  
 Bowman  
 Boyle (PA)  
 Brecheen  
 Brown  
 Brownley  
 Buck  
 Bucshon  
 Budzinski  
 Burchett  
 Burgess  
 Bush  
 Calvert  
 Cammack  
 Comer  
 Conolly  
 Correa  
 Courtney  
 Craig  
 Crane  
 Crawford  
 Crenshaw  
 Crockett  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Case  
 Curtis  
 Casten  
 Castor (FL)  
 Castro (TX)  
 Chavez-DeRemer

Cherfilus-  
 McCormick  
 Chu  
 Ciscomani  
 Clark (MA)  
 Clarke (NY)  
 Cleaver  
 Cline  
 Cloud  
 Clyburn  
 Clyde  
 Cohen  
 Cole  
 Collins  
 Comer  
 Conolly  
 Correa  
 Courtney  
 Craig  
 Crane  
 Crawford  
 Crenshaw  
 Crockett  
 Crow  
 Cuellar  
 Case  
 Curtis  
 Casten  
 Castor (FL)  
 Castro (TX)  
 Chavez-DeRemer

Davis (NC)  
 De La Cruz  
 Dean (PA)  
 DeGette  
 DeLauro  
 DelBene  
 Deluzio  
 DeSaulnier  
 DesJarlais  
 Dingell  
 Doggett  
 Donalds  
 Duarte  
 Duncan  
 Dunn (FL)  
 Edwards  
 Ellzey  
 Emmer  
 Escobar  
 Eshoo  
 Espaillat  
 Estes  
 Evans  
 Ezell  
 Fallon  
 Feenstra  
 Ferguson  
 Finstad  
 Fischbach  
 Fitzgerald  
 Fitzpatrick  
 Fleischmann  
 Fletcher  
 Flood  
 Foster  
 Foushee  
 Fox  
 Frankel, Lois  
 Franklin, C.  
 Scott  
 Frost  
 Fry  
 Fulcher  
 Gaetz  
 Gallagher  
 Garamendi  
 Garbarino  
 Garcia (TX)  
 Garcia, Mike  
 Garcia, Robert  
 Gimenez  
 Golden (ME)  
 Goldman (NY)  
 Gomez  
 Gonzales, Tony  
 Gonzalez,  
 Vicente  
 Good (VA)  
 Gooden (TX)  
 Gottheimer  
 Granger  
 Graves (LA)  
 Graves (MO)  
 Green (TN)  
 Green, Al (TX)  
 Greene (GA)  
 Griffith  
 Grothman  
 Guthrie  
 Hageman  
 Harder (CA)  
 Harris  
 Harshbarger  
 Hayes  
 Hern  
 Higgins (LA)  
 Higgins (NY)  
 Hill  
 Himes  
 Hinson  
 Horsford  
 Houchin  
 Houlihan  
 Hoyer  
 Hoyle (OR)  
 Hudson  
 Huffman  
 Huizenga  
 Hunt  
 Issa  
 Ivey  
 Jackson (IL)  
 Jackson (NC)  
 Jackson (TX)  
 Jackson Lee  
 Jacobs  
 James  
 Jayapal  
 Jeffries

Johnson (GA)  
 Johnson (LA)  
 Johnson (OH)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan  
 Joyce (OH)  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Kamlager-Dove  
 Kaptur  
 Kean (NJ)  
 Keating  
 Kelly (IL)  
 Kelly (MS)  
 Kiley  
 Kilmer  
 Kim (CA)  
 Kim (NJ)  
 Krishnamoorthi  
 Kuster  
 Kustoff  
 LaHood  
 LaLota  
 LaMalfa  
 Lamborn  
 Landsman  
 Langworthy  
 Larsen (WA)  
 Larson (CT)  
 Latta  
 LaTurner  
 Lawler  
 Lee (CA)  
 Lee (FL)  
 Lee (NV)  
 Lee (PA)  
 Leger Fernandez  
 Lesko  
 Letlow  
 Levin  
 Lieu  
 Lofgren  
 Loudermilk  
 Lucas  
 Luetkemeyer  
 Luna  
 Luttrell  
 Lynch  
 Mace  
 Magaziner  
 Malliotakis  
 Mann  
 Manning  
 Mast  
 Matsui  
 McBath  
 McCaul

Johnson (GA)  
 Johnson (LA)  
 Johnson (OH)  
 Johnson (SD)  
 Jordan  
 Joyce (OH)  
 Joyce (PA)  
 Kamlager-Dove  
 Kaptur  
 Kean (NJ)  
 Keating  
 Kelly (IL)  
 Kelly (MS)  
 Kiley  
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Ocasio-Cortez  
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 Santos  
 Sarbanes  
 Scalise

Van Drew	Waltz	Wild
Van Duyne	Wasserman	Williams (GA)
Van Orden	Schultz	Williams (TX)
Vargas	Watson Coleman	Wilson (FL)
Vasquez	Weber (TX)	Wilson (SC)
Veasey	Webster (FL)	Wittman
Velázquez	Wenstrup	Womack
Wagner	Westerman	Yakym
Walberg	Wexton	Zinke

## NAYS—1

Massie

## NOT VOTING—23

Babin	Gallego	Ogles
Barragán	Garcia (IL)	Posey
Blumenauer	Gosar	Salazar
Buchanan	Grijalva	Smith (NE)
Burlison	Guest	Trone
Cartwright	Kelly (PA)	Waters
Costa	LaMalfa	Williams (NY)
Diaz-Balart	Mullin	

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1858

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Madam Speaker, after a routine doctor's appointment found an important medical issue, I am now scheduled for a minimally invasive surgical procedure this week. This will impede my ability to vote. Had I been present today, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 290, H.R. 1548 and "yea" on rollcall No. 291, H.R. 1096.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

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

## PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 1118

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 1118, a bill originally introduced by Representative CICILLINE of Rhode Island, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

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

There was no objection.

## MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR WYNTER COLE SMITH

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

Mr. JAMES. Madam Speaker, over the weekend of July 4, sweet, precious, 2-year-old angel, Wynter Cole Smith of Lansing was kidnapped and killed by a truly evil person. Two years old, murdered with an iPhone charging cable. Everyone in Michigan is horrified by this heinous and despicable crime; a bright light snuffed out way too early.

Madam Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with Wynter's family, and I ask that all Members in the Chamber and those in the gallery please rise for a moment of silence to honor and remember this beautiful, beautiful soul.

We love Wynter Cole Smith, and she will always be in our hearts.

## CELEBRATING TEAM USA'S LACROSSE CHAMPIONSHIP

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Team USA's recent World Lacrosse Championship.

On July 1, the U.S. defeated Canada 10-7 to claim the title. It was the second straight championship for the U.S. Men's team, and the 11th time in 14 tournaments that the U.S. has won it all.

This year, the team was a perfect seven wins and zero losses through the tournament, and it scored an incredible 86 goals in seven games.

The team was led by tournament Most Valuable Player Brennan O'Neill. As the youngest player on the U.S. national team, O'Neill scored 5 goals in the final and scored 15 goals throughout the tournament. But it was O'Neill's goal with close to 2 minutes left that sealed the victory for the Americans.

Again, I congratulate the U.S. team for its World Lacrosse Championship and hope we celebrate them again after next year's tournament.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY BULLOCK DEMERE

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mary Bullock Demere, a friend to many in Savannah, Georgia.

A grandmother to 17 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren, Mary loved to spend time with her family and was known as the ultimate hostess, always entertaining those dearest to her.

You could find Mary gardening, sailing with her husband, or dancing the jitterbug in her free time, and her loving compassion extended not just to her friends and family but also to animals. In fact, Mary would tell you that she could even speak to bears.

Her generous and kind spirit led her to become an avid donor to numerous charities, and Mary also dedicated her

time and energy to organizations in Savannah like the Savannah Junior League and Savannah Garden Club.

I send my thoughts and prayers to Mary's family and thank God for having brought such a beacon of light and joy into this world.

## HAPPY PRIDE MONTH SAN DIEGO

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a celebration of love, acceptance, and diversity and a powerful testament to the resilience and spirit of the LGBTQ+ community, Pride Month in the city of San Diego.

San Diego has long been a beacon of progress and inclusivity, and at the heart of our great city lies Hillcrest, the vibrant LGBTQ+ center of San Diego in my congressional district.

Hillcrest stands as a symbol of hope and empowerment. Its colorful streets, adorned with rainbow flags, proudly reflect a community that has overcome adversity and fought for the rights and freedoms of all.

Let's take this moment to celebrate the achievements of the LGBTQ+ community and reaffirm our commitment to a future where every individual can live authentically and without fear of discrimination.

In San Diego, and across the Nation, let us build a society that celebrates diversity, cherishes our differences, ensures equality for all regardless of who they love or how they identify.

Happy Pride Month San Diego.

## RECOGNIZING VAYDA BELL

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the kind actions of Vayda Bell of Bradford, Pennsylvania. After fires in her local town left five households in her community destroyed and the families in them displaced, 6-year-old Vayda decided to act.

Vayda Bell set out to help her community by setting up a lemonade and snack stand on her street. Hoping to raise \$100, she exchanged refreshing treats for donations a few dollars at a time. By the end of the day, she raised more than \$800 to help her neighbors in need, which was matched by a generous member of the community.

After setting out with the goal of helping five families in need with the support of her family and community, she earned more than \$1,600 to be donated.

Thank you, Vayda, for stepping up in such an impactful way. Your actions serve to inspire and instill your generosity in ourselves and those around us.

## FIREARMS SAFETY

□ 1915

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

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, right now virtually anyone in our country can walk into a store and purchase a firearm they don't know how to use or store.

I rise today in support of my amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. It studies weapons training, safety, and storage standards in the military to see how we can implement them for civilians.

Through our Armed Forces, the United States has developed a system capable of ensuring the safety and training of gun users. Look at all of the steps our servicemembers must take before they can carry a gun. This is what our servicemembers must go through before they can even pick up a gun.

Hundreds of people die every year from unintentional shootings. Why not take our military's best practices in firearm safety and apply them to civilians so we can reduce gun accidents and save lives? That is exactly what my amendment seeks to do, and I urge folks to support it.

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HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
JEREMY STUTSMAN

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

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Jeremy Stutsman, who recently completed his tenure of dedicated service as the mayor of Goshen, Indiana.

Before stepping down last month, Jeremy had served as mayor of Goshen since January of 2016, and he holds the distinction of being the youngest mayor elected in Goshen's history of nearly 200 years.

Prior to becoming mayor, Jeremy also served on the City Council and Redevelopment Commission, and his record of serving Goshen runs over two decades deep.

Jeremy and I might belong to different political parties, but I couldn't be more proud to count this good man with a servant's heart as a friend.

Since leaving the mayor's office, Jeremy has hit the ground running in his new role of CEO of Lacasa, a local non-profit that helps lower-income Hoosiers attain affordable housing and achieve financial stability.

I saw Jeremy just a few weeks ago at a ribbon cutting ceremony for some of Lacasa's newly renovated homes, and I can attest that Lacasa is indeed in very good hands.

We congratulate Jeremy on a job well done as mayor. May he keep up the good work in his new role. May God bless him and his family.

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UPDATING U.S. TRADE REMEDY  
LAWS AND COMBATING UNFAIR  
TRADE PRACTICES

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

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Leveling the Playing Field Act 2.0, legislation recently introduced by my colleague Congresswoman SEWELL.

As vice chairman of the Congressional Steel Caucus, I was proud to join her and other colleagues in a Steel Caucus hearing recently with representatives from the domestic steel industry and the United Steelworkers. These representatives of the industry were united in their support for this critical legislation that will update U.S. trade remedy laws and combat unfair trade practices.

Every effort must be taken to ensure that American workers can compete on a level playing field and thrive in our global economy.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to continuing to work with all of my colleagues to advance this critical legislation to support the ability of all American workers to grow our economy and provide for our national security.

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OVERSEEING THE BIDEN  
ADMINISTRATION

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, one of the cornerstones of our responsibilities in Congress is oversight of government operations, whether that is the agencies, the White House, courts, or ourselves.

What are we looking at right now with the Biden administration? They can't even keep the White House clean and orderly and honorable. The story coming out on this cocaine issue is embarrassing for the country, and it is embarrassing that the leader of the free world will not investigate and provide answers on that and some other tawdry activities that have gone on on the lawn there during other events.

Accountability is extremely important for people to have faith in what their government is doing, and to see the Department of Justice either not doing its job or being weaponized against individuals they disagree with politically really lowers the faith that people and we as legislators have in the process here.

We have to do better, and that starts with our ability to have oversight hearings that are attended and questions that are answered here in this House, but also maybe a little better self-governance by the White House and this place of acting right, of doing right, and being honorable in their jobs.

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CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF  
JACKIE ROWE-ADAMS

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

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the birthday of Ms. Jackie Rowe-Adams and her inspirational life and remarkable accomplishments.

Jackie suffered the devastating loss of not one but two sons to gun violence in her Harlem neighborhood. Rather than succumb to her sorrow, she turned her heartbreaking pain into a powerful purpose by founding Harlem Mothers S.A.V.E., an organization dedicated to ending the traumatic scourge of gun violence in this country.

Always dressed in brightly colored matching outfits, Jackie is a fixture in her community, having served on multiple community boards, as president of her school board, and on a number of other boards and commissions. However, it is her dedication to her neighborhood's youth and her activism in ending gun violence that has drawn the admiration and respect of everyone in New York City.

It is an honor to know Jackie and a privilege to consider her a friend, and it is an even greater honor to be able to share her inspiring story here on the House floor. I wish her the happiest of birthdays.

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UNLAWFUL USE OF THE CBP1 APP

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to highlight the important work the House is doing in the 118th Congress to hold the Biden administration accountable.

My colleagues are familiar with all we are doing with regard to looking at student loan agreements, the abusive pandemic-era policies, but today, I want to focus on something the administration is doing at the southern border that it has no business doing.

Their new unlawful use of the CBP1 app is allowing an even greater number of people to come across our border. In addition to people, the got-aways, in addition to the unaccompanied minors, we have people using an app to sign up and wind up coming into our country.

In the current fiscal year, in each one of the 9 months, we had for that month an all-time record number of people coming here. I think in part because of the use of this app, the slumbering press corps is not paying attention to that.

Let me repeat that one more time. In each of the last 9 months, we had an all-time high in the number of people coming into the United States.

This is an absolute scandal. I am glad our committee is taking it on, and I

hope the press corps pays a little bit more attention to this invasion.

**ENDING AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS  
MEAN-SPIRITED**

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, and I will continue to work with them and proceed to analyze the very wrongheaded decision that was made by the United States Supreme Court on the question of affirmative action.

I thank the gentlewoman from Florida, the gentleman from New York, and, certainly, the gentleman from Nevada for their leadership.

I rise today as a clear recipient of affirmative action, particularly in higher education. I may have been admitted on affirmative action, both in terms of being a woman and a woman of color, but I can declare that I did not graduate on affirmative action. This is my personal story, but as I read the Supreme Court opinion led by Justice Roberts and a number of Justices reading their opinion aloud, they really skewed and misdirected what affirmative action is.

Affirmative action is affirmatively selecting out of the group excellent persons who happen to be people of color who would not have been noted, recognized, or accepted heretofore, and that is evident because that did not happen in the 20th century, in the 19th century, when African Americans, in particular, were not admitted to institutions of higher learning such as Ivy League and other schools.

This very mean-spirited decision will close the door of opportunity to many, from Latinos to Asians to African Americans to Anglos.

My plea tonight is that this Congress looks squarely at ensuring that America and her cities are open to equal opportunity and that, affirmatively, we ensure that everyone has a seat at the table of empowerment.

**HELPING TO REPAY VETERANS**

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I represent nearly 50,000 veterans across North Carolina's First Congressional District, more than 10,000 of whom sustained injuries while serving our country.

Because of their sacrifice, I introduced a bipartisan Veteran Caregiver Application and Appeals Reform Act of 2023, or the CARE Act of 2023, for the specific purpose of helping to repay our veterans who can never fully be repaid.

The CARE Act, introduced with Congresswoman JEN KIGGANS of Virginia and Congressman JUAN CISCOMANI of Arizona, allows veterans service orga-

nizations and other accredited agents to advocate for disabled veterans while directing the VA to hire medical specialists to review applications.

We must allow servicemembers who nearly died for this country to assess the resources they need to apply for assistance. We must always keep our country's promises to our heroes in eastern North Carolina and across this Nation.

**MATH AND THE U.S. DEBT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JAMES). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, tonight, I am going to actually have one positive and lots of things that are just terrifying, so let's have some fun with some math.

Mr. Speaker, we often start with this board just because it helps everyone sort of visualize what we are talking about. A couple of weeks ago, I actually beat up on some of the Republican ideas in regard to where the debt was coming from. Tonight, I am going to beat up on some of my brothers and sisters on the left on tax proposals and how little they actually do, but first, if you are not terrified right now about what is going on with U.S. debt, you don't own a calculator.

I have used this board for years. It is actually the 2022 board, but the concept is really simple. Mr. Speaker, you see this blue and the green. That is all we vote on. This wedge right here, that is all we get to vote on. That is what we call discretionary. The red is mandatory. That is Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security. Those are the things that are on a formula. Recipients get those because they worked a certain number of quarters. They get those because they turned a certain age, are part of a certain Tribal group, or fall below a certain income. These are formula-driven.

This wedge over here, defense and nondefense discretionary, when we were here a couple of weeks ago, our math said every dime of that discretionary, defense included, was going to be on borrowed money this year.

The Supreme Court made its ruling in regard to student loan debt. That backs off roughly \$300 billion of spending this year. We are having to redo the interest calculations because of what happened in interest over the last 10 days, and then there is the discussion of what we call paying back the extraordinary measures.

When we were having the battle over the debt ceiling, one of the ways they kept the government running is they borrowed from all sorts of trust funds. Well, now they have to sell lots and lots of debt. Remember when we borrowed a trillion dollars in a week? That was actually selling bonds to function-

ally pay back those extraordinary measures, and I am going to show some charts on that. Those bonds are now at the much higher interest rates. I haven't had the time to actually do those calculations.

The good news I am going to show on a chart is we may not borrow \$1.8 trillion this year. It could be \$1.5, \$1.6 trillion. I am a little more dour. I think it is going to be closer to \$1.7 trillion. We haven't done all that.

The point of the matter is, give or take a couple hundred billion dollars, all discretionary is pretty much borrowed this year. Think about that. If you are part of the brain trust that walks in—this is me beating up on myself and some of my friends—you walk in and say that we can balance the budget by getting rid of foreign aid. A couple of weeks ago, I showed the chart. That is like 12 days of borrowing.

Let's play a game. In your head right now, the last 12 months, how much have we been borrowing per second? What is the burn rate? What is the borrowing rate the last 12 months, not the fiscal year but the last running calendar 12 months? What have we been borrowing per second?

If you said \$63,000 a second in your head, you are really good at math because, in the last 12 months, we have borrowed \$2 trillion. That is over \$63,000 every second.

There is a delusion that debt doesn't matter. Maybe it doesn't matter until it does. When it does, it is the poor and the working middle class that are getting their heads kicked in. It is immoral what is going on here.

□ 1930

In 9 years, when the Social Security trust fund is empty—and I am going to show the trust funds in a little bit—and grandma takes a 25 percent cut in her Social Security check, we double senior poverty. Is that moral?

Once again, you have heard me gripe about that, when the President stood behind that podium and made it toxic to have an honest conversation of trust funds being empty.

Remember, the Social Security trust fund will be emptied in this 10-year window. The transportation, the highway transportation trust fund is empty in just a couple more years. The Medicare trust fund is empty.

How many times today did you see people get behind these microphones and talk about the math?

Last week, when we were at home, I had a great conversation with a reporter from one of the big cable news networks. She had all sorts of questions, but they were personality, who's fighting with who, who doesn't like who. I stopped her and said: Do you realize how much of this year's discretionary spending is borrowed? She said: Yes, David, I watched part of your speech the other day. Understand, none of my national audience cares. My producers don't care.



Dear Lord, I hope that is not true, because it is the single thing that wipes out a republic.

Look at what has happened over history. The debt is what destroys you. Maybe that is why we are terrified to talk about it.

Once again, why this was important, is a year ago—let's go back, way back, like a year ago May. This year we were supposed to only borrow about \$980 billion, only. As of 2 weeks ago, our best math—because remember, healthcare costs have gone up dramatically. I think our math in the first 7 months of this fiscal year had gone up—just Medicare had gone up 16 percent. Interest costs had gone up \$130 billion and now continually, because we are at even higher interest rates than that previous calculation, and tax receipts had fallen like 10 percent, substantially because of capital gains taxes.

Who is going to sell an asset when most of your gain is inflation? There are historic precedents that during times of high inflation, people stop selling things because you are going to get taxed on not gain but inflation.

We were calculating that this year's borrowing was going to be about \$1.8 trillion. Now, with the Supreme Court ruling on student debt, take away \$200 billion or \$300 billion from that. That is the good news. The terrifying news, once again, still, is almost all of discretionary spending is on borrowed money.

Let's have some more fun with math. It doesn't really change some of the outside economists' calculations from about 3 weeks ago. CBO basically said: Hey, guys, when you did the debt ceiling deal, you probably pulled down debt-to-GDP by about 4 points. Remember, we were seeing things, we were going to be at the end of the 10-year window, 9 budget years from now, at about 119 percent of debt to GDP. Remember, that is publicly held debt.

Let's make this point. When you see the number, it says there is \$32.5 trillion of debt, a few trillion of that is actually money we borrow from ourselves. This is the money that is in the healthcare trust fund. This is the money that is set aside for future benefits for veterans. We internally borrow that.

Now, we still pay interest on it. When the Treasury borrows money from the Social Security trust fund, we pay interest. As a matter of fact, for years it was actually a spiff. They actually got a little higher than market interest rates. So there is \$2 trillion-plus in the Social Security trust fund, and we are going to burn through that in about 8-and-a-half or 9 years.

For that remaining \$25 trillion, \$26 trillion of borrowing, that is where we are at today, CBO now updates the number saying: Hey, you made the debt ceiling deal. You are basically going to remove about \$100 billion of spending for the next few years on discretionary. Instead of spending \$700 billion, you are going to spend \$600 billion. That

brought us down to 115 percent of debt to GDP.

Then Moody's did their calculation and said with higher interest rates and higher healthcare costs and we believe flat GDP growth, we think at the end of the 10 years we are going to be at 120 percent of debt to GDP. Why that is a big deal is that is higher than during World War II.

The one that terrified me was Bloomberg Intelligence. They actually have a fairly sophisticated data model, like Tax Foundation, like Joint Tax, and others here. CBO has one. The Bloomberg model said, no, you are going to about \$52 trillion of borrowed money, 130 percent of debt to GDP at the end of the 10-year window.

If this is true—please, I desperately hope Bloomberg Intelligence really isn't true, but if you read their notes, it makes sense. There are a couple of things I want to throw out as to why their notes make sense. In 10 years, we are spending about \$2 trillion a year in interest.

Remember, CBO last week put out their long-term estimates. I know we all grabbed it and read it last week when it came out. Remember the little booklet, percentages of GDP to debt? In there are some line items. What is the borrowing? What is the interest cost next year?

CBO, which has been far too conservative on some of these numbers for the last decade, what did CBO say we are going to spend in interest next year? Three-quarters of a trillion dollars next year. My math for this year was about 620, 630. We have one economist with us that says it could be 680, depending on the cost of this recent financing.

What was fascinating is something those of us who care about the honest math don't talk about. In the notes from Bloomberg Intelligence, they said: Hey, guys, you really, really, really need to cut spending. Okay. But do understand, it is not a free option anymore. When Bloomberg came back and said you are going to be at \$51 trillion-plus of borrowed money after 10 years, 130 percent of debt to GDP, think of this: Just the removal of that \$100 billion of spending, got to do—got to pay interest on it and those things—but that is going to lower GDP next year by half a point.

One of the things that goes on here is: We are going to cut this. Fine. We need to reduce spending, but don't think it is a free option that the GDP continues to grow because you have just removed \$100 billion of spending from the economy. Now, you have got to do it. But when you do it, you also have got to adopt other policies that grow.

This is the thing that frustrates me so much around here. We are incapable of thinking about complex answers for complex problems. It is not just cut. You have got to have policies over here to grow, promote investment, promote risk-taking. You don't just get to do one without the other.

It is just sort of like when the left, a couple of years ago, said: Hey, we are going to spend \$1.9 trillion, and then they didn't think it through, and we are going to pay people not to have to work, the economists—even Democrat economists were losing their minds. If you are going to put out that sort of stimulus, you have got to be actually making stuff to sop it up. Then they wonder why you set off inflation.

Let's actually walk through a little bit more of this. This is new board for us. I am just trying to point out a very simple concept. I have done entire presentations on this.

Look at the last 50 years of history. When we have had very high marginal tax rates, we get about 18-and-a-half, 19 percent of the economy in taxes. When we have had very low marginal tax rates, we get about 18-and-a-half, 19 percent of the economy in taxes. You see something? The tax receipts actually are not sympathetic to the tax rate. They sort of fall into this mean.

The concept is, grow the economy as much as possible, and you actually—the bigger the economy, that percentage represents more dollars.

When you start to look at the chart, this black line is revenues. The proper term is receipts. You will notice, if you can run a line, it is always right there about that 18-and-a-half, 19 percent. You see the colored lines here? This green here is just borrowing.

Why is this a big deal? Remember a moment ago, I was starting to show you that Bloomberg and some of the others—CBO is saying, hey, you may get as high as 7, 7.5 percent of the entire economy in borrowing. Bloomberg comes and says, no, it could be as high as 13 percent of the economy in borrowing at the end of the 10 years.

Okay. Let's say CBO is right at 7, and your economy is now growing at 1.7, 1.8. The difference between 1.8 and that 7 or 7.5—and God forbid it is not Bloomberg's 13—that difference is what buries you. Yet, we have lots and lots and lots and lots of history of when we have raised taxes, you get a little pop on receipts, and then it fades back down, because as a percentage of the economy, the economy doesn't grow.

Let's walk through a couple more things. Interest spending is now a key thing in driving parts of the debt. I am going to show a couple boards here showing it is spending and interest. When we say spending, let's be honest. It is mostly healthcare, one of the things we aren't supposed to say out loud, but it is.

This is a complex board. We should actually put it up, but here is where we are. Actually, one of the things that is fascinating with this is you are about to see interest, in just a couple years, exceed defense. The interest payment next year is three-quarters of a trillion dollars. A couple years after that, the interest expenditure for this government will be more than defense. Then you keep looking a couple years after that, it exceeds nondefense discretionary. It will be more money than

that in a couple more years after that. You start to get into 20 years from now, interest is more than Medicare, yet Medicare is the primary driver of U.S. debt. Then at a certain point, it starts to exceed 6.5, 6.7 percent of the entire economy—of the entire economy—just the debt payment of the United States.

This isn't conjecture. This is functionally built in. This is Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, their math, and I think their interest calculation is too low, but that is actually the chart we have. Understand, you are not at the death spiral yet, but you are getting pretty darn close where healthcare costs go up substantially because we have got 67 million baby boomers.

Inflation has made all the bad, ugly predictions that weren't supposed to happen for years move forward. Now, because of inflation, you have much higher interest rates, because inflation is the devaluation of the dollar, so you have got to have a higher interest rate and then the Federal Reserve trying to have higher interest rates to slow the economy down, particularly now wage inflation.

Healthcare, inflation, interest rates, if we don't get in front of this, if we don't somehow get productivity up, if we somehow don't actually get investment capital to things that are productive—there were some fascinating articles last week about how it is amazing how many factories are being built around the United States with government money. Then the second paragraph is, of course, there is a problem: There are no consumers for the products they are about to make and there are no workers for them.

I will make you a prediction today, and I will buy someone a fancy coffee if they remember this a couple of years from now. We are going to have a whole bunch of government-financed factories—remember the soft nationalization that happened in the previous couple years with Democrat control here. We are going to have factories that basically run at a fraction of their capacity because they can't find labor and there are functionally no consumers for their products.

Remember, right now, the world has a glut of computer chips. It was funny, as this place was passing the CHIPS Act a couple years ago, that same week, or the week after that, *The Economist* magazine ran a major article that basically said, hey, you do understand the economy is actually awash in chips; they are just having a supply chain issue problem of delivery. Our brothers and sisters on the other side believe in a soft nationalization of major industry, and that is what happened.

Let's actually walk through part of the rest of the crisis. This isn't Republican or Democrat. It is demographics. We got old. We got old. It is not Republican; it is not Democratic. It is just the way God made us.

Here is what is happening to the Social Security trust fund. This is, I think, using the number from the Medicare Social Security actuaries. The CBO functionally has the trust fund gone in about 9 years, with grandma having to take a 25 percent cut.

This one is Social Security. You realize this right here, 2028, the highway trust fund is gone. This one here, the Medicare trust fund—remember, Medicare, about 40 percent of Medicare spending comes from the trust fund. The rest comes right out of the general fund.

□ 1945

That part is mostly the hospital portion, and it is gone in about 8 years. This is our reality. What are we going to do? How much taxes are we going to raise here? And how much taxes are you going to do to backfill the Medicare trust fund and the highway trust fund?

If you start to stack all of these requirements and then just the baseline deficit, the amount of the economy you would have to now start collecting in taxes you almost have to double. I don't think there is an understanding of how bad and how fast the numbers are moving away from us.

This is just one of my fragility charts. It basically says that if interest rates continue to stay uncomfortably high—there are some models out there that basically say within the 30-year window—you hit points here. One of the best parts here is if you had a 2 percent increase—and, yes, you have got to calculate it from this—if you had a 2 percent increase from interest rates that we had a year or two ago and you held that for the 30 years, at about 25 years 100 percent of all tax receipts just go to interest.

That is the concept of fragility, how on the edge we are living. And now we are starting to deal with it when inflation starts to shoot up healthcare costs and interest rates start to shoot up. Did I mention three-quarters of a trillion dollars next year in interest, and that is CBO's number before the recent additional spike in interest rates.

I brought this one just because I get this question. Oh, but China owns our debt. No. Actually, Japan is the number one holder of our debt; they hold about a \$1.1 trillion. China has pared theirs back to \$850 billion. They continue to sell off U.S. Treasuries or let them roll off. This is the reality.

The United Kingdom—now, understand, the United Kingdom holding U.S. Treasuries are often acting as the domicile for investors from other places in the world, so that number is often distorted, but that is 668. The reality is that much of the world has been slowly paring back their purchases of U.S. sovereigns. Think about that.

This means much of this debt we will have to finance internally. It is the savings. It is your pension. It is the capital that we build up to grow the

economy to pay for your retirement and pay for your kids' college. Much of that now is being ultimately borrowed by the U.S. Government.

What happens at the end of the decade when they have to turn on the printing presses because they don't have enough buyers at an auction? Is it the rest of the world? Yes. The rest of the world would probably go into recession or depression. We would get wiped out.

I am not one of those that believes there is a crash coming; it is more the rot that comes. You inflate the dollar, inflate the dollar, and people don't understand inflation. Inflating the dollar is a type of tax.

We devalue your savings and then the value of the debt actually gets paid back with inflated dollars. It becomes a transfer of your wealth. It becomes a transfer of your wealth to government. That is the really sneaky evil of inflation. It is actually a wealth transfer. It is a tax. In the last couple years has been one of the biggest taxes in modern history. People don't know it.

We have made America poorer. If you want to know why the working middle-class, the working poor are really cranky, it is because they are poorer today than they were a couple years ago. It is inflation. Their wages haven't gone up as fast.

I do this chart just to basically beat up my own side and sort of make a point. If you do a baseline number—and here is one of the great scams going on right now in budgeting. We are ticking along, economy is growing phenomenally well, the poor are getting less poor. There are really good things—income inequality is shrinking. There is some of the greatest shrinkage of food insecurity.

The 2017 tax reform happens and we have this remarkable growth with no inflation. The pandemic hits and spending goes way up. And now we are actually starting to rebuild our budget, but we are often using the inflated base from the pandemic.

The way you actually look at honest math is pick a benchmark here, go back a decade, go back two decades, go back three decades. It doesn't matter, just pick a date. Then say, here is the budget, and we are going to inflation adjust it. How much would the 2022 budget be if we just inflation adjust it? How much higher would this be than the baseline?

Simple.

Nondefense discretionary is up 154 percent and defense is up 35 percent. When someone tells you, you say, well, discretionary spending is pretty flat. It is flat from the last couple of years, which were dramatically higher. But if you see the charts—I know this is uncomfortable, and I am not making a lot of friends by sharing this—but the reality is nondefense discretionary is up dramatically from its inflation-adjusted trend line. It is math. It is the truth.

Let's have a little more fun here. This is my one shot at inflation—actually, two shots at inflation—I have another board. I do need to update from the unemployment number from the end of last week that actually had some pretty good wage growth in it. This number may shrink a fraction of a fraction, but that was actually positive to see.

If you want to understand why much of the population is cranky right now, it is because they are poorer. Under President Obama, real wage—let's phrase it the right way—percentage change in real average weekly earnings. This is for production-type workers. This is for our brothers and sisters, the classic middle class, and BLS gives us a great dataset here.

Under Obama, over that time, he had about a 4 percent growth in real wages adjusted for inflation. Under President Trump it was 9.8. It was a remarkable growth in real wages adjusted for inflation. So far, at this moment under this administration, you are 3½ percent poorer. It is just math. Much of this is that wages are up but inflation is up more. It is just what it is.

There is another way to calculate it that if you actually look at it and you go back to the BLS numbers, if you look at the change in real disposable personal income per capita, you adjust it per person, today, the average working American is 4½ percent poorer.

You feel that.

I also argue it is immoral. Transfer payments aren't a fix. It is a Band-Aid that ends up making the wound worse, but that has actually been the solution that keeps being offered around here.

Back to something that is really uncomfortable to talk about. There is a reason for pulling this chart right now. This chart now is almost 2 years old and the numbers are much worse. Over the next 30 years, we no longer expect about \$116 trillion of borrowing. We now expect it to be closer to \$130 trillion.

And if you want to tell the truth about it, three-quarters of the borrowing is Medicare and one-quarter is Social Security. And that is if we choose to backfill Social Security, which you already know the moral dilemma we are walking into—a 25 percent cut.

We had a President stand behind that podium and made it almost toxic for my brothers on my left and folks on our side to have an actual honest conversation about the math because it is a great campaign issue because the public doesn't understand it. The math basically said the rest of the budget is in balance because this is where all the demographic growth is.

Remember how many times you have heard people say that 10,000 Americans turn 65 every day?

In 2024, it is 12,000 Americans that will turn 65 every day. For those of you with a calculator, take that 12,000 and multiple it by 365. That is just the new additions to the Medicare rolls. You start to understand the math.

Let's have a little more fun there. I often end up with discussions when I do certain group things at home, and say, well, you know, tax rich people more. Okay. Fine. A point of reference—our brothers and sisters on the left and the President have said that people that make \$400,000 and below will not be touched. Okay.

Mr. Speaker, \$400,000 and up is 2 percent of the population and most of them live in Democrat districts. Maybe as Republicans we should stop caring. They live on the coasts and most of that population lives in Democrat districts. Fine, it is your voters, but it is only 2 percent of the population.

Do you actually believe when we are projected to have a \$2.5 or \$2.6 trillion-a-year borrowing at the end of the 10-year window—nine budget years from now the annual borrowing will be over \$2.5 trillion a year. That is CBO's number from last week, and I think it underestimates interest costs. You are going to finance that on 2 percent of the population. Okay.

Let's walk through why that mathematically doesn't work. Why this board is important is because it is a distribution, a share of individual income versus a share of Federal income tax.

What is fascinating is upper income—if you start to look here, take the populations at \$100,000 and up, they pay the vast majority of income tax. They have very high percentages of their share of income until you get to the really wealthy—functionally here. If you can see this blue line here, that is the percentage of total income. This is the amount of taxes they are paying.

If you are one of the people who makes a million dollars—which I would like to meet a few of them and I would like to become their friends—functionally the percentage of the total Federal income tax they pay compared to others is like 2½ times more.

A bit of trivia—and I dare anyone to walk up to someone from the left and ask them this question. After the 2017 tax reform, was the U.S. Federal income tax more or less progressive?

The trivia answer: The tax model got more progressive, meaning the wealthier were paying a higher percentage of Federal income taxes after tax reform than before it, and half the population was removed from the tax rolls.

How often do we have anyone actually tell the truth about that?

Let's walk through just a couple more of these boards.

Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 27 minutes remaining.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, to my friends who have the next time slot, I promise I will talk faster.

Mr. Speaker, I have a series of boards, and I may save these for another week, but it just sort of talks about some of the spending that happened last year.

Do you remember when we were getting the Inflation Reduction Act,

which, come on, let's be honest, was a completely Orwellian name for something that actually boosted inflation.

Remember, we were first told it is going to be a couple hundred billion, maybe \$280 billion of handouts to Big Green Energy for energy companies that do things we want. Then we saw Goldman Sachs say, no, it could be as high as \$1.2 trillion. This one actually has the latest data at about \$659 billion.

□ 2000

Mr. Speaker, do you want to understand why inflation is continuing and why there are factories being built that are going to be empty?

It is the ultimate Keynesian economics without actually demand on the other side. So build the factory but then don't build the mechanisms to actually have supply. This is what happens with the arrogance of us who sit in this body thinking we can manage the economy.

Let's have a little fun here. I am going to be a little caustic on some of these. I know I am going to be slightly mean, but I am just trying to get it through. Let's actually walk through a couple of these proposals.

Let's repeal all the 2017 tax reform cuts, including what we did for low-income folks, the doubling of the deductions and those things. Remember, Mr. Speaker, 10 years from now, we are borrowing about \$2.5 trillion a year. Over the whole 10 years, we get about \$455 billion in over 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, the next time you have a Democrat behind the microphone saying it is the tax reform, then, okay, just repeal it, and when you take away the growth effects, Mr. Speaker, the wage growth effects, look at the number. You get \$455 billion of receipts over an entire 10 years.

Let's actually walk through a couple of other things going on. Proposal: a 30 percent minimum Buffett tax. How many of us have ever heard of the Buffett tax? Remember, Mr. Speaker, we tax income differently from passive income, capital gains, and those things.

How many people have gotten behind the microphone on that side and said it is not fair? Maybe it isn't. Rewrite the 16th Amendment, but go to a 30 percent under that Buffett rule where everyone is paying, and it produces \$66 billion over 10 years, or 0.03 percent of GDP.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, we are heading toward borrowing 7½ percent, or something much more, of the entire economy. This would take care of 0.03.

This is theater. It is not real math. Those are the types of proposals this place likes because they politically poll well, but it is crap math.

Let's do a little more of some of the proposals the other side gives. Eliminate all itemized tax deductions. Okay, \$1.7 billion over the 10. Excuse me. Sorry. I knew I was getting that wrong. \$1.718 trillion over the 10 years. That is real money.

Except we saw some of the boards that if we are borrowing \$2.5 trillion a year, and I get \$1.7 trillion over 10, so it is about \$170 billion of tax receipts by getting rid of all deductions. This is a Democrat proposal. It is real money, but it is nothing. It is just still almost nothing compared to the scale of the borrowing. Remember, Mr. Speaker, we borrowed \$2 trillion in the last 12 months.

Let's take another proposal here. Raise the FICA cap. Just get rid of the cap. Maybe this is the part of this that we should have a debate over, but don't think it solves all the problems. It is more complicated.

What breaks my heart is I actually think letting the Social Security trust fund run out of money is immoral on all of our parts, but we are terrified to talk about it, Mr. Speaker, because you will lose your election if you do. I am an idiot. I talk about it.

Mr. Speaker, if you get rid of the FICA cap, then, over the 10 years, it produces \$2.18 trillion. It doesn't get you there. I think if you remove the caps and you can keep the current benefit formula, Mr. Speaker, then it takes care of only 19 percent of the shortfall.

We have to decide. We are going to be taxed on every dime with the 15.3 percent FICA tax, and if we are going to give people the same formula of benefits, then we are only covering about 19 percent of the shortfall, but that is one of the big talking points on the left, to raise the cap. Okay, but don't pretend it actually takes care of the problem of saving Social Security.

In 2022, tax revenues were \$1 trillion of prepandemic levels. Now, understand, Mr. Speaker, there is a lot of pandemic spending in this and those things, but do understand, it is \$1 trillion. We went from \$3.7 trillion to \$4.8 trillion, a trillion-dollar growth. It is like 20 percent, 25 percent growth in tax receipts prepandemic to postpandemic, yet somehow we are still burning through it.

Go back to a couple of the other proposals, Mr. Speaker.

How about a 50 percent income tax rate on everyone earning \$200,000 and up? Take everyone \$200,000 and up, and we get a 50 percent Federal income tax. Now, on top of that, put on FICA and put on State and local taxes. We are basically \$1.59 trillion, or 0.45 percent of the economy, in additional taxes.

We are heading toward a time when we are going to be borrowing 7½ percent. That is CBO's number. That is the most conservative number, 7, let's call it 7½ percent, and this does less than half a percent going to 50 percent income tax rate on everyone over \$200,000.

We can't pretend that raising these taxes gets us close to the numbers that are necessary.

I have a couple of more boards, and then I will shut up.

Taxing 100 percent of all income over \$500,000 would balance the budget over

the decade. I can show you a dozen Members who have said those things behind these microphones, that we just need to take those rich people making \$500,000 and up and just tax everything additional. It would raise about 5.1 percent of the economy, assuming we don't slow the economy down.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, these are static scores. They are not dynamic. If we take everyone who makes over one-half a million dollars, fine, take every dime of income, and then pretend the economy does not crash on us and does not slow down. The economy stays the same, and then we get about 5.1 percent of the economy in taxes. We are borrowing 7½, so you closed a bunch of the gap.

It is also fantasy that we didn't just blow up the economy.

Let's do a couple of the other fantasies. Raise corporate income tax from 21 percent to 35 percent. Okay, we get \$1.39 trillion over 10, so we get about another \$130 billion a year.

Did I mention we borrowed \$2 trillion in the last 12 months?

However, we could go to a 35 percent corporate income tax and make us not competitive in the world. Remember, Mr. Speaker, corporate income taxes are just passed to you as the consumer, but it makes us feel better.

We have lists of the different proposals our brothers and sisters on the left have given, and maybe there is a need for fixing parts of the tax code. I believe tax codes are living documents because we have to compete with the rest of the world, which is also always changing, but living in the fantasy world that just raising a handful of these taxes gets us anywhere is just not true.

Just as we have some people on our side say that if we get rid of foreign aid, then we can balance the budget. That is 12 days of borrowing.

We have to have our brothers and sisters on the other side stop pretending that if we just tax rich people more, then we will balance the budget.

It is not true. We all know it is not true.

Do we care so much more about not telling our voters the truth because they might not love us anymore? Guess what, Mr. Speaker? They don't love us anyway.

The math is the math. We have a demographic problem in this country. Take a look at where we are at, Mr. Speaker. Think of that. The Social Security trust fund at the end of last year, the very end of last year, held \$2.7 trillion, and that is gone in, functionally, 9 years. This helps us understand the burn rate.

Seventy-five percent of what goes out in Social Security is functionally what comes in on the FICA tax. The 25 percent is what goes out from the trust fund, and that 25 percent is going to chew up \$2.7 trillion over the next 9 years.

Most of these trust funds are gone by the end of this decade. What do we plan to do?

Mr. Speaker, typically, when I do these, I try to come to the end and talk about what we can do with diabetes and obesity and making our society healthier and the effects that would have on balancing the budget, but I have just grown so weary of doing these presentations to show the crashing of our window of opportunity, the scale of the growth of debt.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, we borrowed \$63,000 per second in the last 12 months, and then we get these idiots who say we can just raise this guy's taxes, and we will be fine.

It may make you feel better, Mr. Speaker. You may not like people to earn money. You are allowed to do that but don't pretend it actually solves the problems.

Complex problems require complex solutions, Mr. Speaker, and I worry this place isn't capable of complexity anymore.

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

#### SUPREME COURT DECISION ON AFFIRMATIVE ACTION WILL HAVE DEVASTATING EFFECTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order hour.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order hour along with my distinguished colleague, Representative JACKSON.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on affirmative action, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

I rise today in the wake of the consequential U.S. Supreme Court decision on affirmative action, which will have devastating ripple effects and exacerbate inequities for years to come.

I am a Congresswoman, but one of my other most important jobs is being a mother to two amazing college students. Supporting our children through their admissions process was a frank reminder of my own personal journey. I remembered the blanket of anxiety I experienced when pondering my options for higher education.

Even with excellent grades, would the pronunciation of my last name work against me?

Would someone see my volunteer work and judge keywords such as Urban League of Broward County or Black student union?

Would I be accepted? Would I be enough?

Last month, SCOTUS delivered a crushing and unnecessary setback to the promise of higher education and its ability to provide economic mobility to communities of color. I could not stop thinking about every high school senior who is now worried that they won't have a fair chance to go to college and who fears they won't have the same shot at the American Dream.

As Americans, we are better than this. We must live up to the ideals of this Nation. We cannot ignore the invisible advantages embedded in our society. The alternative to so-called neutral indicators of merit, like standardized test scores and extracurricular activities, are far from neutral. They are often influenced by unfair and devastating disadvantages that fall along racial lines.

Here is what I know for sure: the grit and grind ingrained in the heart of one who has to push twice as hard for many Black students and minorities who are trying to actually raise the bar for their families and for their communities and who don't have access to legacy networks or rich family members who are donors.

We must fight so that every student, regardless of their race, has an equal opportunity for higher education.

Let me be clear. We will not stand by silently as extremists attempt to turn back the clock on civil rights. We must live up to the ideals of equality in our country. We must have the congressional body and the Supreme Court think about this decision and how it will affect generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), my co-anchor.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK from Florida for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend my voice to the chorus of those who are mortified and offended by the recent and misguided Supreme Court decision striking down affirmative action in college admissions.

Today, I stand in unity with the thousands of Black and Brown families I represent in the First Congressional District of Illinois and the millions across this Nation who have personally endured the harsh realities of racism in America and deserve to be respectfully heard on this significant matter.

What the Supreme Court has done flies in the face of what African Americans have been working to achieve in this country for over 250 years.

Black people in America have never asked this country for special treatment, but what we have rightly asked for and demanded is that there be policies put in place that do not intentionally and unrepentantly exclude us

from participating in the benefits of the American Dream.

□ 2015

Affirmative action was not a way for Black people to be given special privileges but was rather a very conservative solution to attempt to atone for the legacy of generational bigotry and systemic injustice.

I dare anybody to justify the logic that would compel someone to believe that giving people who have been excluded from the game an opportunity to get on the field is somehow racist or an affront to White people.

If the game were fair, we wouldn't need affirmative action in America. If the rules were transparent, we would not need affirmative action in America. And if the playing field was even, and everybody was judged by their character and merit, we would not need affirmative action in America.

But when has this ever been the case? And it is not the case today. There has never been a time in this Nation when favoritism didn't tip the scales at the expense of other equally deserving individuals.

You see, this formation of the middle class in the United States is not a tale of self-made success alone, but a story profoundly influenced by government policy.

It is a narrative indelibly marked by historical reality: The U.S. Government, through a combination of Federal programs, played a pivotal role in creating an exclusively White middle class.

Beginning with the Homestead Act, followed by the G.I. Bill, and the provisions of the Federal Housing Administration and VA loans, a triad of Federal programs was established. These programs were instrumental in allowing Whites to extricate themselves from poverty and achieve a modicum of the American Dream. It is crucial to understand that middle class White Americans did not solely pull themselves up by their bootstraps. The G.I. Bill emerged as an historic opportunity for wealth creation, unprecedented in world history.

Homeownership, once an elusive dream for many, became a reachable goal. Car financing expanded its reach. Higher education became a feasible ambition for a broader population.

The government acknowledged that empowering people to be self-reliant is not the same as bestowing unearned advantages. These programs systematically excluded African Americans from reaping the legal benefits that they had rightfully earned through their military service and their ancestors' enslavement. Thus, while these programs shaped a burgeoning White middle class, they simultaneously perpetuated an insidious racial wealth gap.

During our previous Memorial Day commemoration, I stood here and recounted the stark reality of how earlier administrations diligently undermined the legal rights of Black vet-

erans. The number of Black individuals granted land or qualifying for the Homestead Act was woefully low, even though their ancestors were promised 40 acres and a mule—a promise explicitly made, endorsed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America, yet a promise unfulfilled.

While Black Americans descended deeper into poverty, the White middle class began to flourish.

Now the Supreme Court would like us to believe that after 50 years of trying to level the playing field, that somehow miraculously and fundamentally our Nation has been transformed. The Supreme Court would like for us to believe that what took 300 years to destroy has now been completely resurrected in 50 years.

Show me a single instance where reconstruction outpaces destruction. To make matters worse, the Supreme Court used the 14th Amendment, an amendment that was designed to ensure equality, to strike down a Federal program that permitted race as an acceptable consideration for admission opportunities.

Does anyone else perceive the irony?

The very amendment utilized to reach this flawed decision was designed to incorporate race as a lasting constitutional consideration at every level of American life.

How can one justify using a law created to safeguard a certain race as the basis for undermining fundamental aspects of their protection?

But what this decision shows us is that conservative members of the Supreme Court are not strict constructionists, as they would like us to believe. What this decision shows us is that the Supreme Court doesn't actually believe in the furtherance of a meritocracy in America. We know this because while the Court eliminated race as a viable consideration, it did not, however, do anything about legacy admissions.

According to Forbes Magazine, approximately 42 percent of the applicants accepted into Harvard University, our Nation's oldest private institution, founded in 1636, were donor-related applicants, while another 34 percent of the admissions were legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues on the other side to explain to me how this qualifies as meritocracy.

Plainly stated, it does not. If you are wealthy, if your family has a legacy of attending a certain school, you will be given favorable attention with respect to the consideration of your application.

What the Supreme Court has told us is that money and nepotism are completely acceptable for choosing who should be educated at the selective enrollment universities.

The Supreme Court would have us believe that racism has ended, and everybody is equal. However, if you are fortunate to come from wealth and your family has a tradition of attending a specific school, you can receive preferential treatment.

This was not a decision based upon precedent. This was not a decision based upon history. Nor was this decision rooted in the current realities of America. Yet, we will not be deterred by this setback. We will not quietly allow the victories of our past to fade into the obscurity of the night or let the spark of our conviction be extinguished.

We refuse to watch helplessly as the new America, the America that Dr. Martin Luther dreamed of and indeed gave his life to birth, becomes threatened.

The scales of justice have tipped in favor of those with privilege for too long. It is high time we redress this imbalance.

Mr. Speaker, I implore my colleagues: Let us rise to the occasion. It is not enough to express outrage; we must challenge it into action. Let us wield the power vested in us by the people to enact legislation that ensures liberty, justice, and equal access to education for all.

This is not an insurmountable task, but a duty we owe to our constituents, and indeed, to the generations to come after us. Let us strive to create an America that truly stands as a beacon of justice and equality, an America that fulfills its promise to all of its citizens, not just a privileged few.

Only then can we truly say that we have honored the legacy of those who fought for equality and justice before us. Only then can we ensure that their struggle was not in vain. Only then can we look into the eyes of our children and promise them a brighter and fairer future. This is about the kind of Nation we want to be and the kind of future we want to leave for those who come after us.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as both a representative of the people and a humble servant in the enduring journey toward equality, justice, and civil rights.

Today, I stand in this chamber, in the aftermath of the Supreme Court's decision on overturning affirmative action, a fundamental pillar of our relentless pursuit of racial equity.

Over a century ago, on this very day in 1905, an assembly took place near the precipice of Niagara Falls, Ontario. But it wasn't convened to marvel at the natural wonder of Niagara Falls. Instead, it was driven by the pressing issue of civil rights for all, irrespective of skin color.

This assembly was led by none other than W.E.B. Du Bois and the esteemed journalist William Monroe Trotter. The group of more than 50 African American men gathered on the Canadian side of the falls after a white hotel proprietor refused them lodging. Their meeting birthed the Niagara Movement, the precursor to the enduring organization we know today as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or the NAACP.

The members of the Niagara Movement developed a Declaration of Principles. This declaration called for "every single right that belongs to a freeborn American, political, civil and social," and they vowed that "until we get these rights we will never cease to protest and assail the ears of America."

Today, the words in the Declaration of Principles resonate with even more urgency in the wake of the Supreme Court's recent decision on affirmative action. Three principles outlined in the declaration particularly underline the issue at hand:

First, Economic Opportunity: The Niagara Movement members decried the denial of equal opportunities, particularly in economic life. They understood as we do today, that systemic discrimination in the economic sphere can amount to a form of modern peonage, crushing the aspirations and potentials of minority communities.

Second, Education: The Niagara Movement championed universal and compulsory common school education, and access to high school training for all, and opposed the monopolization of college training by any class or race. They pushed for federal education aid, particularly in the South, and an increase in public high school facilities. They advocated for trade and technical schools for training artisans, emphasizing the necessity of higher education. These principles echo the aims of affirmative action—to level the playing field, ensuring that every American, regardless of race, or class, has access to the same opportunities.

Third, the Courts: The Niagara Movement called for upright judges in courts, the abolition of color-based jury selection, equal punishment, and equal reform efforts for both black and white offenders. Now, we find ourselves in a moment when these principles seem to reverberate with even more urgency, as our Supreme Court appears to have lost its compass with a conservative-leaning and recent scandals of corruption. This decision on affirmative action serves as a sobering reminder of our Nation's ongoing struggle for racial justice and equality, and the urgent need for our institutions to uphold the very principles our Nation was built upon.

Rather than surrender to this setback, we must draw strength from our past and press forward. We must reaffirm our commitment to equality, continue our struggle for justice, and remember that the purpose of affirmative action always has been, and must remain, to mitigate the disadvantages that systemic discrimination imposes on our citizens. The quest for equal opportunities for everyone, regardless of their race, is a battle that we must not abandon.

Indeed, our fight is formidable, and the road to equality can often seem daunting. But as we stand here today, honoring our past, we must remember—we are not the first to undertake this mission, and we certainly won't be the last. The struggle for civil rights, equality, and justice, represents our collective pursuit to form a more perfect union.

Let us find fortitude in our history and the legacy of movements and individuals that fought before us. From the courageous voices of the Niagara Movement and the NAACP to pioneers like W.E.B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter, we find our inspiration. Armed with their legacy, let's continue their work, imbued with hope and resilience, to ensure our journey toward justice remains unyielding.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), my colleague from Virginia's Third District.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

I also thank her and the gentleman from Illinois for talking about the importance for opportunity and a recognition of the history of discrimination in the United States.

The Supreme Court has long held that our Nation has a compelling interest in creating racially diverse college campuses.

Holistic college admissions practices that narrowly tailor the use of race as one of many factors in evaluating prospective students are a key to fostering such diversity in a college campus environment.

Such admissions policies not only help the historically underserved students, research confirms that diverse campuses also provide all students with a better quality, well-rounded education.

Last month, the Supreme Court decided, with little regard for precedent, that Harvard's and the University of North Carolina's pursuit of these compelling interests is unconstitutional.

Regrettably, the Supreme Court's decision is a setback in our effort to eliminate invidious disparities in access to higher education and an effort to ensure diverse learning environments for all students.

Now that it is done, it is imperative that we review all other facets of college admissions that research shows may be racially discriminatory and have a disparate impact and determine if they, too, need to be eliminated, given this ruling.

Now, there are admissions factors to take into consideration: Racially inequitable K-12 schooling opportunities, racially biased admissions tests, the legacy admissions that have been mentioned, and other factors that may have a discriminatory impact.

Now, race-conscious affirmative action provides a counterbalance to these discriminatory practices, but since the Court has invalidated that balance, we must now review all current admissions practices to see if they, too, have disparate impact so that we can see whether or not they are in violation of the Equal Protection Clause or Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

To facilitate that review, we must pass the Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act. This bill that has been pending for several years would hold federally funded programs, including schools, accountable for providing students with equal access to education by restoring a private right of action for students and parents to bring disparate impact claims under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Because of a Supreme Court's interpretation about 20 years ago, there is no longer a private right of action in Title VI cases. Those cases based on disparate impact must be brought by the Federal Government. So if there is discrimination going on, the Federal Government has to run around the country and find it. If it is going on in your community and you know it, you can't bring that individual case.

Mr. Speaker, Justice Sotomayor said it best in her dissent when she said that: "Ignoring race will not equalize a society that is racially unequal. What was true in the 1860s, and again in 1954, is true today: Equality requires acknowledgment of inequality."

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), my colleague.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for giving me the opportunity to speak on this issue tonight, and I also thank my colleague, the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the U.S. Supreme Court's horrible decision to reject affirmative action in college admissions.

Last month, the Court ruled that affirmative action programs and college admissions violated the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, but that ruling opposes decades of Supreme Court decisions that said just the opposite. They said that the use of race as an admissions factor was consistent with the 14th Amendment.

In 1978, the Court said that institutions of higher learning had the right to pursue a diverse student body to advance academic freedom, and they could consider race as a factor to evaluate college applications if it was one of many factors.

In 2003, the Court reaffirmed this ruling because student diversity is a compelling interest in education. In addition, these policies helped counter the historical racism that denied educational opportunities to African Americans and other minorities, and it was working.

In public universities nationwide, minority enrollment increased when race was one factor of admissions. These minority students equaled or exceeded the successes of their White peers in a variety of academic fields when they graduated.

Today, these policies help foster a rich and diverse environment for all Americans in higher education, and they help minority students secure higher paying jobs in STEM fields such as engineering and science.

□ 2030

However, the Supreme Court has decided that this type of equality is bad for America. It wants to reject the fact that race has been a factor in college admissions for decades. Unfortunately, it was used as the only factor to reject candidates and not one of many factors to consider when accepting them.

I am outraged that the Supreme Court has rejected a successful policy that has helped millions of Black and other minority students receive the quality education they deserve.

At one time, they weren't allowed to enter these schools. What was the reason? Was it because of many factors that they could not attend these schools? No. It was one factor—their race.

It is yet another indication of how our country is slowly returning to a time when equal opportunities were not afforded to all Americans. The Court said that race-related admission standards violated the Equal Protection Clause, but where was that Equal Protection Clause during slavery and Jim Crow? Where is that equal protection today in housing, workforce hiring, and voting rights?

Conservative Justices and politicians want to pretend that our country has no racial issues. They are not connected to reality in that thinking.

This decision is yet another roadblock to success for Black Americans in this country, but we have overcome them before, and we will overcome them again. I will continue to fight to help us overcome these roadblocks wherever we find them, and I will not stop until we have racial justice and equality for all Americans in this country.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. BOWMAN).

Mr. BOWMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative CHERFILUS-McCORMICK for her leadership and for bringing together the CBC this evening to once again discuss racism in America.

How long are we going to have to have this conversation? It seems like day after day, month after month, year after year, since 1619, we have had to have this conversation in some context.

The Supreme Court's decision, unfortunately, is not surprising because three of our Court Justices were chosen by one of the most, if not the most, racist Presidents in American history, former President Donald Trump. He chose three of the Supreme Court Justices. His slogan is to Make America Great Again, take America back to a time when African Americans did not have the rights that we have fought for and died for throughout American history.

Here we go again. This Supreme Court has now become a Supreme Court that legislates as opposed to a Supreme Court that simply implements the pillars of our Constitution, the same Supreme Court that rolled back *Roe v. Wade* not too long ago, that is now making it easier to carry concealed weapons in Democrat-led States with strong gun laws like New York, the same Supreme Court that says it is okay to turn away LGBTQ customers if you do not want to do work for that particular demographic.

This Supreme Court has gone rogue, and this Supreme Court has lost its legitimacy. Look at the reports: members of the Supreme Court receiving gifts from billionaire donors over the course of their careers, members of the Supreme Court allowing billionaire conservative donors to pay for their children's tuition as they attend private schools.

This is unacceptable. This is unethical. There are members of the Su-

preme Court who should immediately resign or be impeached because of taking these gifts from conservative billionaire donors.

These recent decisions rolling back *Roe v. Wade* and definitely the one as it relates to affirmative action are in alignment with MAGA Republicans and extreme conservative Republicans in our country. Notice the hypocrisy. Notice the disgusting decision to use the 14th Amendment, which was designed to protect the civil rights and citizenship of newly freed slaves. They use that argument to now take away rights from African Americans as it refers to entry into our most prestigious institutions.

This decision is going to prohibit millions of African Americans across this country who are brilliant from receiving the same access and opportunity as their White peers.

I think all of that is captured in this chart behind me when we look at the issue of wealth inequality in America. Look at this chart and the median family wealth gap. The average White family median wealth is \$171,000. Compare that to the average Black family. The median in an average Black family is \$17,409. The average Hispanic family is \$20,920.

It is the consistent attack on Black and Latino communities that contributes to this wealth gap. It is not just the affirmative action decision in terms of the higher education institutions of America. It is also as it relates to employment opportunities, to career opportunities, to private investment in Black and Latino businesses, to the Federal budget, and where our money is allocated toward right here in this body, the United States House of Representatives.

It goes back to the issue of globalization and blue-collar jobs leaving Black and Brown communities as part of a race to the bottom for profit based on low-cost labor in other countries. When those factory jobs left our country and left Black and Latino communities, nothing replaced those jobs. As a matter of fact, I have misspoken. Something did replace those jobs: heroin, the numbers game, and crack cocaine replaced those jobs. Do you know what else replaced those jobs? Law enforcement.

You take away access and opportunity from a jobs perspective, from an economic perspective, from a higher education perspective—also, by the way, because of our support of redlining Black communities, the White middle class in the 1930s and 1940s was able to buy homes at very low interest rates, very low cost, move to the suburbs, out of public housing, and build their wealth. Do you know who was forced to stay in public housing? African Americans and Latinos. Those communities were considered devalued, less valuable because of the race of the people who lived there.

This is historic. This is not just the enslavement of Africans, not just Jim

Crow, not just the Black laws, not just the Homestead Act. This is redlining, the Iran-Contra scandal, and drugs in our community. Now, in 2023, we continue to have these conversations because of the Supreme Court's recent decision.

I am also here to say that to us in the Congressional Black Caucus and to African Americans across this country, these setbacks are only that. They are only setbacks. Each setback makes us stronger, makes us more powerful, makes us more united, and gives us a deeper sense of commitment and self-determination as we work to reclaim our Black sovereignty not just here in America but throughout the African diaspora, in the Caribbean, on the African Continent, and in Central and South America.

We don't die; we multiply. We will continue to multiply exponentially as we weather this storm, grow our enrollment in historically Black colleges—a shout-out to HBCUs for doing the great work that they do so that is going to grow.

We also are going to let our voices be heard as we vote with our feet and go to the polls next year because we have to bring transformational change to the United States of America. We have to build a nation that works for everybody, and right now, we do not have that nation.

I will close with this: The Supreme Court has not only revealed its illegitimacy through receiving gifts from billionaire conservative donors. We have to look at complete Supreme Court reform as it relates to ethics reform and ending lifetime appointments.

We also need to look at the size of the Supreme Court. It is time to expand the Court beyond the nine members. This nine-member Supreme Court has been in place since 1869. America was 30 million people in 1869. It is now 330 million people, over 10 times the size.

There are 7,000 cases presented to the Supreme Court every single year. They hear only 80 of them. They do not have the capacity to respond to the complexity, diversity, and nuance that is American society today.

It is time for democracy reform, and it begins with the Supreme Court. It also begins with the electoral college. It also begins with ending the filibuster. We change all that by voting the right people into office and getting the wrong ones out of office.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. FOUSHEE).

Mrs. FOUSHEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my esteemed colleague from Florida for her leadership and this opportunity to speak.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in condemning the Supreme Court's decision to roll back decades of judicial precedents and strike down race-conscious admissions efforts.

Since 1978, the Supreme Court had consistently held that race-based ad-

mission policies in colleges and universities are in the best interest of educational institutions, but this recent radical decision will dismantle efforts to ensure higher education is accessible to all students, further questioning the legitimacy of this politicized Supreme Court, which seems more eager to protect legacy admissions than providing students who are historically disadvantaged with equal opportunity to a quality education.

□ 2045

Diversity makes our Nation stronger, and the repercussions of this decision will be felt for generations.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus stand united in our fight for a more equitable society, and we will continue to push for equal opportunity admissions for students across this country.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE), my colleague.

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida for hosting this important topic.

I rise today to call out the corruption and the hypocrisy of this Supreme Court. The affirmative action ruling is a total sham.

Justice Clarence Thomas is good at accepting gifts. One gift he received was the gift of going to Yale Law School, thanks to affirmative action. He said: "God only knows where I would be today" if it were not for affirmative action.

Yet, in this last ruling, he opined that affirmative action was bad for African Americans because if they got into these institutions, they would be unable to thrive.

Elite institutions remain the gateways into government, into big industry, into C-suites. Eight of the nine sitting Justices on this court either attended Yale or Harvard Law School. In fact, three of the Justices on this bench are beneficiaries of affirmative action and have stated it.

Allowing themselves to get into college because of affirmative action, they got on to the bench because of affirmative action. Both Democrat and Republican Presidents considered race when selecting them as nominees for the Supreme Court, appropriately so.

It is about representation. It is about diversity. It is about making sure that all voices are seen and heard. Affirmative action is more than just about admissions. It is also about economic progress. But this ruling has cut generations of students from this critical benefit.

The Court is facing a legitimacy crisis. The Supreme Court is out of step with reality.

In States that have actually banned affirmative action, schools in those States have seen a 20 percent reduction in Black applicants and in Black students. Talk to an admissions counselor. Heck, talk to a biologist, and they will

tell you that homogenous environments do not thrive. They do not survive.

In an orchestra, you need all kinds of musicians playing all kinds of instruments in order to make music.

In movies, you need all kinds of characters to tell a story.

On college campuses, you need a diverse campus, of all kinds of students, to stimulate growth, research, economic development, innovation and survival.

This ruling goes beyond admissions. It is about the hiring of faculty. It is about how companies recruit, hire, and retain, and it is about procurement.

This ruling is divisive. It is hypocritical, and it is out of step with the American people, just like the Supreme Court.

You know what this ruling does? This ruling says to Black students, this ruling says to Black children like yours and like mine, that this Supreme Court doesn't see you and that this Supreme Court doesn't care about you.

But to our students, to our children, to our students and our children who are Black, I am here to tell you on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus that we see you. We hear you. We are fighting for you, unlike this Supreme Court. We are not going to stop fighting, nor will we stop telling the truth about the history of this country, about this Supreme Court, about this ruling, and about what is ahead.

Color blind is an aspirational state of mind, but it is not yet reality. So let's live in reality and talk about what our students are facing and the hypocrisy that is coming out of this Supreme Court.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, you have heard from my distinguished colleagues about affirmative action and issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, our constituents, Congress, and all Americans tonight.

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

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, for centuries, African Americans were systematically denied the opportunity to pursue a higher education, build wealth, and achieve financial independence, leaving behind a painful legacy of discrimination that persists to this day.

Let us not forget. It was in 1963—only six decades ago—when Black students were finally allowed to enroll alongside their peers at the University of Alabama.

Almost half of the members serving in this body today were alive at that time.

Make no mistake—we have made tremendous progress since then. For the past four decades colleges and universities across this nation have had the freedom to build student bodies that reflect the diversity of our great nation.

With the blessing of the Supreme Court, these schools have used affirmative action policies as a tool to break down educational barriers for students who would otherwise be left behind.

Tragically, two weeks ago, in an extreme reversal, this Republican-controlled Court has



once again chosen to ignore our history and roll back our progress.

By banning affirmative action in college admissions, the Supreme Court has deprived us of a critical tool in our continued fight for equality and justice for all.

Not only is this decision a blatant attack on educational opportunity, it also upends nearly 40 years of precedent, undermining the sacred trust that the American people have placed in the Court.

From voting rights, to reproductive freedom, to educational opportunities, this Court has demonstrated time and time again that it is willing to ignore history, ignore precedent, and ignore common sense in order to strip away our freedoms and roll back our progress.

Mr. Speaker, we know that ignoring our past will not make it go away. In the words of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, “deeming race irrelevant in law does not make it so in life.”

If we are going to address the injustices of the past, we must be intentional about leveling the playing field and providing opportunities to those who have been left behind.

After all, our entire nation benefits when talented students of diverse backgrounds get a fair shot at success.

Despite this shameful decision, we must not be deterred. Let this decision serve as a reminder that progress is elusive, and every generation must fight to preserve the progress of the past and advance it.

Now is the time to redouble our efforts and to hold this nation accountable to its highest ideals of equality and justice for all.

Until every American can enjoy the full promise of our democracy, our work continues.

Mr. HORSFORD. Mr. Speaker, thank you, Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Congressman JONATHAN JACKSON, for co-chairing tonight's Special Order Hour.

I rise today with my colleagues of the Congressional Black Caucus to address the recent Supreme Court ruling in Students for Fair Admissions v. Harvard and UNC.

The Supreme Court determined in a 6–3 vote that race-based affirmative action programs in college admissions processes violated Title Six of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as well as the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

The Supreme Court's decision to strike down decades of precedent set in the Bakke case in 1978, which gave students—regardless of their race or ethnicity—a better chance at equal admissions to our nation's top schools was a needless blow to America's promise of equal and fair opportunity.

We have to be clear on what this decision means for the legacy of the Court and what this decision will mean for race-conscious admissions policies across our country.

By delivering a decision on affirmative action so radical as to deny young people seeking an education equal opportunity in our education system, the Supreme Court has thrown into question its own legitimacy.

By imposing these radical changes to college and university race-based admission policies, the Court has made clear that it does not stand on the side of dismantling barriers to give our young people the opportunity at a better life, which will only stand to benefit the wealthy and well-connected.

Unfortunately, we have seen backlash to progress many times throughout our Nation's

history. During Reconstruction, we had a mere 12 years of Black achievement in policy, politics, the arts and sciences, and education that were followed by 70 years of state-sanctioned Jim Crow.

We didn't stop fighting for equality then and we won't stop now because too much is at stake to allow extremists to turn back the clock on progress or to use Affirmative Action as a cultural wedge issue.

That is why the CBC is proud to work alongside our Tri-Caucus colleagues to make clear that we will not be divided because our Nation's diversity is our greatest strength.

I want to thank my colleagues of the CBC, including Representative BOBBY SCOTT, Ranking Member of the Education and the Workforce Committee for their work on this issue and for being united in making clear that decision does not take the responsibility off of colleges and universities to do all they can to expand access to educational opportunities for students coming from underrepresented communities.

The CBC is calling for colleges and universities to not only work towards diversifying their campuses to more closely reflect America, but also to reevaluate their legacy admissions programs because while the Court went so far as to eliminate race-conscious admissions practices, it did nothing about other determining factors such as legacy status.

In fact, a lawsuit has been filed against Harvard University, saying that the legacy admissions programs that give preferential treatment to the children of wealthy donors and alumni discriminates against students of color who have the academic merit to attend the school.

As such applicants with donor relationships, athletic recruitments, employee relationships, and other special recommendations will continue to receive preferential treatment.

Giving unequal opportunity to an education for legacy admissions starkly contrasts the message we need to send our young people and threatens any progress we have made in providing equal access and diverse learning environments for students across our country.

And while no Nevada institutions of higher education implemented race consideration in admissions, Nevadans of color who want to attend schools out of state, like Harvard, MIT, Georgia Tech, or other schools, will suffer as a result of this decision.

Let me be clear—our students have the merit, academic credentials, knowledge, and drive to succeed at these schools. But we cannot turn a blind eye to the history of our nation that has prioritized wealth and access. At the same time, families of color have battled generations of discrimination and racism that limited their access to quality education and wealth building.

This decision specifically exempted military academies. Why?

Race can be a factor when police stop someone on the streets. Why?

But race cannot be a factor in deciding whether someone can pursue a higher education. Why not?

#### ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 50 minutes

p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-1373. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the threat from securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China that was declared in Executive Order 13959 of November 12, 2020, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1374. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-002, pursuant to Section 36(c) and (d) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1375. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-038, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1376. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 23-024, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1377. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: DDTC 22-035, pursuant to Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1378. A letter from the Associate General Counsel General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a notification of a discontinuation of service in acting role, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. McHENRY: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 2622. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-134). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. McHENRY: Committee on Financial Services. H.R. 1548. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, with an amendment (Rept. 118-135, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 752. A bill to

require Select USA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production (Rept. 118-136). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 813. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment, with an amendment (Rept. 118-137). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 3935. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-138). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. LUCAS: Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. H.R. 3559. A bill to provide for Federal Aviation Administration research and development, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-139, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 2544. A bill to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-140). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1548 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 3559 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

#### PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER (for herself, Mr. TAKANO, and Ms. MANNING):

H.R. 4527. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries may access de-identified information relating to health claims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 4528. A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to address the insufficient compensation and recruitment of employees and other personnel of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 4529. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding guidance documents of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H.R. 4530. A bill to establish an Office of Public Engagement and Participation within

the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GUTHRIE (for himself and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 4531. A bill to reauthorize certain programs that provide for opioid use disorder prevention, recovery, and treatment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ALFORD:

H.R. 4532. A bill to limit the use of Federal funds authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Department of Defense Countering Extremism Work Group; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ALFORD:

H.R. 4533. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to assess, and submit a report to Congress on, civilian staffing at the Department of Defense Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KILMER, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 4534. A bill to require a review of women and lung cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4535. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase funding for Social Security and Medicare; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. PIN-GREE):

H.R. 4536. A bill to oppose the permitting of deep seabed mining and exploration for deep seabed mining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. PIN-GREE):

H.R. 4537. A bill to prohibit certain mining activities on the deep seabed and Outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CASE (for himself, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. BERA, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Mr. MEEKS):

H.R. 4538. A bill to establish a comprehensive, long-term United States strategy and policy for the Pacific Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama):

H.R. 4539. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the temporary limitation on personal casualty losses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CUELLAR (for himself and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey):

H.R. 4540. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish a program to provide grants to suppliers of water for the purpose of making infrastructure improvements to public water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. GALLAGHER):

H.R. 4541. A bill to improve the identification and support of children and families who experience trauma; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 4542. A bill to support research, development, and other activities to develop innovative vehicle technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 4543. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to establish certain requirements for the timely processing and reporting of results with respect to a District of Columbia election, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4544. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to prohibit the use of Federal funds for election administration in States that permit ballot harvesting; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. ROY, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. BANKS, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. BROWN):

H.R. 4545. A bill to amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended to clarify the obligation of individuals who formerly served as agents of foreign principals to register retroactively as foreign agents under the Act with respect to activities carried out previously on behalf of such foreign principals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. BABIN, and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois):

H.R. 4546. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to expand the requirements for the collection of biometric data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 4547. A bill to establish a fund to promote the inspection and consumption of shrimp and products containing shrimp or shrimp parts; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself, Mr. BAIRD, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey):

H.R. 4548. A bill to require a national strategy to secure United States supply chains involving critical minerals sourced from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 4549. A bill to amend the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to clarify the scope of a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 with respect to certain projects relating to the production of semiconductors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Armed Services, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KUSTER (for herself, Ms. MACE, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. PORTER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. ROSS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. TITUS, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 4550. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to carry out a grant program to support the recruitment and retention of paraprofessionals in public elementary schools, secondary schools, and preschool programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LOUDERMILK (for himself, Mr. HILL, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. MEUSER, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. NUNN of Iowa):

H.R. 4551. A bill to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring that personally identifiable information be collected under consolidated audit trail reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. COMER, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 4552. A bill to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, Homeland Security, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 4553. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to impose certain penalties for the forging or counterfeiting of any postmarking stamp or impression thereof with respect to a mailed ballot for an election for Federal, State, or local office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCORMICK:

H.R. 4554. A bill to require a report on international assistance for Ukraine; to the

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

By Mr. MURPHY:

H.R. 4555. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to allow the use of requirements payments to conduct a post-election audit with respect to an election for Federal office in a State; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE (for himself and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 4556. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to increase access to general aviation airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. PETTERSEN (for herself, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 4557. A bill to ensure that federally backed financing for the construction, rehabilitation, or purchase of manufactured home communities is available only for communities whose owner has implemented minimum consumer protections in the lease agreements with residents of all manufactured home communities owned by such owner, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 4558. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to withdraw a proposed rule relating to the endangered species status of the dunes sagebrush lizard; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself and Mr. CASAR):

H.R. 4559. A bill to require fair pay for workers employed by companies who provide meat, meat food products, poultry, poultry food products, and processed food to the Federal Government; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FROST, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CASAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. OMAR, Ms. BUSH, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4560. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prohibit consumer reporting agencies that furnish consumer reports for tenant screening purposes from providing certain information, to establish duties of users of consumer reports for housing purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. QUIGLEY (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. STANSBURY, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. TONKO, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CASE, Ms. TITUS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. RASKIN):

H.R. 4561. A bill to encourage reduction of disposable plastic products in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. COLE, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. TURNER, Mr. BANKS, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 4562. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to laws relating to the payment of certain benefits administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs that are affected by death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. STEIL (for himself, Mr. TIFANY, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. CAREY, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. BOST, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. ELLZEY, Mrs. BOEBERT, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. BUCHSON, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. FRY, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. CLINE, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Ms. LEE of Florida, Mrs. BICE, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. AMODEI, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. LAITTA, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. LALOTA, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CRENSHAW, Ms. MACE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Ms. FOXF, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. HILL, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. COLE, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. STRONG, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. MILLS, Mr. CARL, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. WESTERMAN):

H.R. 4563. A bill to promote election integrity, voter confidence, and faith in elections by removing Federal impediments to, equipping States with tools for, and establishing voluntary considerations to support effective State administration of Federal elections, improving election administration in the District of Columbia, improving the effectiveness of military voting programs, enhancing election security, and protecting political speech, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Ways and Means, Science, Space, and Technology, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Homeland Security, Education and the Workforce, Financial Services, Oversight and Accountability, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 4564. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from contracting with companies engaged in a boycott of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 4565. A bill to amend the weights used to determine amounts for targeted grants

and education finance incentive grants for local educational agencies under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 4566. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from requiring evidence of a certain dose of radiation to determine that a veteran is a radiation-exposed veteran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 4567. A bill to amend Public Law 117-78 to strengthen the requirements under that Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 4568. A bill to require covered entities to issue a short-form terms of service summary statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida):

H.J. Res. 81. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to require that the Supreme Court be composed of not more than nine justices; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GAETZ (for himself, Ms. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. CRANE, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. BIGGS, and Mrs. LUNA):

H. Res. 577. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that authorities under section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 should be allowed to expire; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE (for herself, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H. Res. 578. A resolution calling for the immediate release of Eyvin Hernandez, a United States citizen and Los Angeles County public defender, who was wrongfully detained by the Venezuelan regime in March 2022; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SOTO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Ms. WILD):

H. Res. 579. A resolution condemning the ongoing acts of repression and human rights violations against the Cuban people by the Cuban regime, and calling for the immediate release of all arbitrarily detained Cuban citizens; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. SANCHEZ (for herself, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VASQUEZ, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. POCAN, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. BROWNLEY, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr.

MOSKOWITZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. STANTON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. TITUS, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. ALLRED, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. WILD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MFUME, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DELUZIO, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. RYAN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. COSTA, Mr. SORENSEN, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. MOYLAN, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. EZELL, Mr. EVANS, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MENG, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. CARAVEO, Mr. SOTO, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. ROSS, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BERA, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. CROW, Mr. BOST, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. PEREZ, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. NEAL, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ARMSTRONG, and Mr. GRIMALVA):

H. Res. 580. A resolution expressing support for the designation of Journeyman Lineworkers Recognition Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H. Res. 581. A resolution condemning the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and refraining the United States from rejoining; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMÉR:

H.R. 4527.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries may access de-identified information relating to health claims.

By Ms. DEGETTE:

H.R. 4528.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3, provides Congress with the power to "regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

Agency workforce

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington

H.R. 4529.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill would establish public participation requirements prior to finalization or implementation of guidance developed, issued, disseminated, and utilized by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as clarify CDC guidance is nonbinding and does not have the force or effect of the law.

By Mr. LEVIN:

H.R. 4530.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Nuclear regulation

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 4531.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This is a healthcare issue.

By Mr. ALFORD:

H.R. 4532.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8

The Congress shall provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

To limit the use of Federal funds authorized by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Department of Defense Countering Extremism Work Group.

By Mr. ALFORD:

H.R. 4533.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8

The Congress shall provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States;

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Defense to assess, and submit a report to Congress on, civilian staffing at the Department of Defense Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4534.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Spending Clause, Article 1, Section 8, Cl. 1 and the Necessary and Proper Clause, Article I, Section 8, Cl. 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Act requires the Department of Defense, Health and Human Services, and Veterans Affairs to collaborate on an inter-agency study to identify opportunities for improving Lung Cancer Research in Women.

By Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4535.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution under the General Welfare Clause.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would protect the solvency of Social Security and Medicare.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 4536.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To protect the ocean from international mining activities.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 4537.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To protect the Ocean from mining activities.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 4538.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To support a long term, sustained strategy of US engagement in the Pacific Islands.

By Mr. COURTNEY:

H.R. 4539.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 1, provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises.” The 16th Amendment provides Congress with the power to “lay and collect taxes on incomes.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Federal taxation for individuals.

By Mr. CUELLAR:

H.R. 4540.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to establish a program to provide grants to suppliers of water for the purpose of making infrastructure improvements to public water systems.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4541.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health

By Mrs. DINGELL:

H.R. 4542.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To reauthorize the Department of Energy’s Vehicle Technologies Office, which works with manufacturers and suppliers to research, develop, and deploy advanced vehicle technologies that improve energy efficiency.

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 4543.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Elections

By Mr. EDWARDS:

H.R. 4544.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

“No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations

made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prevents federal funds from being used for a federal election in a state that does not prohibit ballot harvesting.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 4545.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Foreign Commerce Clause; Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.

The Necessary and Proper Clause; Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Clarifying that foreign agents must register their past activity as a foreign agent, even though they no longer are.

By Mr. GOODEN of Texas:

H.R. 4546.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises to pay the debts and provide for the common Defense and general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. Thus, Congress has the authority not only to increase taxes, but also, to reduce taxes to promote the general welfare of the United States of America and her citizens. Additionally Congress has the

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would require DHS to collect biometric information from an alien seeking entry into the United States, apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, or when administering an immigration benefit. Additionally, the bill directs DHS to improve coordination with foreign governments to share biometric information to detect and deter immigration and asylum fraud.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana:

H.R. 4547.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Providing resources to the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to inspect shrimp at high risk of antibiotics and purchase healthy shrimp to distribute to schools, food banks, and disaster relief programs.

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 4548.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs

By Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia:

H.R. 4549.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To allow domestic semiconductor manufacturers flexibility when conducting necessary environmental reviews if their facility is already under construction.

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 4550.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the forgoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

K-12 Education

By Mr. LOUDERMILK:

H.R. 4551.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To limit conditions under which the SEC may require National Securities Exchanges and their members to provide personally identifiable information through the Consolidated Audit Trail.

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 4552.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution, in that the legislation regulates forms of commerce specified in that clause; and, Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution, in that the legislation “is necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers” and “other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any

The single subject of this legislation is:

Reforms federal agency cybersecurity policies and leadership roles for the protection of federal information systems

By Mr. MASSIE:

H.R. 4553.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Impose penalties for forging or counterfeiting on mailed ballots for elections.

By Mr. MCCORMICK:

H.R. 4554.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign affairs

By Mr. MURPHY:

H.R. 4555.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to allow the use of requirements payments to conduct a post-election audit with respect to an election for Federal office in a State.

By Mr. OBERNOLTE:

H.R. 4556.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Transportation and Infrastructure

By Ms. PETERSEN:

H.R. 4557.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Postal

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 4558.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of Interior to withdraw a proposed rule relating to the endangered species status of the dunes sagebrush lizard.

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 4559.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

food worker pay standards

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 4560.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill helps people with a past criminal record access stable housing

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 4561.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To encourage reduction of disposable plastic products in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 4562.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To make improvements to the VA's processing of veterans' pension benefits.

By Mr. STEIL:

H.R. 4563.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4, Clause 1 informs the Congress that the primary authority to set election law and to administer federal elections rests with the States and not with the Congress.

First Amendment "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill promotes election integrity, voter confidence, and faith in elections by removing federal impediments to, providing state tools for, and establishing voluntary considerations to support effective state administration of federal elections and improving election administration in the District of Columbia.

By Ms. TENNEY:

H.R. 4564.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would prevent the federal government from entering into contracts with entities that engage in a boycott of the State of Israel, a boycott of businesses or individuals involved in transactions with the State of Israel or a boycott of companies duly authorized, licensed, or established under the laws of the State of Israel.

By Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4565.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution in that the legislation exercises legislative powers granted to Congress by that clause "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States or any Department or Office thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

to amend the formula for Title I grants under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 4566.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Armed Forces and National Security

By Mr. TORRES of New York:

H.R. 4567.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Foreign Affairs

By Mrs. TRAHAN:

H.R. 4568.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

Consumer Protection

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.J. Res. 81.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V

The single subject of this legislation is:

Proposes an amendment to the Constitution requiring the Supreme Court to be composed of not more than nine Justices.

#### ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 16: Mrs. DINGELL and Mr. TORRES of New York.

H.R. 33: Ms. CROCKETT and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 34: Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 35: Ms. CROCKETT.

H.R. 37: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 52: Mr. NADLER, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. SOTO, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 130: Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 175: Mr. BOST.

H.R. 176: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 190: Mr. MOONEY.

H.R. 405: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 410: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 536: Ms. DELBENE and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 542: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 547: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 549: Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. MACE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mrs. BICE, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 554: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 594: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 595: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 603: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 619: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 620: Ms. CRAIG, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 660: Mr. STANTON.

H.R. 667: Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. EVANS, and Mr. SABLAN.

H.R. 668: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 681: Ms. CLARKE of New York and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 709: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 782: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 818: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 830: Ms. ADAMS.

H.R. 847: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 863: Mrs. BOEBERT.

H.R. 865: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 866: Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. TITUS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. CROW, and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 883: Ms. CROCKETT and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 885: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 912: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

H.R. 913: Ms. BROWN.

H.R. 919: Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 920: Ms. MACE and Mrs. BEATTY.

H.R. 939: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 949: Mr. GREEN of Texas and Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 953: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. DELUZZIO.

H.R. 955: Ms. SEWELL and Mr. THOMPSON of California.

H.R. 958: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.

H.R. 969: Mr. COHEN.

H.R. 972: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 984: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 1002: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1096: Mr. MRVAN, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 1150: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1187: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1191: Ms. TOKUDA and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1209: Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mr. ARMSTRONG.

H.R. 1235: Mr. HARDER of California and Mrs. PELTOLA.

H.R. 1241: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1271: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 1277: Mr. GUEST, Mr. MAST, Mr. OWENS, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PETERSEN, and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1282: Mrs. BICE.

H.R. 1297: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 1385: Ms. NORTON and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 1413: Mr. ALLRED and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 1440: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 1472: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 1485: Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 1493: Ms. BARRAGÁN.

H.R. 1495: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.

H.R. 1499: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1525: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 1530: Mrs. BICE.

H.R. 1610: Ms. LETLOW.

H.R. 1631: Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 1684: Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 1699: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 1732: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 1739: Mr. MEUSER.

H.R. 1763: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 1770: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1776: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 1777: Mrs. McCLAIN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 1794: Mr. SOTO and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1801: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 1812: Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1818: Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. STRONG, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 1831: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1839: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 2365: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 2367: Mr. MRVAN.

H.R. 2385: Ms. BROWNLEY.

H.R. 2400: Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. RASKIN, and Mr. DUARTE.

H.R. 2403: Mrs. SYKES.

H.R. 2412: Mr. KILMER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 2482: Ms. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 2493: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 2535: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 2539: Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. GUEST, Mr. MANN, and Mr. FINSTAD.

H.R. 2547: Mr. MANN.

H.R. 2561: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2562: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2563: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 2564: Mr. NADLER.

- H.R. 2565: Mr. NADLER.  
H.R. 2567: Ms. SCANLON and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 2569: Ms. BARRAGÁN.  
H.R. 2584: Ms. MATSUI.  
H.R. 2630: Mr. TAKANO and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.  
H.R. 2673: Mr. SIMPSON, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, and Mr. MRVAN.  
H.R. 2685: Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.  
H.R. 2706: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. TONKO, Ms. PEREZ, and Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 2708: Ms. ADAMS and Mr. SHERMAN.  
H.R. 2715: Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H.R. 2727: Ms. TOKUDA.  
H.R. 2728: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 2743: Mr. BURCHETT and Mr. BUCSHON.  
H.R. 2748: Ms. MACE and Mr. SESSIONS.  
H.R. 2766: Mr. BACON.  
H.R. 2783: Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. VARGAS.  
H.R. 2806: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 2825: Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 2855: Ms. WILSON of Florida.  
H.R. 2885: Mr. LAWLER and Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 2892: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. TOKUDA.  
H.R. 2929: Mr. POSEY.  
H.R. 2955: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. BARRAGÁN.  
H.R. 2957: Mr. JAMES and Ms. PORTER.  
H.R. 2992: Mr. COHEN.  
H.R. 3005: Mr. SORENSEN and Mr. BOST.  
H.R. 3008: Mr. DELUZIO, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mrs. FLETCHER.  
H.R. 3036: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.  
H.R. 3039: Mr. NEHLS.  
H.R. 3042: Ms. SALAZAR.  
H.R. 3074: Mr. FINSTAD.  
H.R. 3108: Ms. SCHRIER and Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 3133: Ms. BALINT.  
H.R. 3145: Mr. FROST.  
H.R. 3161: Mr. FITZGERALD.  
H.R. 3165: Mr. JAMES and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 3183: Mrs. FLETCHER.  
H.R. 3226: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. WILD, and Mr. TONKO.  
H.R. 3230: Mrs. PELTOLA.  
H.R. 3305: Mr. RYAN.  
H.R. 3336: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 3413: Mr. MOLINARO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. ARMSTRONG.  
H.R. 3417: Ms. TENNEY.  
H.R. 3419: Mr. ROUZER.  
H.R. 3420: Mr. GALLEGO and Ms. PINGREE.  
H.R. 3425: Mr. KUSTOFF.  
H.R. 3433: Mr. NEGUSE.  
H.R. 3458: Mr. LOUDERMILK.  
H.R. 3464: Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DONALDS, and Mr. SESSIONS.  
H.R. 3475: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. PORTER, and Ms. BALINT.  
H.R. 3519: Ms. BUSH and Mr. TORRES of New York.  
H.R. 3520: Mr. FINSTAD and Mrs. LUNA.  
H.R. 3537: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 3544: Mr. SOTO and Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3545: Mr. KILMER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. IVEY, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
H.R. 3547: Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. CASE.  
H.R. 3548: Mr. FITZPATRICK.  
H.R. 3561: Mr. BAIRD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 3583: Mr. NADLER.  
H.R. 3600: Mrs. CAMMACK.  
H.R. 3627: Mr. MOONEY.  
H.R. 3635: Mr. KUSTOFF.  
H.R. 3639: Mr. MAGAZINER.  
H.R. 3646: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.  
H.R. 3650: Mr. LIEU.  
H.R. 3680: Ms. LEE of California, Ms. JACOBS, and Ms. JAYAPAL.  
H.R. 3723: Mr. MULLIN.  
H.R. 3748: Mr. ROUZER.  
H.R. 3774: Mr. FINSTAD and Mr. MILLER of Ohio.  
H.R. 3781: Mr. CASTEN.  
H.R. 3792: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. FLOOD, Ms. TITUS, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. FINSTAD, and Mr. FRY.  
H.R. 3808: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3810: Mr. SARBANES and Ms. CRAIG.  
H.R. 3847: Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 3850: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. VARGAS, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.  
H.R. 3851: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.  
H.R. 3859: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.  
H.R. 3876: Ms. NORTON.  
H.R. 3882: Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. WALBERG, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMÉR, and Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
H.R. 3894: Mr. COHEN, Mr. SMUCKER, and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.  
H.R. 3925: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 3930: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.  
H.R. 3947: Mr. FROST, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.  
H.R. 4003: Mr. NEHLS.  
H.R. 4010: Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE.  
H.R. 4018: Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 4034: Ms. BROWNLEY.  
H.R. 4044: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.  
H.R. 4046: Mr. FROST.  
H.R. 4049: Ms. TITUS.  
H.R. 4070: Ms. SEWELL and Mr. STRONG.  
H.R. 4090: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.  
H.R. 4117: Mr. DELUZIO.  
H.R. 4118: Mr. BERGMAN.  
H.R. 4127: Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. ROUZER.  
H.R. 4132: Mr. BABIN.  
H.R. 4144: Mr. BACON and Mr. GROTHMAN.  
H.R. 4155: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 4161: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 4167: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. MCHENRY.  
H.R. 4196: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.  
H.R. 4202: Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. PETERS, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. BONAMICI.  
H.R. 4227: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.  
H.R. 4277: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. NEAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. HIMES, Ms. MENG, Mr. CASTEN, and Ms. STANSBURY.  
H.R. 4278: Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROSENDALE, and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
H.R. 4279: Mr. MRVAN.  
H.R. 4293: Mr. GRAVES of Missouri and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.  
H.R. 4305: Mr. D'ESPOSITO and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 4315: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. BALDERSON.  
H.R. 4335: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. VALADAO.  
H.R. 4345: Ms. MACE and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.  
H.R. 4357: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.  
H.R. 4382: Ms. PETTERSEN.  
H.R. 4390: Ms. CHU.  
H.R. 4392: Mr. SOTO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CLEAVER, and Ms. KUSTER.  
H.R. 4393: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KIM of New Jersey.  
H.R. 4399: Mr. LEVIN.  
H.R. 4436: Mrs. LUNA and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.  
H.R. 4442: Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Ms. SEWELL.  
H.R. 4446: Ms. TITUS.  
H.R. 4461: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.  
H.R. 4468: Mr. CRENSHAW and Mr. WENSTRUP.  
H.R. 4479: Mr. LAWLER.  
H.R. 4490: Mr. CRENSHAW.  
H.R. 4493: Mr. EDWARDS.  
H.R. 4495: Mr. CASE, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.  
H.R. 4496: Mr. BIGGS, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.  
H.R. 4519: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. BOST, and Mrs. TRAHAN.  
H.R. 4522: Mr. CAREY.  
H.R. 4526: Ms. JACOBS.  
H.J. Res. 8: Mr. YAKYM, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, and Mr. FEENSTRA.  
H. Con. Res. 44: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.  
H. Res. 243: Mr. ALLRED.  
H. Res. 320: Mr. SHERMAN.  
H. Res. 343: Ms. SALINAS and Ms. STANSBURY.  
H. Res. 357: Mrs. FLETCHER.  
H. Res. 425: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York and Mr. BLUMENAUER.  
H. Res. 481: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.  
H. Res. 488: Ms. WILD.  
H. Res. 492: Ms. PORTER, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. POSEY.  
H. Res. 516: Mr. RASKIN.  
H. Res. 538: Mr. WEBER of Texas.  
H. Res. 561: Mr. MAGAZINER.  
H. Res. 570: Mr. NORMAN.



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023

No. 118

## 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 Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Our Father in Heaven, continue to guide the steps of our Senators. Lift their gaze to the beckoning hills of Your help, leading them on paths that bring them to hope and away from despair.

Lord, as they journey toward justice and peace, make them satisfied to follow Your plans and fulfill Your purposes. Give them a positive attitude. As they face today's challenges, direct them to discern what is Your best for our Nation and world.

Lead kindly, light amid the encircling gloom. Guide us through the darkness of our own devices to the sure and certain destination of Your prevailing providence.

We pray in Your Holy 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, July 11, 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 leadership time is reserved.

### CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

#### ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, for Congress to work on artificial intelligence is to enter unchartered territory. AI is not like other issues Congress deals with. It is not like appropriations or healthcare or defense, where we have decades of experience to lean on; quite the contrary, from a legislative view, we are starting very close to step 1 when it comes to AI.

So today, the Senate is taking the next step in our effort to learn about

AI so we can be ready to act. Later this afternoon, we will hold the first-ever classified all-Senate briefing on national security implications of AI. It will be our second all-Senate briefing on this issue. Close to 70 Senators attended the last one, and I hope we will get similar attendance today.

We will be briefed by Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks, and other top experts in AI from our defense and our intelligence Agencies.

Today's classified briefing is crucial because, of all the issues AI would impact, national security may well be the most consequential. In the hands of autocrats or foreign adversaries or domestic rogue actors interested in political chaos or financial gain, the dangers of AI could be extreme.

But AI could also become one of our greatest tools for keeping Americans safe, for predicting and intercepting attacks on the homeland and for adding unprecedented sophistication to our cyber security and for protecting our elections. So we have a responsibility—a real responsibility—to educate ourselves on these matters.

Finally, these briefings are just part of the larger effort to learn more about AI and prepare the Senate to take action. Last month, I laid out my SAFE Innovation Framework for AI, a way for Congress to balance the urgent need to promote American innovation in AI, while making sure it is done in a safe and responsible way.

Last month, I also announced that this fall I will invite the top AI experts to come to Congress and convene a series of first-ever AI insight forums for a new and unique approach to developing legislation.

There is a lot we still don't know about AI. We need outside help if we want to ensure congressional action is effective, responsible, and promotes innovation in a safe way.

So these insight forums will bring the best of the best to Congress. Our

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



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jobs as legislators will be to listen and learn as much as we can so we can translate these ideas into action.

And we are getting a very positive response from those we are asking to participate in the forums, top people in the field and in areas like intellectual property, like facial recognition that we need to look for guardrails.

So the positive response we are getting means that we expect these inside forums to do just what they are intended to do: yield new insights on the issue. And today's briefing likewise represents an important step in our efforts to learn as much about AI as possible.

I look forward to today's briefing. I want to thank Senator ROUNDS, Senator HEINRICH, and Senator YOUNG for their help in making them possible.

#### WHITE NATIONALISM

Mr. President, now, on White nationalism, for the past few months, the senior Senator from Alabama has embarked on a one-man mission to excuse and even defend the meaning of White nationalism. He did it back in May when he bemoaned efforts in our military to root out dangerous White nationalism from our records:

I call them Americans.

Those were his words, his words.

A week later, he was asked to clarify his comments, and here is how he replied:

What is a White nationalist?

You would think he would learn, from the overwhelming negative reaction he has received from one end of the country to the other—that he would learn from that reaction and might maybe modify his comments, but no.

Last night, given another chance to clear the air, he suggested that, no, White nationalists aren't inherently racist; that, yes, White nationalism is American; and that the definition of "White nationalism" is a matter of opinion.

It is hard to believe that the Senator from Alabama has to be corrected again. The Senator from Alabama is wrong, wrong, wrong. The definition of "White nationalism" is not a matter of opinion. White nationalism—the ideology that one race is inherently superior to others; that people of color should be segregated, subjected, and relegated to second-class citizenship—is racist down to its rotten core.

And for the Senator from Alabama to obscure the racist nature of White nationalism, it is indeed very, very dangerous. His words have power and carry weight with the fringe of his constituency—just the fringe. But if the fringe listens to him excuse and defend White nationalism, he is fanning the flames of bigotry and intolerance.

Last week, the gunman who killed 23 people at an El Paso Walmart was sentenced to 90 life terms in prison. He was a self-described White nationalist. The man who murdered 10 people at Tops Supermarket in my home State of

New York, in Buffalo, was a White nationalist.

And if those examples aren't clear enough, let's not forget Charlottesville, where neofascists, alt-right radicals, and far-right militias paraded through the streets, carrying torches and chanting: "Jews will not replace us." Those were White nationalists.

This isn't a joke. This is deadly serious stuff. And for a Member of the U.S. Senate to speculate about what "White nationalism" means, as if it is some benign little thought experiment, is deeply and terribly disturbing.

I urge my Republican colleagues to impress upon the Senator from Alabama the destructive impact of his words and urge him to apologize.

#### BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, now, on Senate business, today the Senate will continue working to confirm two district judges and two Executive nominations. Last night, I filed cloture on four additional nominations: another circuit court judge, another district judge, a Commissioner of the EEOC, and an EPA Assistant Administrator. This sets up a busy rest of the week here on the Senate floor.

And at the same time, the Senate will continue to move forward on the annual National Defense Authorization Act, known as the NDAA. Passing the NDAA is important for many reasons: to strengthen our defense and keep our country safe, to outcompete the Chinese Government, and to give our troops well-deserved pay raises.

The NDAA has routinely been a bipartisan effort, with both sides working in good faith, and that has been the case so far this year too.

I want to thank Chairman REED and Ranking Member WICKER for moving the NDAA through committee quickly on the bipartisan cooperation. As we turn to the NDAA, I am hopeful we can come together here in the Senate on legislation related to our ongoing competition with the Chinese Government, on artificial intelligence, and perhaps some other important issues.

I hope we can see that bipartisanship continues here on the floor and that we can pass the bill quickly without being dilatory. The House is having a whole lot of trouble moving on this must needed legislation, something I believe we can and should avoid in the Senate.

Finally, as Americans' faith in the Judiciary is at an alltime low, thanks to the MAGA-majority Supreme Court, Senate Democrats will continue to move forward on legislation to restore trust in our Court. Supreme Court Justices should not be accepting lavish gifts and vacations from billionaire MAGA extremists who bankroll hard-right causes and taint our judicial system by bringing those same cases before the same judges.

The highest Court in the land must be held to equally high ethical standards. I support the efforts of Chairman DURBIN and the Judiciary Committee to advance ethics reform in committee,

and I hope we can move on such legislation in this Chamber.

#### SWEDEN

Mr. President, finally, on Sweden, any fear that NATO is faltering—or that it has given up completely—was put to rest yesterday after the announcement that Mr. Erdogan dropped his objections to Sweden's bid to join NATO. And this morning, Hungary's Foreign Minister said that they, too, will support Sweden's bid.

This is terrific news for the alliance. Sweden's inclusion in NATO will strengthen the alliance and expand our united front against Putin's illegal and immoral aggression war in Ukraine.

Putin thought he could divide us. He believed he could bully us into disunity, but his hopes have backfired. And today the alliance remains united and stronger than ever.

I commend President Biden and his administration for supporting Sweden's accession to NATO, and I look forward to welcoming Sweden to the alliance as soon as possible.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. 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.

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

#### NATO

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, right now, President Biden and other NATO leaders are convening in Lithuania. The way I see it, there are four key objectives for this important summit: securing more Western support for Ukraine; improving NATO's own military capabilities; strengthening collective resolve against the primary threats posed by China, Russia, and terrorists; and welcoming Sweden to the alliance. I am encouraged by the progress NATO is making towards each of these objectives, but there is more work to be done.

As transatlantic leaders confer about how to help Ukraine defeat Russian aggression, it is significant they are doing so in a Baltic country—itsself once a "captive nation" subjected to decades-long Soviet occupation. The Baltics' proud history of resistance drives their active contributions to NATO and extensive contributions from their own arsenals to Ukraine's fight.

Decades after the fall of the Soviet Union, brutal Russian occupation has now found a new target, and the fate of Ukraine's resistance continues to depend on Western support. Western allies should use this week's summit to commit even more critical capabilities to tip the balance of forces in Ukraine's favor.

Time is of the essence for allies to increase production of critical munitions and to send longer range, more sophisticated, and more lethal systems to the frontlines. In this regard, I welcome President Biden's decision to provide Ukraine cluster munitions to improve its defense against Russian invaders.

However overdue, these munitions will both improve Ukraine's capability to strike Russian forces and compensate for shortfalls in standard artillery rounds. Despite vocal opposition from his own party, the President ultimately made the right call.

The fact of the matter is, Russia has been using cluster munitions for months in Ukraine. American cluster munitions have a substantially lower failure rate than the Russian munitions. And while the risk of unexploded ordnance is not zero, it is fantasy to believe that wars can be fought without risk.

Here is the bottom line: It should be up to Ukraine whether to employ these effective weapons on its own soil.

Plenty of liberals have criticized President Biden for this decision. The New York Times editorial board suggested that helping Ukraine match capabilities its aggressors are already using amounts to "a clear escalation of the conflict." The senior Senator from Vermont suggested yesterday that the President should be concerned about what "the rest of the world feels" about these weapons. Never mind that providing these capabilities to Ukraine will save lives by facilitating a counteroffensive designed to stop Russia's conscious efforts to kill civilians.

If liberals are truly concerned about civilian casualties in Ukraine, they should support giving our friends the capabilities they need to end Russia's brutal war.

The stakes are simply too high for leaders in Washington to let their own naivete and virtue signaling get in the way of reality. Ukraine's war will not be won with yard signs or hollow promises to hold Putin accountable; it will be won with weapons.

The same rules apply to future conflicts we hope to deter. Unity is important, but hard power will be decisive. On this front, NATO is making progress toward rebuilding the hard power many allies allowed to atrophy. Every member of the alliance now spends at least 20 percent of its defense budget on actual capabilities. Our allies are making progress toward spending 2 percent of GDP on defense, and more than half of the alliance should hit that goal by the end of next year. But we should agree that 2 percent is a floor, not a ceiling, for our commitments to collective defense. Our allies should invest in critical capabilities and modern systems that add to NATO's combat power, and they should revive defense industrial bases that have languished since the Cold War.

Certainly, another clear way to strengthen NATO is to welcome Sweden to the alliance. Like Finland, Swe-

den is a high-tech economy with a strong industrial base. Its leaders are committed to contributing to the alliance and are investing even more significantly in an already capable military.

I am encouraged that President Erdogan and Prime Minister Orban have agreed to support Sweden's accession, and I look forward to rapid action by the Turkish and Hungarian Parliaments.

For America's part, it is past time for the Senate to consider the National Defense Authorization Act. We have an obligation to ensure the U.S. military remains the world's preeminent fighting force, capable of deterring and defeating enemy aggression.

The Senate will have an opportunity to lead our allies by example as soon as the Democratic leader brings the NDAA to the floor.

#### U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. President, now on an entirely different matter, as I explained yesterday, an ideologically independent Supreme Court concluded its most recent term with a series of landmark rulings reaffirming fundamental constitutional principle. I would like to speak briefly today about one such example—the Court's 6-to-3 decisions striking down race-based preference in higher education admissions.

For decades, colleges and universities discriminated against bright, young applicants on the basis of the color of their skin. The practice is not just wrong but wildly unpopular with a majority of Americans.

Unfortunately, a series of misguided and increasingly confused Supreme Court precedents have allowed universities to continue this indefensible practice. Last month, that all changed. As the Chief Justice wrote for the majority, "Our constitutional history does not tolerate" the choice of race over merit.

Most Americans already knew this to be true. More than half of our Nation's history has been a steady march toward more fully ensuring the promise of the 14th Amendment: equal protection under the law. Along the way, millions of hard-working and ambitious students have hoped for a fair shake on their academic qualifications, not the color of their skin.

So last month's ruling marked an overdue and historic step. Racial discrimination has no place in college admissions. And thanks to the Court's action, more bright, young Americans will get a shot at writing their American dreams.

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.

The Republican whip.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the Supreme Court finished up its term recently by releasing several decisions that did not result in the Democrats' preferred outcomes. The hysteria was instant and, unfortunately, predictable.

"Disappointing and cruel," the Senate Democratic leader chastised one decision.

"Unacceptable and indefensible" said another Democratic Senator.

"Horrible" was another response from a Democratic Senator.

Then there was the President of the United States who said:

This is not a normal court.

Not a normal court—never mind the fact that this Court, like others before it, is composed of nine Justices duly nominated and confirmed in accordance with the Constitution, sitting and interpreting the law. Apparently, the fact that this Court has issued decisions Democrats disagree with makes this "not a normal court."

Well, here is the list of thoroughly unradical decisions that have so horrified members of the Democratic party: The Court ruled that universities cannot make admissions decisions based upon the color of someone's skin. The Court ruled that the President does not have the right to create a massive student loan forgiveness program without clear authority from Congress. The Court ruled that the First Amendment does actually protect Americans from being forced by the Government to speak messages with which they disagree.

These are the rulings that Members of the Democratic party consider "cruel and indefensible."

Continuing with the theme of Democratic hysteria, the Democratic leader said on Sunday that the Supreme Court had achieved "dangerous" and "regressive" policies "completely at odds with what the vast majority of Americans want."

Now, I am not sure he has that quite right. I know the recent decisions are at odds with what the Democratic party wants, but the vast majority of Americans do not seem to be at odds with the Court's decisions. Take the Court's decision in favor of the First Amendment. It turns out that more Americans support that decision than oppose it. The same goes for the Court's student loan decision.

Public opinion is decidedly in favor of the Court's decision ruling that the Constitution does not allow universities to make admissions decisions on the basis of race. One poll found that 52 percent of the American people approve—approve—of the Court's decision, while just 32 percent disapprove. Another poll found that 59 percent of Americans approve of the Court's decision, while just 27 percent disapprove.

It seems that the Court is a lot more in line with Americans than the Democratic party would like to think.

Let me offer a few more statistics about this supposedly abnormal court.

Let's put things in context here for just a moment.

Nearly half of the cases decided by the Supreme Court in this term were decided unanimously—almost half. That means that all of those “extreme” Republican-nominated Justices and all of the Court's Democrat-nominated Justices were in unanimous agreement almost half the time.

That is not all. At least one of the Court's so-called liberal Justices was in the majority in more than 80 percent of cases. That means that more than 80 percent of the time, at least one liberal Justice agreed with the Court's conservatives. It kind of makes the Supreme Court seem not very extreme. Eighty percent of the decisions had Justices from so-called both sides—conservative and liberal sides.

Yes, there have been a handful of decisions where all of the liberal Justices have disagreed with the majority opinion. But that is hardly unprecedented. There have been plenty of cases in previous years where most or all of the so-called conservative Justices have disagreed with the majority opinion, and I don't remember Democrats having any problems with the legitimacy of those outcomes.

Democrats' utter hysteria in the face of some pretty mainstream Supreme Court decisions could almost be amusing, but it is not, because Democrats' rhetoric and proposed response to a Supreme Court that issues decisions they disagree with has crossed a line.

Now, I completely respect Democrats' right to be upset at and disagree with Supreme Court decisions. I disagreed with quite a few myself. But there is disagreement, and then there is attempting to undermine a branch of our government. And Democrats are engaged in the latter.

Over and over, Democrats' responses go beyond disagreement or outrage at the Court's decisions and cross the line into attacking the Court's legitimacy.

A number of Democrats have gone even further, directly or indirectly calling for expanding the Court or otherwise altering it to create a Court that will rule in line with where Democrats think it should be.

It is difficult to overstate just how dangerous Democrats' rhetoric is. Democrats are not only fostering a sense of distrust about a Court that is completely legitimate in every way—save for the fact the Democrats don't like some of its decisions—that they are proposing so-called solutions that would permanently and completely destroy faith in the Supreme Court as an impartial interpreter of the law.

Do Democrats seriously imagine that their proposal to “restore faith” in the courts would do anything but further divide the American public and encourage one half of the population to regard the Court as an arm of the Democratic Party?

Do Democrats seriously think they could pack the Court with their preferred Justices and not set off a perma-

nent battle in which the party in power adds or subtracts Justices to achieve what it decides is balance?

If Democrats have their way, we will be looking at a future in which the Supreme Court is nothing but an arm of the party in power in the other two branches, with the number of Justices constantly changing to achieve the governing party's preferred outcomes.

There are names for systems of government in which the party in power controls the outcome in the courts. They are names like “dictatorship” and “despotism.” Not getting your way at the Supreme Court is a pretty poor reason to undermine our system of government. But I am starting to wonder just how well Democrats understand our system of government, given their apparent belief that the outcome should always be in their favor. That is not the way it works in our democratic Republic.

In our system of government, you win sometimes and you lose sometimes. When you lose, you fight hard to gain ground and persuade others of the rightness of your position. You do not—you do not—attempt to rig the system so the outcome will always be in your favor. Hopefully—hopefully—you do not set out to undermine faith in the system by suggesting that any outcome that you don't like is not just incorrect but illegitimate.

It is deeply disturbing that so many Democrats and Democratic leaders are participating in this campaign to attack the legitimacy of the Supreme Court. I hope—I truly hope—that cooler heads will prevail before they do permanent damage to our system of government.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

#### BORDER SECURITY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I would like to talk for a few minutes about what is happening at the southern border.

Coming from Texas, we have a 1,200-mile common border with Mexico. That is 1,200 out of 2,000 miles of a border with Mexico, most of which has been in the midst of a humanitarian and public safety crisis for—well, for many years. But nowhere at no time has it been worse than it has been during the Biden administration.

You will recall during the COVID crisis, title 42 was issued, which is a public health order which allowed the Border Patrol to expel individuals coming across the border in certain categories—mainly adult males. Family units and children were handled differently under court orders. But title 42 went away this last spring, 2 months ago. For 3 years prior, it had allowed the Border Patrol to quickly expel migrants who had illegally crossed the southern border. With detention facilities and shelters bursting at the seams, title 42 was the only tool the Biden administration was willing to use to prevent even more chaos from unfolding.

In the weeks and months leading up to its end last spring, there was widespread fear that a post-title 42 border would look even worse than it did at the time, which was a historically bad time. Would the newly set records for illegal immigration be replaced? Would we see up to 18,000 migrants a day as the Department of Homeland Security officials once predicted? Would more law enforcement officers be removed from the frontlines in order to process and care for migrants under the flawed policies of the Biden administration?

The migration levels over the last 2 months haven't been as bad as some had expected, but they certainly have not been good either. Last week, the New York Times reported that since May 12, the average number of illegal crossings has been around 3,360. Well, that is an improvement from where we were a few months ago, but it is hardly reason to pop a champagne cork and celebrate. For one, the drop is likely seasonal, temporary. Officials and immigration experts believe many migrants are in a wait-and-see mode. They are paying close attention to the legal challenges and other migrants' journeys in order to determine their best courses of action.

That is also true of the criminal cartels that control the flow of migrants across the U.S.-Mexico border. This is a business proposition for them. They are continuing to get rich in moving people and drugs across the border, and they are taking a wait-and-see attitude to see: OK, what is public opinion going to look like? Are we going to create a backlash and even a more dramatic response by the U.S. Government or can we just sort of go slowly, and they won't notice as we gradually ramp up the numbers of migrants and drugs coming across the border?

It is also likely that many migrants are holding out for a highly sought after appointment with Customs and Border Protection through the CBP One app, as it is called. It is an app for your phone. As that wait grows longer and frustration grows higher, the decision of many to wait and to use that app in order to schedule a time to meet with Customs and Border Protection officials means that their decision to wait is likely to change. Some areas, indeed, along the border are already seeing an increase, including the Tucson sector. During the week that ended June 2, agents apprehended roughly 4,300 migrants, while 4 weeks later they apprehended 7,000—an increase of nearly 65 percent. So we can see the way this trend is headed.

We don't know what the coming weeks and months will bring, but we do know that more than 3,300 migrants are being apprehended at the border every day, which is still a very high and unacceptable number.

Back in 2019, Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson, who served under the Obama administration, reflected on his time in leading the Department of Homeland Security. He

said that every morning he would review the border apprehension numbers from the day before. He considered under 1,000 apprehensions a day to be a relatively good number and anything above 1,000 to be a relatively bad number. When the numbers were bad, he said it would put him in a bad mood for the whole day.

As former Secretary Johnson noted at the time, 1,000 migrants a day overwhelm the system. Well, fast-forward to today, and that is still true. We don't have the personnel. We don't have the facilities or the resources to manage the sort of historic levels of illegal immigration that we are seeing in a fair or humane way.

Today, we are encountering more than three times as many migrants as the CBP did on a bad day during the Obama administration, and the Biden administration is trying to celebrate, saying: Look at what we did. We brought it down to three times the unacceptable level of the Obama administration's. Unfortunately, many in the mainstream media are eating up this spin or narrative of success, and unfortunately this number represents only a portion of the migrants entering the United States each day.

Of course, there are what we have come to call the "got-aways"—migrants who are detected by cameras, sensors, and other forms of surveillance but who are not arrested or processed by the Border Patrol. You can only guess what they are up to, but clearly they do not want to encounter Federal law enforcement agents at the border.

My suspicion is, and I think it is a reasonable suspicion, that they are up to illegal activities. They are probably people who have criminal records who know they won't be allowed to come across. It probably includes a significant number of drugs that contributed to the deaths of 108,000 Americans last year alone.

These individuals, these "got-aways," could be drug traffickers, human smugglers, or they could be terrorists. There have been a number of individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist who have been detained at the southern border, and, of course, many are known gang members—MS-13—one of the most violent gangs on the planet. The truth is, we really don't know because they were able to slip into our country and disappear into the great American heartland.

Since the start of the Biden administration began, Customs and Border Protection has logged 1.5 million known "got-aways." Those are the people who have been detected by sensors or cameras or others but have been unable to be apprehended by the Border Patrol—1.5 million. Again, these are people more likely than not to be engaged in some sort of illegal or dangerous activities. That is in addition to the 5.4 million illegal border crossings since the start of the Biden administration. So you have to add the acknowl-

edged number, which is 5.4, with the unacknowledged "got-aways," and that is obviously almost 7 million migrants.

The post-title 42 drop in border crossings doesn't just ignore those who snuck into the United States but also those the Biden administration simply waved through the turnstile. Now, this is another way of hiding the ball or cooking the books to make it look like the situation at the border has vastly improved when it has not.

Earlier this year, the Biden administration rolled out a new plan that allowed migrants from four nations—Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela—to remain in the United States for up to 2 years and receive a work authorization.

Before this hat trick that the Biden administration performed, those individuals were treated like every other migrant and were subject to being removed under title 42 or were subject to other immigration enforcement measures, but now, because of the wave of the wand, the magic wand, 360,000 individuals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela have been subtracted from that top-line number because what was illegal is now, due to the sleight of hand by the Biden administration, presumably legal. All they have to do is to submit their information online before crossing the border and wait for the administration to give them the green light.

So instead of making the situation better, the Biden administration has taken 360,000 individuals from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela and welcomed them with open arms. This isn't a small program that is limited to the most vulnerable individuals; it is open to 30,000 individuals a month.

Of course, the Biden administration took this major step without consulting with Congress. It acted unilaterally to offer work status to up to 360,000 people a year.

We have talked about this before, but it is worth remembering that the Border Patrol says illegal immigration is a combination of push factors and pull factors. The push factors are things like poverty and violence, the desire for a better life, and we certainly all understand that. But the pull factors for illegal immigration are incentives that are provided to the migrants to come to the United States, whether they be social welfare benefits or, in this case, work permits.

Instead of making things better by reducing the number of migrants by enforcing the law, the Biden administration is offering additional incentives for people to migrate from these four countries into the United States because, lo and behold, they will get a work permit.

Of course, there is no situation as to what happens to these individuals 2 years on; this is a 2-year provision. And rest assured, if the Biden administration were still to be in charge, there would never ever be any effort to try to return individuals who overstay after

their 2 years are up. These are individuals who likely will remain in the United States for the rest of their lives under this new wave of the wand by the Biden administration.

This new policy lets the administration roll out the welcome mat. That is one of those pull factors encouraging people to make the dangerous journey in the hands, in the custody, of some of the most dangerous people on the planet—these criminal cartels. This policy lets the administration roll out the welcome mat for tens of thousands of migrants while making it seem like the numbers have gone down. They say, "Look, the top line is down," but they don't tell you that they have taken people out of that category and welcomed 360,000 migrants a year from these four countries. That is cooking the books where I come from.

When you look at the total number of migrants encountered at the border during any given month, these migrants are not included in the total. For example, in May, Customs and Border Protection reported more than 204,000 border crossings, but they didn't include the 30,000 migrants who were admitted under the administration's new wave of the wand or the potentially tens of thousands of "got-aways" who were up to no good because they had simply evaded the Border Patrol and law enforcement.

Still, the Biden administration has tried to claim victory when it comes to the border when its policies have been a demonstrable, abject failure. Three times more migrants are currently being encountered at the border than Jeh Johnson, the Secretary of Homeland Security under the Obama administration, said would be a real problem—more than three times more—and the trend line shows that number going up and up and up.

I just think the Biden administration is not being honest with the American people. I am sure Director Mayorkas is patting himself on the back with some of the stories that are being printed, saying: Well, the problem has been resolved. Title 42 went away, but the number didn't skyrocket even higher.

I am sure he is more than happy with only about 3,600 coming across the border, together with the "got-aways," under the magic trick by which people who previously would have been considered to have illegally entered the country are then deemed legal by the Biden administration.

In May, the Department of Homeland Security said the drop in numbers is proof "the administration's plan is working as intended." And I can tell you exactly what that plan is. It appears our Democratic colleagues are using the same playbook that President Obama used to create deferred action for childhood arrivals. Those are the Dreamers, the young people who came to the United States as children who were then unilaterally given deferred action for childhood arrivals, or DACA, as we frequently call it.

Step 1, the President acts outside of his legal authorities to extend status to a massive population of undocumented immigrants. He is applauded by the left for taking the action even though it is based on the shakiest of legal grounds, which, by the way, has been held illegal by a Federal district judge in the Southern District of Texas.

To take from that same Obama DACA—or Dreamers'—playbook, the Biden administration's step 2 watches more and more people take advantage of the program as lawsuits are brought against the government.

The debate will wind its way through the courts as tens or even hundreds of thousands of people put down roots in the United States, which is where we are now. And step 3 will come later down the road.

Mr. President, I used to, at one point, just think this was mere incompetence, but now I think it is actually part of a plan because we have seen this play out before, and we know where this ends.

So step 3 will come later down the road. At that point, the individuals who came to the United States through this program will likely have been here for many years. They will have jobs, homes, probably even American-citizen children. Our Democratic colleagues will then point to them and say it is unfair for them to live in a second-class status so we need to provide an amnesty so that they can enjoy the benefits of full American citizenship. They will say it will be cruel to force these individuals to return to their home countries after years of living and working in the United States, and they will frame anyone who refuses to go along as just plain heartless.

So we have seen this movie before, and I can guarantee you that migrants who enter the United States under this new, made-up program of the Biden administration will experience the same level of uncertainty and fear as the DACA recipients currently are. Their legal status is the result of Executive overreach. And as legal challenges are considered, these individuals will be left to wonder whether they will be able to remain here in the United States.

For a party that talks so much about compassionate immigration, this is not compassionate. It is cruel and manipulative and dishonest. The Biden administration is cooking the books in order to make the American people think the border crisis isn't so bad after all. It is deceiving migrants by offering legal status that the Biden administration has no authority to offer, and it is unfair to the individuals who follow the law and who are naturalized as American citizens each year.

I have said it before; I will say it again. We should celebrate the fact that we are a nation of legal immigrants. It is what has made our country so strong and resilient and prosperous. But what is happening at the border is not legal immigration; it is

simply hiding the ball, pretending that things aren't so bad, and hoping that the press will move on to look at something else.

And it is unfair to those migrants, to those immigrants, to those would-be American citizens to say: I am sorry; we can't process your legal immigration application because we are too busy taking care of this flood of humanity coming across the border through these made-up programs like the Biden administration is foisting on the American people. And, of course, finally, it is setting the table for another battle over how to handle a massive population of immigrants with legally dubious immigration status.

So, Mr. President, it may appear superficially that the Biden administration is making progress on the border crisis, but it is just an illusion. It is deception. It is manipulation. It is dishonest. And it won't last forever. So the simple answer, as the Presiding Officer knows, is that at some point things are going to get so bad that we are actually going to have to do the hard work. After all, immigration law is Congress's prerogative and bailiwick.

But as long as the Biden administration can take a crisis at the border with title 42 in place—once it expires—and substitute essentially a green light for anybody and everybody who wants to come to the United States outside of a legal immigration process, they are going to say: What problem? We don't have a problem at the border.

Meanwhile, States like mine continue to experience a flood of humanity coming across, overwhelming not only the capacity of Border Patrol to deal with it but diverting those resources away from their primary job, which is to enforce the law, including our drug laws.

Again, I don't know what it is going to take. Almost 7 million migrants during the Biden administration's tenure—that doesn't seem to bother them. What about the 108,000 Americans who died last year due to drug overdoses—71,000 of those from synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

I have been in very emotional settings with parents who have lost their children because they thought they were taking a Percocet or a Xanax or some other more relatively innocuous pharmaceutical drug, when, in fact, it was laced with fentanyl, and they didn't wake up the next morning. These parents are distraught at losing their child who had so much potential and such a wonderful future, only to be killed because the administration is unwilling to do what it should do to be able to stop more of those drugs, including synthetic opioids, from making their way across the border. But apparently that is not enough: 7 million border encounters, 108,000 dead Americans.

We know where the drugs are coming from, and we know how to do a better job of stopping it, but the Biden administration looks the other way. And now we will talk more about this. The facts

are coming into view with the 300,000 unaccompanied children whom the Biden administration has welcomed into the United States. And once they are placed with sponsors—people who are maybe not even their family members—they simply say: We are done. We have no responsibility.

The New York Times and other established news organizations have reported these children are subject to labor exploitation, recruitment into gangs, being neglected or abused. And the Biden administration said: It is not our responsibility. Once these children are placed with sponsors—300,000 of them—we have nothing left to do.

Well, as I said, we will talk more about that later, but we do know that in 85,000 of those cases, when Health and Human Services, the Office of Refugee Resettlement that is responsible for getting the sponsors—in 85,000 of those 300,000 cases, when the U.S. Government official calls the sponsor to check in on that child, there is no answer—no answer at all.

I think this constitutes abandonment of these children who are welcomed into the United States as unaccompanied children, placed with sponsors, then simply abandoned by the U.S. Government—unacceptable. If you were to do that with an American citizen child, you would be in prison. You would be charged and convicted of child endangerment or worse. But that is what the Biden administration is doing almost on a daily basis, and it needs to be held to account.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for 5 minutes and that Senator STABENOW be permitted to speak for 5 minutes prior to the scheduled votes.

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

NOMINATION OF KOCHITL TORRES SMALL

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, it is good to see you, and it is good to see my colleague JOHN CORNYN here in the Senate today, all the pages, and folks who came back to go to work. There is a lot of work to do.

One of the first items of business before us is a critical nomination, a nomination for the Department of Agriculture—and not just any job at the Department of Agriculture but the No. 2 job, the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

The person who has been nominated is a woman who serves currently as the Under Secretary at the Department of Agriculture, and she has been nominated to be the Deputy Secretary for the Department. She has a hard name to pronounce, and it is a name I have never seen before. It sounds something like this: So-cheel, like S-O, cheel, like C-H-E-E-L. You look at it down on paper, and you say: How would you pronounce that name? That is the way to pronounce it.

But the rest of her name is Torres Small. She is somebody I have known

for a relatively brief period of time. You know who knows her really well? It is a guy who used to serve with us for many years, a Senator from New Mexico, Tom Udall. In fact, as I recall, I think she actually worked for Tom Udall when he was a U.S. Senator.

Agriculture is a hugely important part of our economy in Delaware. I see Senator STABENOW is going to speak immediately after me. I know it is hugely important in Michigan. As she is the chairman of the Ag Committee, she knows that much better than I do.

The Department of Agriculture, the No. 2 job—huge industry, important in every State in our country. This is a big deal. This is a big deal. As it turns out, the administration has given us a terrific nominee.

The Department of Agriculture plays a critical role in ensuring that people from every corner of this country have something to eat—hopefully, something nutritious to eat—and also helps us with respect to farming and farming agriculture and farming economy, public health, broadband, and a whole lot more.

And the role of the Deputy Secretary of the Department is a big deal, a very big deal. It requires someone who is diligent. It requires someone who is sharp. It requires someone who ultimately understands the Department. It is a big department. It requires someone who is diligent, and I know that Under Secretary Torres Small possesses all of those qualities and a whole lot more. In her current position as the Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development, she has been involved with every function of the Department, including overseeing the deployment of \$2 billion for rural broadband that was secured in the bipartisan infrastructure law that we passed here by almost a unanimous vote more than a year ago.

This month, we saw States across our country receive this significant funding to expand broadband access for literally millions of people in many parts of our Nation—rural parts of our Nation—including Delaware's own Sussex County, one of the largest counties in the country. We only have three counties in Delaware. The second largest is Sussex. It is one of the top counties in the country for growing corn and soybeans, and it is one of the top counties in the country for growing chickens. We have, in Delaware, over 200 chickens for every person. So it is a big deal for us, big deal for us.

Prior to serving at the Department of Agriculture, Under Secretary Torres Small has had a history of serving her country. She was a U.S. Representative for New Mexico's Second Congressional District, where she grew up as—get this—a granddaughter of farmworkers.

As a U.S. Representative, she served as a member of the House Agriculture Committee, among other committees, and previously spent time on the ground in New Mexico, as I mentioned earlier, as a field rep for our old friend

and colleague Senator Tom Udall, who is now the U.S. Ambassador to New Zealand.

I talked to him about a month ago, and, I say to Senator STABENOW, he thinks he has the best job on the planet. If the Senator talked to him, she will know what I mean.

But Xochitl is also an accomplished attorney, practicing water and natural resources law, and served as a former clerk in the U.S. District Court for a fellow named Judge Robert C. Brack. All these experiences help make her well suited to take on the role of Deputy Secretary because I know that she understands our Nation and understands this on a human level as well.

That was made especially clear during her nomination hearing. Under Secretary Torres Small spoke of her goals to better communicate through the role of the Department across our country so that programs are deployed more efficiently, more effectively, more humanely. She also highlighted how she will work to support underserved producers and small farmers by raising awareness of the Federal resources that they may be eligible for.

So, in closing, before yielding to Senator STABENOW, I strongly urge our colleagues to confirm Under Secretary Xochitl Torres Small as the Deputy Secretary for the Department of Agriculture. She will make us proud. She will make New Mexico proud. She will make our country proud.

With that, I will just stop talking and yield the floor to Senator STABENOW.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have to first note—and I appreciate so much Senator CARPER's comments—but from the smallest State that claims agriculture to our distinguished Presiding Officer from the largest State that has agriculture, to my State of Michigan, which is second only to California in the diversity of crops that we grow, I think we all stand here committed to the importance of growing things in America, this economic engine, supporting small towns, supporting rural development and quality of life.

So I am really pleased, as chair of the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee, today, to know that we will be confirming Xochitl Torres Small as the Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. Ms. Torres Small's impressive and wide-ranging resume makes her an ideal appointee to help lead the more than 100,000 public servants at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and they are stationed in over 4,500 locations all across the country and all across the world.

Her predecessor in this role, Jewel Bronaugh, was instrumental in helping to restore one of the Department's key functions: serving our constituents on the ground in the communities in which they work, live, and farm. A trailblazer like Ms. Torres Small, Ms.

Bronaugh was the first woman of color to hold the Deputy position at the USDA, and we very much appreciated her leadership. I have every confidence that Ms. Torres Small is up to the important task and will lead with great skill and competence.

The granddaughter of farm workers, Ms. Torres Small grew up in the borderlands of New Mexico. She began her career working for Senator Tom Udall, clerking for a U.S. district court judge, and practicing water and natural resources law.

Ms. Torres Small was the first woman and first person of color to represent New Mexico's Second Congressional District, which is the fifth largest district in the country.

She has most recently served as the Under Secretary for Rural Development, a position to which she was confirmed unanimously by the Senate just 2 years ago. As Under Secretary, Ms. Torres Small proved herself to be a staunch advocate for rural communities.

It was through her leadership that USDA Rural Development secured \$2 billion to support rural broadband through the bipartisan infrastructure law, making USDA the first Federal Agency to invest these funds in physical infrastructure for high-speed internet. I want to stress that they were the first dollars out the door in terms of taking dollars to small communities across the country for critically needed high-speed internet. By moving swiftly to make rural development funding available, USDA reduced energy costs for farmers and small businesses.

Last year, Congress made the largest investment in rural electric since the New Deal. Under Ms. Torres Small's stewardship, USDA has been a leader in delivering those benefits to our local communities. She worked tirelessly to increase rural communities' access to programs and improve customer services at regional offices across the country. And, importantly, she championed USDA's workforce, improving staff morale and building out data and technology.

Ms. Torres Small enjoys broad support from over 80 stakeholders, including the American Farm Bureau Federation, National Farmers Union, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, National Grocers Association, Western Growers, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, U.S. Apple Association, the Rice Association, and on and on, as well as the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

I am also pleased that Ms. Torres Small enjoys broad support in this Chamber, and she was advanced unanimously out of our committee.

The role of Deputy Secretary of Agriculture is not only critical to overseeing the Department's efforts to improve its workforce but also improving customer service, which I know she is laser-focused on. The Deputy Secretary position is also vital to our work as we continue to draft a bipartisan farm bill.

Ms. Torres Small's confirmation is a great opportunity for the Senate to show that we can work together in a bipartisan manner.

Ms. Torres Small has a proven track record as a strong leader with deep knowledge of farm, food, and rural policy. I know she will serve the Department and the American people well in her new position, and I urge my colleagues to support her confirmation.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON TORRES SMALL NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Torres Small nomination?

Ms. STABENOW. 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. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and 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 84, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 174 Ex.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Murray
Bennet	Graham	Ossoff
Blumenthal	Grassley	Padilla
Booker	Hagerty	Peters
Boozman	Hassan	Reed
Braun	Heinrich	Risch
Britt	Hickenlooper	Romney
Brown	Hirono	Rosen
Budd	Hoeben	Rounds
Cantwell	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Capito	Kaine	Schatz
Cardin	Kelly	Schumer
Carper	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Casey	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cassidy	Lankford	Smith
Collins	Lee	Stabenow
Coons	Lujan	Tester
Cornyn	Lummis	Thune
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tuberville
Cotton	Markey	Van Hollen
Cramer	Marshall	Warner
Crapo	McConnell	Warnock
Cruz	Menendez	Warren
Daines	Merkley	Welch
Duckworth	Moran	Whitehouse
Ernst	Mullin	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Fischer	Murphy	Young

NAYS—8

Blackburn	Paul	Scott (FL)
Hawley	Rubio	Vance
Johnson	Schmitt	

NOT VOTING—8

Barrasso	King	Sullivan
Durbin	Ricketts	Tillis
Fetterman	Shaheen	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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. 56, Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Lujan, Peter Welch, Tina Smith, Tammy Duckworth, Tim Kaine, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Raphael G. Warnock, Christopher Murphy, John W. Hickenlooper, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Edward J. Markey, Jack Reed, Mazie K. Hirono.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice, 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. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 175 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Cortez Masto	Klobuchar
Bennet	Duckworth	Lujan
Blumenthal	Feinstein	Manchin
Booker	Gillibrand	Markey
Brown	Graham	Menendez
Cantwell	Hassan	Merkley
Cardin	Heinrich	Murkowski
Carper	Hickenlooper	Murphy
Casey	Hirono	Murray
Collins	Kaine	Ossoff
Coons	Kelly	Padilla

Peters	Sinema	Warnock
Reed	Smith	Warren
Rosen	Stabenow	Welch
Sanders	Tester	Whitehouse
Schatz	Van Hollen	Wyden
Schumer	Warner	

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—8

Barrasso	King	Sullivan
Durbin	Ricketts	Tillis
Fetterman	Shaheen	

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 42.

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 Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

RECESS

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:18 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

EXECUTIVE SESSION—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 bill 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. 33, Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tina Smith, Christopher Murphy, Mazie K. 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 Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) would have noted “nay.”

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 176 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—42

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

NOT VOTING—7

Barrasso	Ricketts	Tillis
Durbin	Shaheen	
King	Sullivan	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays 42.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

RECESS UNTIL 4 P.M. TODAY

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

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:18 p.m., recessed until 4 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. WELCH).

EXECUTIVE SESSION—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 538

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, many Americans remember waking up on Saturday morning to watch their favorite cartoons, including shows like “The Jetsons.” As I look at the Senate pages who are here, I suspect none of them have any memory of “The Jetsons.” For those who are under 40 in the Chamber or who are watching at home, “The Jetsons” was a futuristic cartoon that was set in the year 2062, and it depicted a family from the future who had fun, imaginative technologies, like jet packs and holograms and video calls and robot vacuums and smartwatches and flying cars. While we are still waiting to see those flying cars in the air, we already have a lot of “The Jetsons” technology available to us now—in many cases, even better than what was depicted in the cartoon show.

Today, internet-connected smart devices are commonly used in American households. Light bulbs, mirrors, air fryers, coffee makers, trash cans, kitchen faucets, refrigerators, and more are all becoming smart, and we are able to control them with our phones or voice commands. A lot of that is really cool. It is expected that, in a few years, nearly 70 percent of American households—more than 80 million households—will own at least one smart home product. This is, by and large, a good thing, as smart devices can help us improve our quality of life and complete daily tasks more easily.

But, with any technological advancement, there can be tradeoffs, and for smart devices, one of the potential tradeoffs is our privacy. In Texas, we have become very aware of that cost. In the past few years, smart thermostats have allowed electric companies to control the temperature in your own home, from afar, in the name of conserving energy.

Furthermore, a lot of Americans don't realize or expect that the growing number of smart household devices and appliances have cameras on them and microphones that can surreptitiously record families and transmit data. In other words, when you are buying a new refrigerator, you don't expect your fridge to record you or listen to you or to spy on you without

your knowledge. And, while some manufacturers have responsibly taken steps to more clearly label their products and to let consumers know they contain listening devices or cameras, others have not.

So I have introduced bipartisan legislation, which I authored alongside Senator CANTWELL of Washington, a Democrat and the chairman of the Commerce Committee. I am the ranking member of the Commerce Committee. Our bipartisan legislation would simply ensure that this information is clearly communicated to consumers so that you are informed before you buy a product that is going to photograph you or film you or record you, so that it doesn't happen against your wishes and without your knowledge.

Now, I expect, in a minute, we are going to hear opposition to my bill—opposition focused on the proposition that any mandate put on a private company is somehow a burden. And it is a mandate to require your refrigerator manufacturer to tell you if your fridge is spying on you. Now, I am sympathetic to the problem that there are too many mandates from government and that many of the mandates are unnecessary and burdensome and costly, but requiring a manufacturer to tell you if they are spying on you does not fall into that category.

And I have to say, in assessing the minimal burden—the disclosure burden—against the harm, I fall down on the side of individual liberty. I fall down on the side of privacy. I don't think the American people want their air fryer spying on them, and, at a minimum, they have the right to know if their air fryer is spying on them.

Now, I would note that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle agree. The Presiding Officer today serves on the Commerce Committee. This legislation passed the Commerce Committee by voice vote, with bipartisan support from both sides of the aisle. This should be a simple, easy, pro-privacy step to protect consumers.

For that reason, as in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 538 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the Cruz-Cantwell substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, far too often, Congress operates under the delusion that we know what is best for the American consumer. Instead of allowing market participants to determine the information they want, we seek to manipulate the free market to impose our preferences on private actors.



As I am sure my colleague will readily agree, the Federal Government is far too large in size and scope. In this case, the additional Federal regulation and the associated potential penalties and costs are not appropriate. This is not a case of industry committing fraud or making willful misrepresentations about their products. This bill simply mandates what manufacturers must tell consumers because it assumes that consumers are not sophisticated enough to make the judgment themselves.

If American consumers want more information about a product, they can be sure they will make it known. If a manufacturer wants to sell more of their products, you can be sure they will listen to the consumers. Congress doesn't need to insert itself into every equation.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is noted.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I have listened to the objections of my friend from Kentucky, and I use that word as many do on this floor, although he is not listening to my response, but that is his choice.

The first time I ever spoke on the floor was in support of Senator PAUL's filibuster in 2013. Senator PAUL is fond of telling his constituents that he is a libertarian, that he defends privacy. I am not quite a libertarian. I am a conservative, but I have strong libertarian leanings. And I want to note the irony that Senator PAUL, who has devoted his entire public career to defending liberty and defending privacy, just objected to protecting the privacy of over 300 million Americans. He just objected to Americans knowing whether they are being spied on at home. I have to admit it is truly flabbergasting.

I would like to invite my colleague Senator PAUL to join me in front of a gathering of libertarians, and let's discuss with libertarians which side of the aisle you want to be on. Do you want to be on the side of Big Business' surreptitiously tape-recording, photographing, and videotaping you in your home or in your bedroom without your knowing about it or is a mild and nominal disclosure requirement simply saying, "If you are going to tape-record someone or videotape them in their house, you have got to tell them," a justifiable burden?

I hope that, in time, reason will prevail, because we ought to be protecting privacy. This is a bill whereby, if we vote on it on the Senate floor, I am confident the vote would be 99 to 1. I am confident that every Senator except the Senator who just objected would support this bill. Protecting people's privacy is a good idea, and I hope the Senate can get there as a body.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NOMINATIONS OF TIFFANY M. CARTWRIGHT AND KYMBERLY KATHRYN EVANSON

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to urge my colleagues to confirm two excellent judicial nominees to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington: Tiffany Cartwright, whom President Biden first nominated well over a year ago, and Kimberly Evanson, also nominated last year.

I am proud to say I recommended both of these women after they were vetted and endorsed by a nonpartisan judicial merit selection committee made up of Democratic and Republican legal experts. In fact, since 2021, the Senate has confirmed five judges to the Western District, each of whom were strongly supported by the same committee. And with Ms. Cartwright and Ms. Evanson, it is clear to me they have done it again.

These are two incredibly well-qualified nominees, with records which show they have an expert understanding of our laws, a passion for justice and fairness for everyone, and an appreciation for how their decisions will affect the lives of people across Washington State.

Tiffany Cartwright grew up in Kitsap County in Washington and received her law degree from Stanford University. She has clerked on both the Alaska Supreme Court for Justice Dana Fabe and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals for Justice Betty B. Fletcher, and today she is a partner at a leading civil rights firm in the Pacific Northwest.

As a trial lawyer in Seattle, Ms. Cartwright has established herself as a preeminent civil rights attorney, dedicated to ensuring our laws are faithfully executed on behalf of the people they are meant to defend. She has represented employees who faced discrimination in the workplace, farmworkers who were denied the overtime they had earned, voters seeking to ensure that their vote was counted, and the families of victims of police misconduct.

She has argued cases in State and Federal court, including before the Washington Supreme Court, and also has earned the support of law enforcement officers, including a Washington State corrections officer, an ATF special agent, both of whom spoke to her dedication to their cases and her commitment to justice.

For 6 years, Ms. Cartwright also served on the local Rules Committee of the Federal Bar Association for the Western District of Washington, offering her unique expertise to consider some of the region's thorniest legal issues.

She also served on the board of directors for Legal Voice, an organization that is focused on women's rights.

Ms. Cartwright is a tested and proven civil rights attorney, with extensive Federal court experience and a track record of seeking justice for people who have faced discrimination, police misconduct, and more. Importantly, she is someone who will apply the law fairly and impartially and will make an excellent addition to the bench in Washington State, as will Kimberly Evanson.

Ms. Evanson was raised by two Washington State public school teachers and has dedicated her career to serving the State.

After attending law school in Georgetown and clerking for Judge Emmet Sullivan on the U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia, she returned home to Washington State where she has practiced law for many years with distinction.

Throughout her career, Ms. Evanson has earned the respect of her peers and her opposing counsel through her work on cases of public importance.

As a partner at Pacifica Law Group, she has represented State, municipal, private, and nonprofit clients on a range of complicated legal issues.

In her work in Seattle, she regularly advises clients on constitutional and statutory questions around the First Amendment, complaints under the Americans with Disabilities Act, and more, not to mention her pro bono work. She has lent her time, services, and expertise to the Seattle Clemency Project and the Western District of Washington's Federal Civil Rights Legal Clinic to provide legal counsel in cases involving access to justice, employment discrimination, housing discrimination, and more.

The ABA has rated her "well-qualified," and it is easy to see why. She has shown she has the expertise to work through the most complicated legal matters and the compassion to understand the stakes of these matters for people's everyday lives, all of which will serve her and the people of Washington State well on the bench of the Western District.

The people of Washington State deserve a court system that delivers justice for everyone, not just the powerful and well connected. They deserve judges who will carefully review each case on the merits and show respect for the law and everyone who appears before them. Based on their records of service in my State, I believe those are exactly the kind of judges that Ms. Cartwright and Ms. Evanson will be.

These appointments are well-deserved, and confirmation is well overdue. So I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for these highly qualified nominees. And I was pleased to see that both of them received bipartisan support in the Judiciary Committee. I hope to see that continue here on the Senate floor.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.  
 The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I am pretty sure I am joining my colleague from Washington, who probably just spoke on the same subject, but I come to the floor to support the nominations of two very exceptional nominees to serve as judges for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

Kimberly Evanson, born and raised in our State, grew up in Grays Harbor County before attending Tacoma High School in Tacoma. She attended Seattle University and went on to graduate from Georgetown University Law Center.

Nearly her entire legal career has been spent in the Western District of Washington and the district in which she will serve, if confirmed. She has nearly 15 years of experience with constitutional and Federal law procedure, making her—as the American Bar Association said—“well-qualified” for the Federal bench.

Ms. Evanson has dedicated her free time to supporting her community through volunteer work, and since 2013, she has been a regular volunteer with the Western District of Washington’s Federal Civil Rights Legal Clinic. There, she provides legal advice to King and Pierce County residents who face employment discrimination, disability, housing, prison misconduct, and excessive force claims.

Ms. Evanson’s commitment to ensuring legal services and counsel is available to all, regardless of income, shows her dedication to a fair and inclusive justice system.

I urge my colleagues to confirm Ms. Evanson to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington without delay.

I also want to urge my colleagues to vote to confirm Tiffany Cartwright for the Western District of Washington. This is a historic nomination. If confirmed, Ms. Cartwright would be the first woman to serve as Federal district judge from the Tacoma courthouse.

Ms. Cartwright is a proud Washingtonian who grew up in Kitsap County and attended Central Kitsap High School. She went on to earn a bachelor of arts from Stanford University in 2007 and a juris doctorate from Stanford Law School.

Ms. Cartwright is extremely experienced in our court system. She has served as a law clerk in the Alaska State Supreme Court and has served as a Federal law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Ms. Cartwright currently serves as a civil rights attorney in Seattle, where her practice focuses on police mis-

conduct and gender discrimination. In addition to her work as a civil rights attorney, Ms. Cartwright serves on the Local Rules Committee for the Federal Bar Association.

Ms. Cartwright has made it a priority to improve the accessibility of the courts. In her free time, she has served as pro bono counsel for cases involving women’s and LGBTQ+ rights. And at the Seattle law firm where she works, she has developed a successful fellowship program to draw a diverse range of applicants to the firm and help reduce bias in the workforce.

A real champion for her community and civil rights, she would make an outstanding addition to the district court in the Western District of Washington. And again, I urge my colleagues to vote to confirm Tiffany Cartwright for the Western District of Washington.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON HIDALGO NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hidalgo nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 51, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 177 Ex.]

YEAS—51

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

NAYS—42

Barrasso	Capito	Daines
Blackburn	Cassidy	Ernst
Boozman	Cornyn	Fischer
Braun	Cramer	Grassley
Britt	Crapo	Hagerty
Budd	Cruz	Hawley

Hoeven	McConnell	Schmitt
Hyde-Smith	Moran	Scott (FL)
Johnson	Mullin	Scott (SC)
Kennedy	Paul	Thune
Lankford	Risch	Tuberville
Lee	Romney	Vance
Lummis	Rounds	Wicker
Marshall	Rubio	Young

NOT VOTING—7

Cotton	Ricketts	Tillis
Durbin	Shaheen	
King	Sullivan	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). 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 EVANSON NOMINATION

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

Mrs. MURRAY. 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. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 178 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—42

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

## NOT VOTING—8

Cotton	King	Sullivan
Durbin	Ricketts	Tillis
Hickenlooper	Shaheen	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 bill 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. 8, Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Brian Schatz, Tina Smith, Elizabeth Warren, Tim Kaine, Ron Wyden, Patty Murray, Richard Blumenthal, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Jack Reed, Christopher A. Coons, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Benjamin L. Cardin.

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 Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 179 Ex.]

## YEAS—49

Baldwin	Casey	Graham
Bennet	Collins	Hassan
Blumenthal	Coons	Heinrich
Booker	Cortez Masto	Hickenlooper
Brown	Duckworth	Hirono
Cantwell	Feinstein	Kaine
Cardin	Fetterman	Kelly
Carper	Gillibrand	Klobuchar

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

## NAYS—42

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

## NOT VOTING—9

Cotton	King	Shaheen
Cramer	Ricketts	Sullivan
Durbin	Sanders	Tillis

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 42.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Alaska.

## GRAPHITE AND GRAPHITE ONE

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, more is happening with minerals around the world than ever before. We are seeing global demand driven by growth and technology, legislation and regulation. Everything is just skyrocketing. Yet the global supply is often tenuous. Really, it is very thoroughly dominated by China, and there are clear warning signs that we here in the United States urgently need to reduce our foreign dependence by rebuilding our domestic supply chains.

As we stand here today, our Nation's lack of mineral security is a glaring vulnerability. It is a threat to our security. It is a threat to our competitiveness. It is a threat to our geopolitical power and our ability to lead on industries of the future. The obvious solution is to do a lot more in this space, which makes sense, but it starts with mining, and until we have achieved stable, affordable supplies of as many minerals as possible here at home, that vulnerability will continue.

We have begun to put a framework in place to do that. We did this through the legislation that I had introduced, the American Mineral and Security Act. We also did some with the bipartisan infrastructure law and with the provisions that Chairman MANCHIN added to the Inflation Reduction Act.

These are a good start, but there is no shortage of minerals where meaningful action is still needed.

So we could talk about copper—the "metal of electrification" as my friend Dr. Daniel Yergin puts it—where forecasts of shortages in the twenties and thirties are becoming commonplace. Now, I would be the first one to acknowledge that we cannot produce copper everywhere it is found—I think there are just a few places that are too, too sensitive—but we need to make up for this by approving projects in locations where it does make sense, and that is simply not happening right now.

We could also talk about gallium and germanium. Just before the Fourth of July, our Independence Day, China announced export controls for both of these critical minerals as part of their escalating war over semiconductors. So what is our domestic reaction to that? Well, it is not independence. It has really become more of a scramble. We have seen with the Department of the Interior that they have repeatedly delayed a good project in Alaska—this is the Ambler Access Project—that would provide access to long-term supplies of both germanium and gallium.

What we are doing here is giving China leverage. They have certainly seized on it in what could well become a pattern across dozens of minerals and materials. In a very real sense, in many ways, we are giving them bullets for the gun that they will hold us hostage to. And it is not just here in the United States. We saw it just few years back when China cut off supplies of rare earths to Japan in an effort to utilize that leverage.

Today, I have come to the floor to discuss a different type of critical mineral, and that is graphite.

Graphite is described by the U.S. Geological Survey as a "soft, crystalline form of carbon" that "occurs naturally in metamorphic rocks such as marble, schist, and gneiss." Graphite "exhibits the properties of a metal and a nonmetal," which include "thermal and electrical conductivity" as well as "inertness, high thermal resistance, and lubricity." Graphite is valued because it is relatively lightweight. Yet it is very dense. It is a good semiconductor, a good conductor, and more stable than many of the alternatives.

Now, most of us are most familiar with the graphite that we know in pencils. Pencils don't contain lead; they contain graphite. It is also used in things like brake linings, steelmaking, headphones, and today, perhaps most crucially, advanced rechargeable batteries and fuel cells. So if you care about smartphones, if you care about EVs, if you care about climate change and the energy transition, there is really no way around it—you will need to care a lot more about graphite than you probably currently do.

Lithium-ion batteries typically require far more graphite than lithium—up to 15 times more. Graphite can account for more than a quarter of those

batteries' weight and up to 95 percent of their anode materials. That makes graphite both fundamental to our mineral security and really very irreplaceable for many technologies.

I am not a materials scientist, and I think most aren't, but for those who aren't, Bloomberg's Liam Denning recently summarized graphite's use in EVs as follows. He said:

Graphite is the main material for the battery's anode, which takes in and holds lithium ions during charging and releases them when energy is needed. . . . [G]raphite's combination of high thermal and electrical conductivity with chemical inertness makes it very useful when you want to cycle through lots of energy flows without stuff degrading or blowing up. A typical 60 kilowatt-hour EV battery might hold 160 pounds of graphite compared with perhaps 20 pounds of lithium. And while the exact mix of other metals such as cobalt and nickel in the other electrode—the cathode—may change, graphite's place in the anode is more or less fixed.

So more technical than most of us would want, but just to put it in very simple terms, if we want more smartphones and we want more EVs on the roads, we are going to need a lot more graphite for them. That is one of the main reasons that Chairman MANCHIN and I, along with Senators RISCH and CASSIDY, urged President Biden back in March of last year to declare graphite and other key battery minerals as "essential to the national defense" under the Defense Production Act of 1950. I appreciate and I thank the President for doing just that and then working with us to secure hundreds of millions of dollars in Federal appropriations for projects to produce them.

My view is, we don't have any more time to waste here. One rough estimate is that every additional 1 million EVs will require 80,000 tons of graphite. That is why Benchmark Minerals projects the world will need 97 new graphite mines by 2035 compared to just over 70 that are operating today. It is why the International Energy Agency, the IEA, projects that demand for graphite for clean energy technologies could increase 25-fold—that is 2,500 percent—by the year 2040.

So you have to ask the question, are we on track to produce any of that? The answer is no—not even remotely. A consultancy by the name of Project Blue has projected an annual deficit of about 856,000 tons of graphite by the year 2030.

Some of the anticipated demand can be filled by synthetic graphite, which is made from fossil fuels such as petroleum coke, but a large portion will need to come from newly mined natural graphite. Here is the problem with that: The United States has not produced natural graphite for about three decades now—since at least 1990 and perhaps as far back as 1950, depending on your source. Instead, the United States is entirely import-dependent, bringing in 100 percent of our supply each year. Last year, that amounted to 82,000 metric tons of natural graphite.

And where did we get it from? China was the No. 1 source of our imports—at least 100 percent foreign dependence.

You might think it can't get any worse than that, but trust me, it can, and it is. We can always import more volume, and that is exactly what is happening. According to USGS, after a few down years in 2019 and 2020, our natural graphite imports rose by 48 percent in 2021 and by 55 percent in 2022. So we are just—we need the stuff. Where are we getting it? We are getting it imported. Where are we importing it from? China.

Another part of the problem is that even if the United States begins to produce graphite again, we won't know exactly what to do with it. That is because we also lack the processing capabilities to turn natural graphite into useful advanced material for batteries and other products. This is, again, another area where China leads, and we are paying very little attention here.

It will take a sustained effort to catch up on graphite processing, so the question is, How long is this going to take? What will it cost us? Who will our partners in these efforts be?

There has been some speculation that China's warning shot on gallium might be a precursor for something that really hurts us, like restrictions on graphite. According to Benchmark Minerals, China is responsible for 61 percent of global graphite production and 98 percent of processed graphite materials. EVs previously failed because the technology just wasn't there. Yet it isn't hard to imagine them failing again because the minerals and the materials aren't there.

If you are thinking "OK, this is bad," you are right. It is bad. But there is hope. There is hope on the horizon in the form of Graphite One. This is a project in northwest Alaska. This is about 37 miles outside of the community of Nome, AK.

This is not a picture of Nome, AK, although in the wintertime, it could be just about that white. But what I want to demonstrate here is what could be considered a crude writing utensil. I will just write my name there. This is a hunk of graphite. This is solid graphite. It gets your fingers a little bit dirty. This is a piece of graphite that I picked up at the mine site in Nome. If I were to give you this piece of graphite and you were to hold it in one hand and you were to hold your cell phone in the other hand, you would be holding two pieces of graphite. This is graphite. This is graphite. But this graphite from Alaska would probably be the first piece of American graphite, of domestic graphite that you have ever held in your life, because there is nothing domestic about the graphite that goes into our cell phones today.

This is just a small part, a small sample of what we can glean from the Graphite One project, which USGS reports is North America's largest natural graphite deposit. It is a world-class deposit. It is absolutely massive compared to others around the world.

I mentioned that I was out there in Nome 3 days ago. On Saturday, I was on the Graphite One property. It consists of well over 100 mining claims on non-Federal land. This mine project is not new. They actually mined this back in the early 1900s and then stopped production some time ago. But I was able to visit the base camp there in Nome, the Graphite Creek field camp, as well as a drill pad where the core samples are being taken as part of the summer season. Of course, summer in Alaska out in that region just means that is when the mosquitoes are the most intense.

It was eye-opening to see how Graphite One is moving forward as they are doing further exploration with this absolutely critical resource. I have always supported Graphite One and what they are doing in Alaska, but really, after my site visit there on Saturday, I am convinced that this is a project that every one of us—those of us here in Congress, the Biden administration, all of us—needs to support.

Graphite One's vision is to build a complete domestic supply chain for natural graphite. Their project would be anchored by responsible mining of the Graphite Creek deposit, producing tens of thousands of metric tons a year. But it would also extend to a battery anode manufacturing facility in Washington State, which would be collocated with a battery recycling plant—which is why their CEO, Anthony Huston, often describes Graphite One as "a technology company that mines graphite."

This is a major opportunity for us. Previously, I have expressed some disappointment to Secretary Granholm that the Biden administration is heavily subsidizing a graphite processing plant in Louisiana that imports graphite. They import graphite from Mozambique, an unstable regime with a poor human rights record, a region where there has been significant labor unrest and where ISIS is reportedly active.

It is not too late to realize the immense value that Graphite One holds for our economy and our security. This project will give us a significant domestic supply, breaking our wholesale dependence on imports. This will be a secure supply of natural graphite from day one. This stuff is pretty pure. Let me tell you, this was not just a random piece of graphite; this graphite is literally under your very feet, that you pick up with your hands. It is solid, solid material. It will be a secure supply of natural graphite from day one without the political and the security risks associated with so many projects that are located abroad.

The health and environmental standards for Graphite One will both be exceedingly high and fully transparent. The company's leadership is working hard to ensure the project creates opportunities for the people who live in the region in Nome, as well as the Inupiaq communities of Brevig Mission, Mary's Igloo, and Teller.

This is where I want to end my comments because, during my tour of Graphite One, I saw firsthand how even in these very developmental stages, this project is already benefiting these Alaska Native communities.

Graphite One is committed to Alaska hire. They are working with a program that they call Arctic Access to help place disadvantaged individuals into meaningful jobs. We were able to talk a little bit about that program.

One of the individuals who really struck me was a gentleman by the name of John. He was from Brevig Mission. He had been the water treatment operator there in Brevig for some years. He was hired to run Graphite One's very sophisticated water and wastewater system. John told me he knew next to nothing about this state-of-the-art system there, which could have been disqualifying in some places, but at Graphite One, it didn't matter. Rather than hiring somebody from the lower 48, they hired people to train him, and he is now succeeding. The guy was just beaming from ear to ear about the opportunities and the excitement that he has not only for the job but what this mine meant for the region.

For people like John and other Alaskans, Graphite One is doing it right. I am proud to have them operating in Alaska.

This is an opportunity for us as a country. Again, when we think about our dependence, when we think about our vulnerability on others for critical minerals and particularly our growing vulnerability on one country—China—everything we can do to responsibly address this is a step forward, and Alaska has a significant opportunity in front of us.

I would hope that every Member of the Senate and every member of the administration will look at these as opportunities and join in doing everything we can to support this important work.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Cartwright nomination be considered expired and the confirmation vote occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader following consultation with the Republican leader.

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

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### NOMINATION OF ROSEMARIE HIDALGO

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Rosie Hidalgo as Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, OVW. Ms. Hidalgo is a proven champion for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and her extensive experience, as well as her longstanding commitment to justice, will make her an outstanding Director of OVW.

Ms. Hidalgo received her B.A. from Georgetown University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law. She began her legal career providing direct representation to survivors of domestic violence, as well as assisting them in securing custody of their children. She then joined the nonprofit Esperanza United, where she advocated on behalf of victims of gender-based crimes and promoted policies designed to improve public safety. Ms. Hidalgo is particularly equipped to lead OVW, having worked there as deputy director for policy. In this capacity, she implemented Violence Against Women Act—VAWA—related grants and engaged with relevant agencies and stakeholders to devise new ways to improve the law.

Today, Ms. Hidalgo serves as a Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House, where she played a key role in securing the bipartisan reauthorization of VAWA.

After more than a decade without a Senate-confirmed Director, OVW will benefit from Hidalgo's expertise, leadership, and unwavering commitment to aiding survivors of gender-based violence.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.●

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### NOMINATION OF KYMBERLY KATHRYN EVANSON

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote to confirm Kymberly Evanson to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. A native of Longview, WA, Ms. Evanson received her bachelor's degree

from Seattle University and her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Evanson began her legal career as an associate with K&L Gates, where she practiced for 2 years before joining her current firm, the Seattle-based Pacifica Law Group.

At Pacifica, Ms. Evanson has a varied practice with an overarching focus on public interest legal work, including on behalf of legal municipalities and municipal agencies. She has handled cases that touch on a broad range of issues, from the State constitutional amendment process and federalism to immigration, trade secrets, and clemency. Her work also includes two briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court. The American Bar Association rated Ms. Evanson "well qualified," and she has the strong support of Senators Murray and Cantwell.

Given her breadth and depth of litigation experience, as well as her commitment to equal justice and the rule of law, Ms. Evanson will make an outstanding addition to the Western District of Washington.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for her confirmation.●

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 174, confirmation of the nomination of Xochitl Torres Small to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 175, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 176, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 177, confirmation of the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 178, confirmation of the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 179, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.●

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER NICKOLAS WILT AND OFFICER CORY GALLOWAY

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, across our Nation, thousands of law enforcement officers make great sacrifices to preserve our freedoms and keep the peace. These law enforcement officers not only serve at great risk but also start every shift with a sense of uncertainty.

On April 10, 2023, Louisville, KY, was fortunate to have two heroes respond to the call of duty. A gunman began shooting innocent citizens at the Old National Bank and took the lives of five individuals. Within minutes of being dispatched, Officer Nickolas Wilt and his training officer Officer Cory Galloway were the first to arrive on the scene. Officer Wilt was on his 10th day of patrol following his graduation from the academy. But the actions of Officer Wilt were that of a seasoned veteran.

Without hesitation, the two officers left the cover of their patrol car and approached the bank while the shooter fired at them with a rifle. Body camera video shows the officers acted with remarkable heroism, bravery, and dedication to save innocent lives. Knowing that each passing second could result in further loss of innocent lives, Officers Wilt and Galloway proceeded toward the gunman. Officer Galloway was struck by rifle rounds in his ballistic vest, causing him to be knocked to the ground and seek cover from further gunshots. During this time, Officer Wilt was struck in the head by one of the assailant's rounds.

At this point, disregarding his own safety, Officer Galloway proceeded back toward the gunman and was able to eliminate the threat as he continued taking fire. Officer Galloway continued into the bank through the shot-out windows and told other responding officers to care for Officer Wilt, who was critically injured.

Today, I stand to honor Officer Nickolas Wilt and Officer Cory Galloway, as well as a multitude of fellow officers, fire, and emergency medical personnel who responded to this chaotic scene. Each of them displayed the true meaning of service before self. The actions of these individuals as well as the dispatchers taking the frantic calls, saved countless lives, including the life of Officer Wilt.

May the actions of each responder be forever remembered as a clear display of heroism in action.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES HARVEY III

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise to honor LTC James Harvey III, a Tuskegee Airman and decorated fighter jet pilot in celebration of his 100th birthday on July 13, 2023. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey flew as part of the 99th Fighter Squadron in World War II before becoming the first African-American U.S. Air Force pilot to fly in Ko-

rean airspace during the Korean war. The U.S. Army was segregated when Lieutenant Colonel Harvey joined in 1943, but his perseverance and heroism, both at home and in the skies, continue to inspire us all.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey excelled in high school as senior class president and valedictorian. Drafted in April 1943, he was initially assigned to the U.S. Army Air Corps as an engineer. It was there, on a train bound for Fort Meade, he first encountered prejudice and discrimination. While in the Army, he worked to carve airstrips out of jungle terrain before applying for cadet training. He later received his wings and commission in 1944 at Tuskegee Army Air Field. From there, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group's 99th Fighter Squadron, where he served as one of the original members of the "Tuskegee Airmen." The 332nd Fighter Group was noted as one of the Army Air Forces' most successful and most-decorated escort groups and helped encourage the eventual integration of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's skill stood out even among those decorated pilots. In 1949, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force arranged an aerial weapons competition among the best pilots in each group. In May of that year, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey joined his group's three-member team to compete at the inaugural "Top Gun" team competition, which was hosted at the Las Vegas Air Force Base, now known as Nellis Air Force Base. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's team led the competition from the beginning to the end, ultimately winning against teams flying far more advanced equipment.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's service to the Air Force did not end there. He was the first African American fighter jet pilot to see combat in the Korean war. On October 16, 1950, he led an element of four F-80s in close support to a bomber mission under adverse weather to attack enemy troops three miles north of Yongsan, Korea. Flying at a low ceiling of 800 feet, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's flight found the enemy encampment and immediately inflicted heavy damage. For this engagement, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, along with multiple Air Medals. His heroism on that day and on the 140 total missions he flew during the Korean war will never be forgotten.

After the Korean war, he served as a flight commander, test pilot, assistant group operations officer, flight safety officer, and battle staff training officer for the Commanding General of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, NORAD. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey retired from the Air Force on May 31, 1965, joined Oscar Mayer as a corporate salesman, and settled down with his family of four daughters in Denver, where he still resides.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey won numerous awards during his decorated 22-year career in the U.S. Army Air Corps/

U.S. Air Force. These awards include the WWII Victory Medal, Air Medal with 10 oakleaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the United Nations Service Medal. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey, along with every member of the Tuskegee Airmen, received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2006.

As Americans, we owe a debt of gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Harvey for his heroism. His service to our Armed Forces, recognized by 11 medals during his Air Force career through segregation and discrimination, is an inspiration for generations to come. It is in this spirit of gratitude that I rise today to honor Denver's own Lieutenant Colonel James Harvey III on his 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE WILLIAM S. GREENBERG

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Judge William S. Greenberg, a dedicated public servant, celebrated jurist, and fierce advocate for our Nation's veterans.

Born in New Jersey and raised in New Jersey, Judge Greenberg received his undergraduate degree in 1964 from Johns Hopkins University and his J.D. in 1967 from Rutgers University in Newark. Upon graduating from law school, Judge Greenberg enlisted in the U.S. Army as an armored cavalry crewman beginning his long history of service to our Nation. In 1970, he earned a commission in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and eventually retired as a brigadier general in 1994 after decades of honorable service in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Judge Greenberg spent the beginning half of his career in private practice as a litigator. He was a founding partner of Sterns & Greenberg from 1970 until 1976 and of Greenberg & Prior from 1976 to 1989. He retired from private practice as a partner in McCarter & English in 2012, after he was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims by President Obama. After his confirmation in the Senate, Judge Greenberg was sworn in for a term of 15 years on December 28, 2012, allowing Judge Greenberg to apply his skills and energy as a judge to two of his greatest passions: the law and veterans service.

This nomination to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims was the culmination of a career dedicated to advocating for our Nation's veterans, both in and out of the courtroom. Judge Greenberg devoted much of his career to ensuring his fellow veterans had the best legal representation. After the horrific attacks on September 11, 2001, Judge Greenberg established the New Jersey State Bar Association's Program of Military Legal Assistance for members of the military Reserves who were called to active duty. This pro bono program connects volunteer lawyers with soldiers who need legal representation for everything from disability benefits claims, to employment

and family law issues that they face both during and after deployment.

Judge Greenberg also admirably represented wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center during their physical disability hearings. For his remarkable work, Judge Greenberg was recommended by the White House to become Chairman of the Reserve Forces Policy Board in 2009 and honored with the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Public Service, the second highest civilian award in the Department of Defense.

Throughout his long career, Judge Greenberg has held many prestigious positions, including chairman of the Judicial and Prosecutorial Appointments Committee of the New Jersey State Bar Association, president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, New Jersey, commissioner of the New Jersey State Commission of Investigation, and assistant counsel to the Governor of New Jersey. He is also a published author and has been a professor at Seton Hall University School of Law and Georgetown Law School. But even with all of these accolades, Judge Greenberg considers his work on behalf of veterans as the most important of his career, once quoted as saying, "I have come to consider myself, more than any other attribute, a soldier's lawyer."

Thanks to his extraordinary commitment to justice and public service, his intelligence and legal acumen, and his tireless work ethic and compassion, Judge Greenberg is a model for our Nation's judiciary. Judge Greenberg's dedication to our country, both as a veteran himself and in his remarkable work on behalf of other veterans, will be his enduring legacy.

I applaud his many accomplishments and hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Judge Greenberg for his remarkable record of public service.

#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Mountain View, WY.

On August 19, the folks of Mountain View will come together for the town's 50th birthday party celebration with food, music, games, and fireworks. This event is an exceptional example of Mountain View's strong sense of community. The town of Mountain View was incorporated on November 20, 1973, in Uinta County, WY. Wilford Stoddard became the first mayor, along with council members Eldon Tripp, Jack Byrne, Alfred Davidson, and James Cox. Located in Bridger Valley, at the base of the Uinta Mountain Range, the town is far older than 50 years. Mountain View was platted on 40 acres within the county on February 26, 1898. Today, the town spans over 550 acres.

In 1843, fur trapper Jim Bridger set up a trading post on the Black's Fork

River just a few miles from present day Mountain View. The post served travelers on the Oregon Trail and later the Mormon and California Trails. In 1858, the U.S. Army took over the post and named it Fort Bridger. The army abandoned the fort in 1890. As Americans began moving west, many settlers in Bridger Valley and what is today Mountain View established ranches. Today, Mountain View remains deeply rooted in agriculture, feeding Wyoming and the rest of the country.

The views and scenery of Mountain View are unparalleled. The town serves as a hub offering its residents and visitors remarkable opportunities for fishing, camping, and hiking in the Uinta Mountains. The Uintas are one of only two major mountain ranges in the United States that run east to west. One of the earliest local businesses in Mountain View was Benedicts, the town's only grocery store. Started in 1938 as the Benedict Trading Company by Harlen Benedict, the store is still a cornerstone of the community. Another local and long-standing business is the Union Telephone Company. Founded by John Woody in 1914, Union provided the first phone service in Bridger Valley. John Woody used rifle cartridges as plugs and jacks on his first homemade switchboard. Managed by four generations of the Woody family, the company is still headquartered in Mountain View where they serve over 40,000 Wyoming customers. In June 1937, the people of Mountain View and the surrounding Bridger Valley unified to create the first electric utility under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Rural Electrification Administration. Bill Riding served as the first general manager for the newly formed Bridger Valley Electric Association. The association continues to provide Mountain View with power in 2023.

Mountain View boasts a long and rich local history. From the time of the fur trappers, to the Nation's westward expansion of the 19th century, to modern day, Mountain View truly embodies the culture of the Cowboy State.

Mountain View is led by these dedicated individuals:

Bryan Ayres, Mayor  
Tori Carter, Council  
Jenny Harvey, Council  
Jamy Ferrin, Council  
Kelly Bonner, Council  
Penny Robbins, Clerk/Treasurer  
Amanda Fraughton, Deputy Clerk  
Mark W Harris, Attorney  
Tammy Murray, Deputy Clerk  
Heather Ayres, Deputy Clerk  
Jacob Porter, Public Works  
Steven Kendall, Public Works  
Spencer Bates, Public Works  
Steve Catlin, Public Works  
Allister Bunch, Police Chief  
Dexter Moehler, Fire Chief.

Event Planning included these committed citizens

Mark Tesoro and Todd Griffith, Southwest Wyoming Outdoor Trails  
Tom Dean and Dennis Freeman, American Legion Post #36  
Leila Dean, Linda Lingle, Donna Bindl, and Vicki Fader, American Legion Auxiliary

Andy Kopp, Sheriff and Trevor Rasmussen, Under Sheriff, Uinta County Sheriff's Department

Mindy Tollefson—Uinta County Fair Manager

Isaac Lords, Scoutmaster and MarNae Lords—Leaders, Boy Scout Troop #7798

Cara Trees—Leader, 4-H Group—The Red-necks

Collette Bugas, Instructor, UC School District #4 High School Student Council

Wade Stoddard, Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Service

Regina Dickson and Allen Deru, Wyoming Game and Fish

Jessica Guild, Instructor, Mountain View High School Cheerleaders.

It is an honor for me to rise in recognition of this significant milestone for Mountain View, WY. Their golden anniversary celebration is a tribute to generations of determination and commitment that built this town. Bobbi joins me in extending our congratulations to the town of Mountain View on their 50th anniversary of incorporation.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO JEANNIE MITCHELL BAUMGARDNER

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Jeannie Mitchell Baumgardner, the Gulf County Teacher of the Year from Wewahitchka Elementary School in Wewahitchka, FL.

Jeannie believes each of her students brings positive impacts amongst each other and plays an important role in ensuring they are successful. She values each day as a new opportunity to prepare her students for the challenges they will face throughout their lives.

Jeannie enthusiastically begins her classes with activities that are meant to make learning fun and leaves a lasting impression on her students. She finds teaching a fulfilling job, allowing her to impart the lessons she has learned to the next generation of leaders.

Jeannie has been an elementary school teacher since 2018 and teaches third grade at Wewahitchka Elementary School. She is a graduate of Florida State University.

I convey my profound appreciation and extend my best wishes to Jeannie for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO LORI BLUE

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Lori Blue, the Taylor County Teacher of the Year from Taylor County High School in Perry, FL.

Lori pours her heart out for her students each day in her classroom. She helps her students and makes her school a better place to learn and work.

Lori's passion for her community and school shows in everything she does on

campus. She begins each school day with a desire to impart wisdom to her students and to prepare them for success. As Lori enjoys reading, she works to show her students how important this fundamental skill is.

Lori teaches English II honors and senior reading at Taylor County High School and is a National Honor Society sponsor. She previously taught kindergarten, first, second, fourth, fifth, and ninth grades. Lori graduated from North Florida Junior College and Florida State University with a bachelor of science in elementary education.

I extend my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Lori for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LESLEY ANNE JAMISON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Lesley Anne Jamison, the Wakulla County Teacher of the Year from Riversprings Middle School in Wakulla, FL.

Lesley's teaching inspiration comes from her belief that education opens every door of opportunity. School is where her students learn to dream big and know that anything is within their reach if they lean on their education and nurture a desire to learn something new every day.

Lesley views educators as those who hand students keys to open the doors for possibility. They challenge and encourage students to explore every opportunity life offers. She considers it a privilege to enrich a young person's life and be a voice of encouragement that makes them stop saying they "cannot" and begin saying they "will."

Lesley is in her second year as an instructional coach at Riversprings Middle School and has taught for 11 years. Previously, Lesley was Riversprings Middle School's 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year and was a Kagan coach and teacher coach. She also coached athletics, including baseball, soccer, track and field, and soccer, as well as cheerleading. She is a district collaboration team facilitator and is the Florida Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking Standards Math/English Language Arts liaison.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Lesley for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PIERRE LEVELLE LEWIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Pierre LeVelle Lewis, the Gadsden County Teacher of the Year from Gadsden County High School in Gadsden, FL.

Pierre began his teaching career 5 years ago in Gadsden County schools. He is a social science teacher. During the 2021-2022 school year, Pierre's stu-

dents earned a 96 percent passing rate on the U.S. history exam, one of the highest in the State. His students enjoy his teaching style, and he continually works to get the most out of them.

Pierre sets out each day to develop lesson plans to make learning enjoyable for his students and to keep an open mind when going through his class. His peers have seen firsthand his devotion to committing countless hours to developing a curriculum that ensures the success of his students.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Pierre for his tireless commitment to his students. I look forward to hearing about his continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RANDI LUNDGREN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Randi Lundgren, the Leon County Teacher of the Year from Amos P. Godby High School in Tallahassee, FL.

Through adaptative teaching lesson plans, Randi gives her students assignments that allow them to show her all about them through arts and crafts paper projects. She teaches them that mistakes are nothing to be upset over and that they can grow from them. Randi considers these types of projects to not only better her students, but also help make her a better teacher.

Randi began teaching at Amos P. Godby High School in 2008. She is the yearbook adviser, acting and technical theatre teacher, fine arts department chair, and the director of theatrical arts. She earned a bachelor of arts degree in English and theatre arts.

I extend my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Randi for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BOBBI CRAFTON PINKARD

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Bobbi Crafton Pinkard, the Madison County Teacher of the Year from Pinetta Elementary School in Pinetta, FL.

Bobbi is passionate about teaching and making it as fun as possible for students. She often spends hours looking at books for students to read and enjoy, as she wants them to find joy in reading and writing. She hopes her teachings will help her students succeed in their lives after high school and hopes to make a significant impact on their lives and their educational careers.

Bobbi is a kindergarten teacher at Pinetta Elementary School. She graduated from North Florida Community College with her associates in arts degree, followed by her bachelor's degree in elementary education from the University of West Florida. She loves teaching as it allows her to give back to her community.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Bobbi for her commitment to

her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ADRIANNA SWEARINGEN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Adrianna Swearingen, the Bay County Teacher of the Year from Northside Elementary School in Panama City, FL.

Adrianna believes education can be found anywhere and dedicates her time and talents to ensuring her students excel. She wants them to enjoy learning and come to class excited. Adrianna hopes she has significantly impacted the lives of her students and their educational careers. She credits the positive influences she has received in her life for receiving this award.

Adrianna is a media specialist at Northside Elementary School. She is determined to ensure her students learn valuable lessons and believes teaching is her purpose to help them.

I extend my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Adrianna for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CASSIE CARDIN VICKERS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Cassie Vickers, the Liberty County Teacher of the Year from Hosford Elementary and Junior High School in Hosford, FL.

Cassie hopes to make lasting impacts on the lives of her students. Each day they are in school, she works with them to ensure they excel to be successful in her classroom and prepare them for challenges later in life.

Cassie wants her students to continue to work hard and be passionate about learning. She credits those who worked with her to prepare her to be a teacher. This made her want to instill in her students the same guidance she received around their age.

Cassie teaches English/language arts at Hosford Elementary and Junior High School. She graduated from James S. Rickards High School in Tallahassee and studied at Florida State University.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Cassie for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO TANYA SUE WIGGANS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Tanya Sue Wiggans, the Jackson County Teacher of the Year from Hope School in Marianna, FL.

Tanya instills in her students that hard work is key to success in school and later in life. She spends each day working to ensure her students excel in not only her classes but in others during their educational career.



Tanya is an exceptional student educational teacher at Hope School. Prior to working at Hope School, she taught at Golson Elementary School. She studied at Florida State University.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Tanya for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

#### REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN HONG KONG THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13936 OF JULY 14, 2020—PM 18

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Hong Kong that was declared in Executive Order 13936 of July 14, 2020, is to continue in effect beyond July 14, 2023.

The situation with respect to Hong Kong, including recent actions taken by the People's Republic of China to fundamentally undermine Hong Kong's autonomy, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat, which has its source in substantial part outside the United States, to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared

in Executive Order 13936 with respect to the situation in Hong Kong.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 11, 2023.

#### 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-1565. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Privacy of Consumer Financial Information Rule Under the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act" (RIN3084-AB42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1566. A communication from the General Counsel of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transition to the Current Expected Credit Loss Methodology" (RIN3133-AF03) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1567. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of References to Credit Ratings from Regulation M" (RIN3235-AL14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1568. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibition Against Fraud, Manipulation, or Deception in Connection with Security-Based Swaps; Prohibition against Undue Influence over Chief Compliance Officers" (RIN3235-AK77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1569. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Accounting and Reporting Treatment of Certain Renewable Energy Assets" (Docket No. RM21-11-000) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1570. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Room Air Conditioners" (RIN1904-AD97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1571. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Consumer Pool Heaters" (RIN1904-AD49) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1572. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regula-

tion and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Room Air Conditioners" (RIN1904-AF01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1573. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Electric Motors" (RIN1904-AD97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1574. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a legislative proposal to amend the background investigation requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1575. A communication from the Senior Attorney Advisor/Regulations Officer, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Waiver of Buy America Requirements for Electric Vehicle Chargers" (Docket No. 2022-0023) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1576. A communication from the Director of Civil Works, Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Credit Assistance and Related Fees for Water Resources Infrastructure Projects" (RIN0710-AB31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1577. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Fee Schedules, Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2023" (RIN3150-AK58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1578. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp., Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tariff of Tolls" (RIN2135-AA54) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1579. A communication from the Chair of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Abnormal Occurrences: Fiscal Year 2022"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1580. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Idaho; Inspection and Maintenance Program Removal" (FRL No. 10612-02-R10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1581. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disapproval of

Clean Air Plans; Sacramento Metro, California; Contingency Measures for 2008 Ozone Standards" (FRL No. 10618-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1582. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Revisions; California; Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District; Oxides of Nitrogen" (FRL No. 10672-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1583. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Revisions; California; Eastern Kern Air Pollution Control District; Oxides of Nitrogen" (FRL No. 10674-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1584. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (21-2.F); Correction" (FRL No. 8985-03-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1585. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "NPDES Small MS4 Urbanized Area Clarification" (FRL No. 10123-06-OW) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1586. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Actions; Nevada; Clark County - Department of Environment and Sustainability; Stationary Source Permits" (FRL No. 10597-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1587. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Michigan; Michigan Nonattainment New Source Review Certification for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS" (FRL No. 10920-02-R5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1588. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Testing Provisions for Air Emission Sources; Correction" (FRL No. 8335-06-OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1589. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program: Standards for 2023-2025 and Other Changes" (FRL No. 8514-02-OAR) received during adjournment of the

Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1590. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval, Limited Approval and Limited Disapproval of California Air Plan Revisions; Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits" (FRL No. 10269-02-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1591. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Tennessee; Revisions to Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Rules" (FRL No. 10523-02-R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1592. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementing Statutory Addition of Certain Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) to the Toxics Release Inventory Beginning with Reporting Year 2023" (FRL No. 10781-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1593. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Virginia; Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Amendments to Facility and Control Equipment Maintenance or Malfunction Regulations" (FRL No. 10907-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1594. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to Congress on Section 2001 of the Substance Use Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1595. A communication from the Director of the Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expense Related to COVID-19 and Preventive Care for Purposes of High Deductible Health Plans" (Notice 2023-37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1596. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pre-Filing Registration Requirements for Certain Tax Credit Elections" ((RIN)1545-BQ76) (TD 9975)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1597. A communication from the Branch Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pur-

suant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Actuarial Tables in Valuing Annuities, Interests for Life or a Term of Years" ((RIN)1545-BP00) (TD 9974)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1598. A communication from the Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "June 2023 Report to the Congress: Medicare and the Health Care Delivery System"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1599. A communication from the Chair, Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "June 2023 Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1600. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Treatment of Medicare Part C Days in the Calculation of a Hospital's Medicare Disproportionate Patient Percentage" (RIN0938-AU24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 22, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

## 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. 884. A bill to establish a Government-wide approach to improving digital identity, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-47).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 92. A bill to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the "Rick Boucher Amphitheater" (Rept. No. 118-48).

S. 162. A bill to amend the Smith River National Recreation Area Act to include certain additions to the Smith River National Recreation Area, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain wild rivers in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-49).

S. 199. A bill to codify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain landscape-scale forest restoration projects, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-50).

S. 440. A bill to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-51).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 452. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-52).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 535. A bill to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-53).

S. 593. A bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to establish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument (Rept. No. 118-54).

S. 612. A bill to reauthorize the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-55).

S. 623. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-56).

By Mr. REED, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 2226. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### 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. BROWN (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. REED, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. WARREN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2224. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny interest and depreciation deductions for taxpayers owning 50 or more single family properties; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 2225. A bill to require covered entities to issue a short-form terms of service summary statement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. REED:

S. 2226. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 2227. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on the trafficking into the United States of synthetic drugs, and related illicit finance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2228. A bill to amend the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to clarify the scope of a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 with respect to certain projects relating to the production of semiconductors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2229. A bill to amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended to clar-

ify the obligation of individuals who formerly served as agents of foreign principals to register retroactively as foreign agents under the Act with respect to activities carried out previously on behalf of such foreign principals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 2230. A bill to prohibit the Securities and Exchange Commission from requiring that personally identifiable information be collected under consolidated audit trail reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KING, Mr. RISCH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BROWN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2231. A bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to support stillbirth prevention and research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 2232. A bill to provide special authority for the provision of commercial space launch support services; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

S. 2233. A bill to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrite to individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 2234. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the establishment or maintenance of a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at an educational institution owned, operated, or controlled by the Chinese Communist Party; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2235. A bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to provide compensation for poultry growers and layers in control areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2236. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the temporary limitation on personal casualty losses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. KING, and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 2237. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary to award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible entities to establish, maintain, or improve activities related to the detection and monitoring of infectious diseases through wastewater for public health emergency preparedness and response purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 2238. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a National Strategy to Close the Digital Divide, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. MENEZES):

S. 2239. A bill to prevent maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity among Black pregnant and postpartum individuals and other underserved populations, to provide training in respectful maternity care, to reduce and prevent bias, racism, and discrimination in maternity care settings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2240. A bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to authorize appropriations for certain cooperative projects among the United States, Israel, and developing countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 2241. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct research relating to measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification of greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 2242. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to make available for sale renewable fuel credits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REED, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2243. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools and other programs, including social work, physician assistant, and chaplaincy education programs, to promote education and research in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative and hospice care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2244. A bill to amend the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act to require specific congressional authorization for use of the Commodity Credit Corporation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2245. A bill to require a review of women and lung cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2246. A bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on barriers to gender affirming care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2247. A bill to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding

to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 2248. A bill to require a pilot program on the use of big data analytics to identify vessels evading sanctions and export controls and to require a report on the availability in the United States of emerging and foundational technologies subject to export controls; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 2249. A bill to improve the timeliness, resiliency, and transparency of passport processing operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 2250. A bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to establish a groundwater conservation easement program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 2251. A bill to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental 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. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. Res. 287. A resolution commemorating the second anniversary of peaceful protests in Cuba on July 11, 2021, condemning the ongoing acts of repression and human rights violations against the Cuban people by the Cuban regime, and calling for the immediate release of all arbitrarily detained Cuban citizens; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 288. A resolution observing the 150th anniversary of Vanderbilt University; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. Res. 289. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July 2023 as "American Grown Flower Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 290. A resolution honoring the life of Oliver Hazard Perry Morton; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 140

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 140, a bill to combat organized crime involving the illegal acquisition of retail goods for the purpose of selling those illegally obtained goods through physical and online retail marketplaces.

S. 308

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr.

BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 308, a bill to end the treatment of the People's Republic of China as a developing nation.

S. 452

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 452, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, and for other purposes.

S. 471

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 471, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for greater State flexibility with respect to excluding providers who are involved in abortions.

S. 498

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing maintaining, improving, and operating Student Veteran Centers.

S. 656

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 656, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans education assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 714

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to require that any debt limit increase or suspension be balanced by equal spending cuts over the next decade.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 759

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 759, a bill to authorize the National Detector Dog Training Center, and for other purposes.

S. 767

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 767, a bill to enhance mental health and psychosocial support within United States development and humanitarian assistance programs.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) 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. 813

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 813, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to amend regulations to allow for certain packers to have an interest in market agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 912

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 912, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide technology grants to strengthen domestic mining education, and for other purposes.

S. 919

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 919, a bill to restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights, and for other purposes.

S. 985

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) 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. 993

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 993, a bill to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes.

S. 1024

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1024, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote student access to defibrillation in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

S. 1036

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1036, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to streamline nutrition access for older adults and adults with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1084

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1084, a bill to eliminate racial, religious, and other discriminatory profiling by law enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1166, a bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report on the public health mitigation messaging and guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

S. 1176

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1176, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1288

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1288, a bill to ensure that contractors of the Department of Agriculture comply with certain labor laws, and for other purposes.

S. 1311

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1311, a bill to reauthorize the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1351

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1351, a bill to study and prevent child abuse in youth residential programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to amend title 9, United States Code, with respect to arbitration of disputes involving race discrimination.

S. 1447

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1447, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1467

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1467, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 1492

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1492, a bill to provide for the settlement of claims relating to the Shabeh-nay Band Reservation in Illinois, and for other purposes.

S. 1529

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1529, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide for greater protection of roosters, and for other purposes.

S. 1544

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure equitable payment for, and preserve Medicare beneficiary access to, diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals under the Medicare hospital outpatient prospective payment system.

S. 1557

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1557, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1559

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1559, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the corporate alternative minimum tax.

S. 1606

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1606, a bill to end preventable maternal mortality, severe maternal morbidity, and maternal health disparities in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1656

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1656, a bill to protect the privacy of personal reproductive or sexual health information, and for other purposes.

S. 1669

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1669, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1681

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1681, a bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act with respect to claims relating to uranium mining.

S. 1731

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1731, a bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals.

S. 1811

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor 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 Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) 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. 1833

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1833, a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule until mitigation protocols are fully developed and deployed.

S. 1837

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1837, a bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to include spotted lanternfly control research and development as a high-priority research and extension initiative, and for other purposes.

S. 1853

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

WYDEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1853, a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to reauthorize and improve the Water Source Protection Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1877

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1877, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program under which the Secretary provides certain individuals with the opportunity to enroll in high technology programs of education that the Secretary determines provide training or skills sought by employers in a relevant field or industry, and for other purposes.

S. 1885

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1885, a bill to eliminate employment-based visa caps on abused, abandoned, and neglected children eligible for humanitarian status, and for other purposes.

S. 1916

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1916, a bill to establish in the Department of State the Office to Monitor and Combat Islamophobia, and for other purposes.

S. 1968

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1968, a bill to modify the annual and aggregate limits of Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for graduate and professional students, and to terminate Federal Direct PLUS Loans for graduate and professional students, and for other purposes.

S. 1971

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1971, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for loan repayment simplification and income-driven repayment reform.

S. 2035

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2035, a bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to make additional coverage under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program available for crops and grasses used for grazing, and for other purposes.

S. 2085

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL),

the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2085, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 2087

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2087, a bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. 2129

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2129, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require PDP sponsors of a prescription drug plan and Medicare Advantage organizations offering an MA-PD plan under part D of the Medicare program that use a formulary to include certain drugs and biosimilar biological products on such formulary, and for other purposes.

S. 2180

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2180, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a small farm EQIP subprogram under the environmental quality incentives program, and for other purposes.

S. 2184

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2184, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to improve the Women's Business Center Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2185

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2185, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2205

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2205, a bill to regulate human cadaveric islets for transplantation as organs.

S. 2223

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2223, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to provide families year-round access to nutrition incentives under the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution requesting information on Saudi Arabia's human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. RES. 208

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) 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. 269

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 269, a resolution designating July 22, 2023, as "National Day of the American Cowboy".

S. RES. 274

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 274, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate to reduce traffic fatalities to zero by 2050.

S. RES. 276

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 276, a resolution expressing opposition to the use of State power against people in the United States seeking essential health care, including criminalization of the full range of sexual and reproductive health care such as abortion, gender-affirming care, and contraceptive care, and disapproving of State punishment of people for their pregnancy outcomes.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 287—COMMEMORATING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF PEACEFUL PROTESTS IN CUBA ON JULY 11, 2021, CONDEMNING THE ONGOING ACTS OF REPRESSION AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE CUBAN PEOPLE BY THE CUBAN REGIME, AND CALLING FOR THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF ALL ARBITRARILY DETAINED CUBAN CITIZENS

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 287

Whereas July 11, 2023, marks 2 years since tens of thousands of Cuban citizens took to the streets to protest peacefully and call for the respect of their basic human rights and fundamental freedoms and the end of communist dictatorship in Cuba;

Whereas the demonstrations on July 11, 2021, were the largest peaceful protests witnessed in Cuba in more than 25 years, with courageous Cuban men, women, and youth taking to the streets in at least 50 different cities and towns across every province to affirm a profound aspiration for democratic change and to denounce repression and corruption by the Cuban regime;

Whereas the demonstrations followed decades of grievances from the Cuban people regarding the dictatorship, arbitrary repression, and severe mismanagement of the country, including shortages of food and basic medicine, and frequent power outages;

Whereas 2 years after the demonstrations, repression by the Cuban regime against Cuban citizens has reached the highest rate in recorded history, with thousands of arbitrary arrests, hundreds of politically motivated convictions, and credible allegations of torture and other abuses related to such protests, including—

(1) charges against approximately 800 Cuban citizens, including 115 protestors between the ages of 16 and 20, with sedition and other illegitimate charges;

(2) the sentencing of more than 550 Cuban citizens, including more than 20 underage protestors, many of whom have been sentenced to prison terms up to 30 years; and

(3) the subjection of the majority of prisoners to inhumane conditions, including intentional deprivation of medical care, sleep, food, and other basic necessities;

Whereas, according to the Cuban human rights organization Justicia 11J, as of the end of 2022, more than 600 protestors from the demonstrations remain arbitrarily detained for exercising their fundamental freedoms, including the rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly;

Whereas international human rights organizations have condemned the Cuban regime for violating human rights and fundamental freedoms and have called for the immediate release of peaceful demonstrators, including organizations and individuals such as—

(1) Human Rights Watch, which assessed that the Cuban regime committed systematic human rights violations in response to massive antigovernment protests in July 2021 with the intent of punishing protestors and deterring future demonstrations;

(2) Amnesty International, which has called on the Cuban regime to guarantee the

human rights of Cuban prisoners of conscience and hundreds of other individuals arbitrarily detained for exercising their human rights;

(3) former United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet, who has called on the Cuban regime to release protestors and several journalists arrested at various demonstrations and denounced the excessive use of force by the regime; and

(4) the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, which has condemned state repression and the use of force during peaceful social protests in Cuba and urged the regime to engage in dialog to address citizen demands;

Whereas Cuba has some of the most restrictive laws on freedom of assembly and freedom of the press in the world, which have only further intensified since the demonstrations on July 11, 2021, with the passage of amendments to Penal Code of the Republic of Cuba on December 1, 2022, which limit freedom of expression online by criminalizing the sharing of undefined “fake information”;

Whereas the peaceful protests in 2021 continue to inspire numerous protestors across Cuba seeking to advance the fundamental rights of the Cuban people, such as the May 8, 2023, protests in the town of Caimanera;

Whereas, since July 11, 2021, the Cuban regime continues the systemic repression of protestors, particularly the selective and deliberate criminalization of individuals who exercise their rights to freedom of expression, assembly, and association by speaking up against government policies and the arbitrary suspension of internet communications, according to a May 12, 2023, statement by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;

Whereas the report entitled “2022 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Cuba”, published by the Department of State, details “significant human rights issues” in Cuba, including credible reports of extrajudicial killings, restrictions on freedom of movement, restrictions on freedom of religious expression, unreasonable restrictions on political participation, and state-sponsored forced labor practices;

Whereas, according to the nongovernmental organization Prisoners Defenders, the Cuban regime continues to detain an estimated 1,048 political prisoners;

Whereas, on June 12, 2023, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights concluded that there was “serious and sufficient” evidence to hold the Cuban regime responsible for the 2012 murders of Nobel Peace Prize nominee Oswaldo Paya and activist Harold Cepero, and called on the Cuban regime—

(1) to make full reparation for the murders;

(2) to initiate a prompt investigation to identify the responsible actors;

(3) to pursue accountability measures against such actors; and

(4) to undertake structural reforms to protect human rights defenders in the Cuba; and

Whereas, despite gross and systemic efforts to violate the human rights of the Cuban people, Cuba remains a member of the United Nations Human Rights Council, a position the Cuban regime uses to prevent scrutiny on the human rights records of other authoritarian regimes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the second anniversary of the largest peaceful protests against the communist dictatorship in Cuba;

(2) expresses solidarity with the brave people of Cuba who participated in the peaceful demonstrations on July 11, 2021 and were subsequently arbitrarily detained and sentenced;

(3) commits to supporting the people of Cuba in their aspirations to transition to democracy under a government that respects human rights and democratic freedoms;

(4) calls on the Secretary of State—

(A) to advocate for the immediate release and humane treatment of all political prisoners and democratic protestors arbitrarily detained in Cuba in the aftermath of the peaceful demonstrations on July 11, 2021;

(B) to continue supporting independent Cuban civil society groups and democratic activists;

(C) to call for—

(i) the recognition of the June 12, 2023, decision of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, holding the regime responsible for the murders of democratic activists Oswaldo Paya and Harold Cepero; and

(ii) accountability for the murders; and

(D) to work with member states of the United Nations to deny Cuba a second consecutive term on the United Nations Human Rights Council; and

(5) urges democratic governments and legislatures in Europe, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean—

(A) to speak out against the ongoing repression facing the Cuban people and call on the Cuban regime to immediately release all political prisoners and democratic protestors arbitrarily detained in Cuba in the aftermath of the peaceful demonstrations of July 11, 2021;

(B) to publicly recognize the June 12, 2023, decision of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, finding the Cuban regime directly responsible for the murders of democratic activists Oswaldo Paya and Harold Cepero, and call on the Cuban regime to implement the recommendations in the decision; and

(C) to hold the Cuban regime accountable for violent repression and other human rights violations in the aftermath of the July 2021 protests, including by committing to deny Cuba a second consecutive term on the United Nations Human Rights Council.

SENATE RESOLUTION 288—OBSERVING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

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

S. RES. 288

Whereas Vanderbilt University was founded in 1873 to create opportunities, promote community engagement, and inspire future generations of scholars;

Whereas Vanderbilt University, forged in Tennessee spirit, has grown from a regional university to one of the premier research institutions in the United States;

Whereas Vanderbilt University has, since its inception, provided distinguished educational opportunities to tens of thousands of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from across the United States and around the world;

Whereas the partnerships Vanderbilt University developed with stakeholders foster the fulfillment of human potential by supporting organizations and working to bring the people and resources of Vanderbilt University together in service of others;

Whereas the world-renowned researchers of Vanderbilt University are using revolutionary innovation to address the most urgent and complex problems of society;

Whereas, with over 154,000 active alumni and 6 Nobel Laureates, Vanderbilt University graduates throughout the world lead in their respective fields and continue to push the limits of scientific discovery;

Whereas Vanderbilt University student-athletes set new benchmarks for excellence both on and off the field; and

Whereas Vanderbilt University is proud of, but not satisfied with, its accomplishments of the past 150 years and aims to grow to become the Great University of the 21st century: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) honors and congratulates Vanderbilt University on the occasion of its 150th anniversary;

(2) commends Vanderbilt University for its remarkable history of seminal research and educating generations of leaders, scientists, teachers, nurses, doctors, and engineers; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) the Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, Daniel Diermeier; and

(B) the Chair of the Board of Trust, Bruce R. Evans.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 289—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JULY 2023 AS “AMERICAN GROWN FLOWER MONTH”**

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. PADILLA) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 289

Whereas cut flower and foliage growers in the United States are hard-working, dedicated individuals who bring beauty, economic stimulus, and pride to their communities and the United States;

Whereas the people of the United States have a long history of using flowers and foliage grown in the United States to bring beauty to important events and express affection for loved ones;

Whereas consumers spend over \$59,000,000,000 each year on floral products, including cut flowers, garden plants, bedding, and indoor plants;

Whereas, each year, an increasing number of households in the United States purchase fresh-cut flowers and foliage from more than 12,000 florists and floral establishments;

Whereas the annual per capita spending on floral products by consumers in the United States is more than \$177;

Whereas the people of the United States increasingly want to support domestically produced foods and agricultural products and would prefer to buy locally grown flowers and foliage whenever possible, yet a majority of domestic consumers do not know where the flowers and foliage they purchase are grown;

Whereas, in response to increased demand, the “Certified American Grown” logo was created in July 2014 in order to educate and empower consumers to purchase flowers and foliage from domestic producers;

Whereas millions of stems of domestically grown flowers and foliage are now “Certified American Grown”;

Whereas domestic flower and foliage farmers produce thousands of varieties of flowers and foliage across the United States, such as peonies in Alaska, Gerbera daisies in California, lupines in Maine, tulips in Washington, lilies in Oregon, larkspur in Texas, and leatherleaf in Florida;

Whereas the flower and foliage varieties with the highest production in the United States are tulips, lilies, Gerbera daisies, gladiolas, leatherleaf, irises, and roses;

Whereas people in every State have access to domestically grown flowers and foliage, yet only 22 percent of flowers and foliage

sold in the United States are domestically grown;

Whereas the domestic-cut flower and foliage industry—

(1) creates a substantial economic impact daily; and

(2) supports hundreds of growers, thousands of small businesses, and tens of thousands of jobs in the United States;

Whereas most domestic-cut flowers and foliage are sold in the United States within 24 to 48 hours after harvest and last longer than flowers shipped longer distances;

Whereas flowers and foliage grown domestically enhance the ability of the people of the United States to festively celebrate weddings and births and honor those who have passed;

Whereas flower and foliage giving has been a holiday tradition in the United States for generations;

Whereas flowers and foliage speak to the beauty of motherhood on Mother’s Day and to the spirit of love on Valentine’s Day;

Whereas flowers and foliage help commemorate the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces on Memorial Day and Veterans Day; and

Whereas the Senate encourages the cultivation of flowers and foliage in the United States by domestic flower and foliage farmers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of July 2023 as “American Grown Flower Month”;

(2) recognizes that purchasing flowers and foliage grown in the United States supports the farmers, small businesses, jobs, and economy of the United States;

(3) recognizes that growing flowers and foliage in the United States is a vital part of the agricultural industry of the United States;

(4) recognizes that cultivating flowers and foliage domestically enhances the ability of the people of the United States to festively celebrate holidays and special occasions; and

(5) urges all people of the United States to proactively showcase flowers and foliage grown in the United States in order to show support for—

(A) the flower and foliage farmers, processors, and distributors in the United States; and

(B) the agricultural industry of the United States overall.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 290—HONORING THE LIFE OF OLIVER HAZARD PERRY MORTON**

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 290

Whereas Oliver Hazard Perry Morton (referred to in this preamble as “Morton”) was born in Wayne County, Indiana, on August 4, 1823;

Whereas 2023 is the 200th anniversary of Morton’s birth;

Whereas Morton attended Miami University in Ohio and studied law both in Centerville, Indiana, and in law school at what is known today as the University of Cincinnati;

Whereas, in 1852, Morton was chosen to serve on the bench of the Sixth Judicial Circuit Court of Indiana;

Whereas Morton was elected lieutenant governor of Indiana on the ticket with Henry S. Lane and became governor in 1861 when Lane was elected to the Senate;

Whereas Morton was the first native born Hoosier to be elected Governor of Indiana;

Whereas Morton served as Governor of Indiana for 6 years between 1861 and 1867 and was a loyal supporter of the Union’s efforts during the Civil War;

Whereas the Civil War started during Morton’s tenure as governor, and Morton responded to President Abraham Lincoln’s call for troops by providing 6,000 men;

Whereas, when the Indiana legislature neglected to grant funding for the war effort, Morton personally raised money to equip and pay the soldiers;

Whereas Morton was re-elected as governor in 1864 and served until 1867, when he was elected to the Senate;

Whereas Morton was a Senator from 1867 to 1877;

Whereas Morton unsuccessfully ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 1876;

Whereas the Oliver P. Morton House in Centerville, Indiana, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975 and is named in Morton’s honor;

Whereas there are statues of Morton on the steps of the Indiana Statehouse entrance and at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Indianapolis, Indiana;

Whereas Morton is 1 of Indiana’s 2 assigned statues in the National Statuary Hall Collection in the United States Capitol; and

Whereas Morton died on November 1, 1877, and is buried at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis, Indiana; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the dedication and efforts of Governor Oliver Hazard Perry Morton helped preserve the Union during the Civil War and were of importance to the State of Indiana during that difficult time in United States history;

(2) the continued legacy of Governor Oliver Hazard Perry Morton continues to enrich the community and State of Indiana and he is 1 of Indiana’s most notable Hoosiers; and

(3) the dedication and life of Governor Oliver Hazard Perry Morton should be recognized, especially in 2023, which marks the 200th anniversary of his birth.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 140. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 141. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 142. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINÉ, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.



SA 143. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 144. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 145. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 146. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 147. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 148. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 149. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 150. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 151. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 152. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 153. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 154. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 140. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VIII, insert the following:

### SEC. \_\_\_\_ . PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING DEFENSE CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE INFORMATION RELATING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

- (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
- (1) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term “greenhouse gas” means—
    - (A) carbon dioxide;
    - (B) methane;
    - (C) nitrous oxide;
    - (D) nitrogen trifluoride;
    - (E) hydrofluorocarbons;
    - (F) perfluorocarbons; or
    - (G) sulfur hexafluoride.
  - (2) GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY.—The term “greenhouse gas inventory” means a quantified list of an entity’s annual greenhouse gas emissions.
  - (3) SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS.—The term “Scope 1 emissions” means direct greenhouse gas

emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the reporting entity.

(4) SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS.—The term “Scope 2 emissions” means indirect greenhouse gas emissions associated with the generation of electricity, heating and cooling, or steam, when these are purchased or acquired for the reporting entity’s own consumption but occur at sources owned or controlled by another entity.

(5) SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS.—The term “Scope 3 emissions” means greenhouse gas emissions, other than those that are Scope 2 emissions, that are a consequence of the operations of the reporting entity but occur at sources other than those owned or controlled by the entity.

(b) PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense may not require the recipient of a Federal contract to provide a greenhouse gas inventory or to provide any other report on greenhouse gas emissions, including Scope 1 emissions, Scope 2 emissions, or Scope 3 emissions.

SA 141. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title III, insert the following:

### SEC. 3 \_\_\_\_ . MODIFICATIONS TO MILITARY AVIATION AND INSTALLATION ASSURANCE CLEARINGHOUSE FOR REVIEW OF MISSION OBSTRUCTIONS.

(a) PROJECTS PROPOSED WITHIN TWO NAUTICAL MILES OF ANY INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCH FACILITY OR CONTROL CENTER.—Section 183a of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(7), in the second sentence—

(A) by inserting “within two nautical miles of any intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center,” after “any project proposed”; and

(B) by striking “training route” and inserting “training route.”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or any intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center” after “military training routes”; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking “or a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense” and inserting “a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense, or the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment”; and

(3) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) by inserting after the first sentence the following: “In the case of any energy project or antenna structure project with proposed structures located within two nautical miles of an intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center, the Secretary of Defense shall issue a finding of unacceptable risk to national security for such project if the mitigation actions do not include removal of all such proposed structures from the project after receiving notice of presumed risk from the Clearinghouse under subsection (c)(2).”; and

(B) by striking “The Secretary of Defense’s finding of unacceptable risk to national security” and inserting “Any finding of unacceptable risk to national security by the Secretary of Defense under this paragraph”.

(b) INCLUSION OF ANTENNA STRUCTURE PROJECTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Such section is further amended—

(A) by inserting “or antenna structure projects” after “energy projects” each place it appears; and

(B) by inserting “or antenna structure project” after “energy project” each place it appears (except for subsection (h)(2)).

(2) ANTENNA STRUCTURE PROJECT DEFINED.—Section 183a(h) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) The term ‘antenna structure project’—

“(A) means a project to construct a structure located within two nautical miles of any intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center that is constructed or used to transmit radio energy or that is constructed or used for the primary purpose of supporting antennas to transmit or receive radio energy (or both), and any antennas and other appurtenances mounted on the structure, from the time construction of the supporting structure begins until such time as the supporting structure is dismantled; and

“(B) does not include any project in support of or required by an intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center.”.

SA 142. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title VI, insert the following:

### SEC. 6 \_\_\_\_ . ELIGIBILITY OF DISABILITY RETIREES WITH FEWER THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE AND A COMBAT-RELATED DISABILITY FOR CONCURRENT RECEIPT OF VETERANS’ DISABILITY COMPENSATION AND RETIRED PAY.

(a) CONCURRENT RECEIPT IN CONNECTION WITH CSRC.—Section 1413a(b)(3)(B) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “creditable service,” and all that follows and inserting the following: “creditable service—

“(i) the retired pay of the retiree is not subject to reduction under sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38; and

“(ii) no monthly amount shall be paid the retiree under subsection (a).”.

(b) CONCURRENT RECEIPT GENERALLY.—Section 1414(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking “Subsection (a)” and

all that follows and inserting the following:  
 “Subsection (a)—

“(A) applies to a member described in paragraph (1) of that subsection who is retired under chapter 61 of this title with less than 20 years of service otherwise creditable under chapter 1405 of this title, or with less than 20 years of service computed under section 12732 of this title, at the time of the member’s retirement if the member has a combat-related disability (as that term is defined in section 1413a(e) of this title), except that in the application of subsection (a) to such a member, any reference in that subsection to a qualifying service-connected disability shall be deemed to be a reference to that combat-related disability; but

“(B) does not apply to any member so retired if the member does not have a combat-related disability.”

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENTS REFLECTING END OF CONCURRENT RECEIPT PHASE-IN PERIOD.—Section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, is further amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)—  
 (i) by striking the second sentence; and  
 (ii) by striking subparagraphs (A) and (B);  
 (B) by striking subsection (c) and redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(C) in subsection (d), as redesignated, by striking paragraphs (3) and (4).

(2) SECTION HEADING.—The heading of such section 1414 is amended to read as follows:

“§ 1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans’ disability compensation: concurrent receipt”.

(3) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 71 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 1414 and inserting the following new item:

“1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans’ disability compensation: concurrent receipt.”

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1413a(f) of such title is amended by striking “Subsection (d)” and inserting “Subsection (c)”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first month beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

**SA 143.** Mr. TESTER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

**Subtitle H—Critical Health Access Resource and Grant Extensions Act of 2023**

**SEC. 1091. SHORT TITLE.**

This subtitle may be cited as the “Critical Health Access Resource and Grant Extensions Act of 2023” or the “CHARGE Act of 2023”.

**PART I—HOMELESSNESS MATTERS**

**SEC. 1092. GRANTS AND PER DIEM PAYMENTS PROVIDED BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR SERVICES FURNISHED TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**

(a) LIMITATION ON TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BEDS.—Section 2011 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) LIMITATION ON TRANSITIONAL HOUSING BEDS.—The Secretary may not make grants under this section or provide per diem payments under section 2012 of this title for more than 12,000 transitional housing beds for homeless veterans furnished by grant recipients or eligible entities under such sections on average each year.”

(b) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Section 2012 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) REPORTS REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the CHARGE Act of 2023, and not less frequently than twice each year thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the rate for per diem payments under this section that includes, for each Veterans Integrated Service Network of the Department, the following data:

“(1) The average rate for such payments.  
 “(2) A list of locations where the rate for such payments is within 10 percent of the maximum rate for such payments authorized under this section.

“(3) The average length of stay by veterans participating in programs described in section 2011(a) of this title.”

(c) MAXIMUM RATE.—During the three-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, section 2012(a)(2)(B)(i)(II)(aa)(BB) of title 38, United States Code, shall be applied and administered by substituting “200” for “115”.

(d) STRATEGIC PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 540 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives a strategic plan for the provision of grants and per diem payments for services furnished to homeless veterans under sections 2011 and 2012 of title 38, United States Code.

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

(A) A method for administering grant funding equitably without using the rate authorized for State homes for domiciliary care under subsection (a)(1)(A) of section 1741 of title 38, United States Code, as the Secretary may increase from time to time under subsection (c) of that section, that takes into account—

(i) the wide variety of services furnished by grant recipients and eligible entities under sections 2011 and 2012 of title 38, United States Code;

(ii) varying costs of living across different geographic locations;

(iii) varying availability of affordable housing in different geographic locations;

(iv) circumstances of housing insecurity in rural and Tribal communities;

(v) veterans with significant medical care needs; and

(vi) the changing dynamic of the veteran population nationwide.

(B) A plan and timeline for implementation of the method included under subparagraph (A).

(C) An estimate of increased costs or savings per year under the plan.

(D) An overview of the different grants that will be available once the plan is implemented.

**SEC. 1093. AUTHORIZATION FOR USE OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR IMPROVED FLEXIBILITY IN PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE TO HOMELESS VETERANS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle VII of chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 2069. Flexibility in provision of assistance to homeless veterans

“(a) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary may provide to homeless veterans and veterans participating in the program carried out under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(19)), as the Secretary determines necessary, the following:

“(1) Assistance required for the safety and survival of the veteran (such as food, shelter, clothing, blankets, and hygiene items).

“(2) Transportation required to support the stability and health of the veteran (such as transportation for appointments with service providers, the conduct of housing searches, and the obtainment of food and supplies).

“(3) Communications equipment and services (such as tablets, smartphones, disposable phones, and related service plans) required to support the stability and health of the veteran (such as through the maintenance of contact with service providers, prospective landlords, and family members).

“(4) Such other assistance as the Secretary determines necessary.

“(b) HOMELESS VETERANS ON DEPARTMENT LAND.—(1) The Secretary may collaborate, to the extent practicable, with one or more organizations to manage the use of land of the Department for homeless veterans for living and sleeping.

“(2) Collaboration under paragraph (1) may include the provision by either the Secretary or the head of the organization concerned of food services and security for property, buildings, and other facilities owned or controlled by the Department.

“(c) SUNSET.—The authorities provided by this section shall terminate on the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of the CHARGE Act of 2023.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 20 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“2069. Flexibility in provision of assistance to homeless veterans.”

**SEC. 1094. ACCESS TO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TELEHEALTH SERVICES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle VII of chapter 20 of title 38, United States Code, as amended by section 1093(a), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“§ 2070. Access to telehealth services

“To the extent practicable, the Secretary shall ensure that veterans participating in or receiving services from a program under this chapter have access to telehealth services to which such veterans are eligible under the laws administered by the Secretary, including by ensuring that telehealth capabilities are available to—

“(1) such veterans;

“(2) case managers of the Department of programs for homeless veterans authorized under this chapter; and

“(3) community-based service providers for homeless veterans receiving funds from the Department through grants or contracts.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 20 of such title, as amended by section 1093(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“2070. Access to telehealth services.”

**PART II—MATTERS RELATING TO  
CAREGIVERS**

**SEC. 1095. AUTHORIZED VIRTUAL VISITS UNDER  
CAREGIVER PROGRAMS OF DEPART-  
MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

On or before September 30, 2023, notwithstanding any requirement to the contrary under section 1720G of title 38, United States Code, or part 71 of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulations, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may complete any home visit required under such section with respect to a veteran and their caregiver through video conference or other available telehealth modality, if agreed to by the veteran or caregiver.

**PART III—STATE VETERANS HOMES**

**SEC. 1096. STATE HOME DEFINED.**

In this part, the term “State home” has the meaning given that term in section 101(19) of title 38, United States Code.

**SEC. 1097. TEMPORARY WAIVER OF OCCUPANCY  
RATE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIPT  
OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS.**

During the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on September 30, 2024, occupancy rate requirements for State homes for purposes of receiving per diem payments set forth in section 51.40(c) of title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, or successor regulations, shall not apply.

**SEC. 1098. PROVISION OF MEDICINE, EQUIPMENT,  
AND SUPPLIES.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may provide to State homes medicines, personal protective equipment, medical supplies, and any other equipment, supplies, and assistance available to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “personal protective equipment” means any protective equipment required to prevent the wearer from contracting an infectious disease, including gloves, N-95 respirator masks, gowns, goggles, face shields, or other equipment required for safety.

**SA 144.** Mr. TESTER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10 . . . TECHNICAL CORRECTION TO ELIGIBILITY FOR COUNSELING AND TREATMENT FOR MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA TO INCLUDE ALL FORMER MEMBERS OF THE RESERVE COMPONENTS OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

Section 1720D of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “a physical assault of a sexual nature” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “military sexual trauma.”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “that was suffered by the member while serving on duty, regardless of duty status or line of duty determination (as that term is used in section 12323 of title 10)”;

(2) by striking subsections (f) and (g) and inserting the following new subsection (f):

“(f) In this section:

“(1) The term ‘former member of the Armed Forces’ means a person who served on active duty, active duty for training, or inac-

tive duty training, and who was discharged or released therefrom under any condition that is not—

“(A) a discharge by court-martial; or

“(B) a discharge subject to a bar to benefits under section 5303 of title 10.

“(2) The term ‘military sexual trauma’ means, with respect to a former member of the Armed Forces, a physical assault of a sexual nature, battery of a sexual nature, or sexual harassment which occurred while the former member of the Armed Forces was serving on duty, regardless of duty status or line of duty determination (as that term is used in section 12323 of title 10).

“(3) The term ‘sexual harassment’ means unsolicited verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature which is threatening in character.”.

**SA 145.** Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10 . . . CLARIFICATION THAT FEDERAL LABORATORIES CAN USE PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARIES FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FUNCTIONS.**

Section 23 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3715) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting “and transition functions” after “technology transfer”;

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting “or who can assist a Federal laboratory with technology transition, either out of, or into the Federal laboratory,” after “from a Federal laboratory.”.

**SA 146.** Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title II, insert the following:

**SEC. 2 . . . IMPROVEMENTS TO AUTHORITY TO USE PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARIES TO PROMOTE DEFENSE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.**

Section 4124(f) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “head of the another” and inserting “head of another”;

(B) by inserting “or covered laboratory” after “Center” both places it appears; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “In this subsection, the term” and inserting the following: “In this subsection:

“(A) The term ‘covered laboratory’ has the meaning given the term ‘laboratory’ in section 12(d) of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3710a(d)).

“(B) The term”;

(B) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “or academic institutions that need” and inserting the following: “or academic institutions—

“(i) that need”;

(ii) in clause (i), as designated by clause (i) of this subparagraph, by striking the period at the end and inserting “or covered laboratory; or”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(ii) who can assist a Center or covered laboratory with technology transition, either out of, or into the Center or covered laboratory.”.

**SA 147.** Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10 . . . INCREASE IN AMOUNT OF DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES.**

(a) **INCREASE.**—Section 1311(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (1), by striking “of \$1,154” and inserting “equal to 55 percent of the rate of monthly compensation in effect under section 1114(j) of this title”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided by paragraph (2), the amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to compensation paid under chapter 13 of title 38, United States Code, for months beginning after the date that is six months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—For months beginning after the date that is six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall pay to an individual described in subparagraph (B) dependents and survivors income security benefit under section 1311 of title 38, United States Code, in the monthly amount that is the greater of the following:

(i) The amount determined under subsection (a)(3) of such section 1311, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(ii) The amount determined under subsection (a)(1) of such section 1311, as amended by subsection (a).

(B) **INDIVIDUALS DESCRIBED.**—An individual described in this subparagraph is an individual eligible for dependents and survivors income security benefit under section 1311 of title 38, United States Code, that is predicated on the death of a veteran before January 1, 1993.

**SEC. 10 . . . MODIFICATION OF REQUIREMENTS FOR DEPENDENCY AND INDEMNITY COMPENSATION FOR SURVIVORS OF CERTAIN VETERANS RATED TOTALLY DISABLED AT TIME OF DEATH.**

Section 1318 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary”;

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) In any case in which the Secretary makes a payment under paragraph (1) of this

subsection by reason of subsection (b)(1) and the period of continuous rating immediately preceding death is less than 10 years, the amount payable under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be an amount that bears the same relationship to the amount otherwise payable under such paragraph as the duration of such period bears to 10 years.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “10 or more years” and inserting “five or more years”.

**SA 148.** Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle G of title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10 . RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING ACCOUNTABILITY.**

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section:

(A) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(B) CIRCULAR MARKET.—The term “circular market” means a market that utilizes industrial processes and economic activities to enable post-industrial and post-consumer materials used in those processes and activities to maintain their highest values for as long as possible.

(C) COMPOST.—The term “compost” means a product that—

(i) is manufactured through the controlled aerobic, biological decomposition of biodegradable materials;

(ii) has been subjected to medium and high temperature organisms, which—

(I) significantly reduce the viability of pathogens and weed seeds; and

(II) stabilize carbon in the product such that the product is beneficial to plant growth; and

(iii) is typically used as a soil amendment, but may also contribute plant nutrients.

(D) COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL.—The term “compostable material” means material that is a feedstock for creating compost, including—

(i) wood;

(ii) agricultural crops;

(iii) paper;

(iv) certified compostable products associated with organic waste;

(v) other organic plant material;

(vi) marine products;

(vii) organic waste, including food waste and yard waste; and

(viii) such other material that is composed of biomass that can be continually replenished or renewed, as determined by the Administrator.

(E) COMPOSTING FACILITY.—The term “composting facility” means a location, structure, or device that transforms compostable materials into compost.

(F) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian Tribe” has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(G) MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The term “materials recovery facility” means a dedicated facility where primarily residential recyclable materials, which are diverted from disposal by the generator and collected separately from municipal solid waste, are mechanically or

manually sorted into commodities for further processing into specification-grade commodities for sale to end users.

(ii) EXCLUSION.—The term “materials recovery facility” does not include a solid waste management facility that may process municipal solid waste to remove recyclable materials.

(H) RECYCLABLE MATERIAL.—The term “recyclable material” means a material that is obsolete, previously used, off-specification, surplus, or incidentally produced for processing into a specification-grade commodity for which a circular market currently exists or is being developed.

(I) RECYCLING.—The term “recycling” means the series of activities—

(i) during which recyclable materials are processed into specification-grade commodities, and consumed as raw-material feedstock, in lieu of virgin materials, in the manufacturing of new products;

(ii) that may include sorting, collection, processing, and brokering; and

(iii) that result in subsequent consumption by a materials manufacturer, including for the manufacturing of new products.

(J) STATE.—The term “State” has the meaning given the term in section 1004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903).

(2) DEFINITION OF PROCESSING.—In subparagraphs (G), (H), and (I) of paragraph (1), the term “processing” means any mechanical, manual, or other method that—

(A) transforms a recyclable material into a specification-grade commodity; and

(B) may occur in multiple steps, with different steps, including sorting, occurring at different locations.

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

(1) recycling and composting conserve resources, protect the environment, and are important to the United States economy;

(2) the United States recycling and composting infrastructure encompass each of the entities that collect, process, broker, and consume recyclable materials and compostable materials sourced from commercial, industrial, institutional, and residential sources;

(3) the residential segment of the United States recycling and composting infrastructure is facing challenges from—

(A) confusion over what materials are recyclable materials or compostable materials;

(B) reduced export markets;

(C) growing, but still limited, domestic end markets; and

(D) an ever-changing and heterogeneous supply stream;

(4) in some areas, recycling and composting infrastructure is in need of revitalization; and

(5) in an effort to address those challenges, the United States must use a combination of tactics to improve recycling and composting in the United States.

(c) REPORT ON COMPOSTING INFRASTRUCTURE CAPABILITIES.—The Administrator, in consultation with States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, shall—

(1) prepare a report, or expand work under the National Recycling Strategy to include data, describing the capability of the United States to implement a national composting strategy for compostable materials for the purposes of reducing contamination rates for recycling, including—

(A) an evaluation of existing Federal, State, and local laws that may present barriers to implementation of a national composting strategy;

(B)(i) an evaluation of existing composting programs of States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes; and

(ii) a description of best practices based on those programs;

(C) an evaluation of existing composting infrastructure in States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes for the purposes of estimating cost and approximate land needed to expand composting programs; and

(D) a study of the practices of manufacturers and companies that are moving to using compostable packaging and food service ware for the purpose of making the composting process the end-of-life use of those products; and

(2) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, submit the report prepared under paragraph (1) to Congress.

(d) REPORT ON FEDERAL AGENCY RECYCLING PRACTICES.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 2 years thereafter until 2033, the Comptroller General of the United States, in consultation with the Administrator, shall make publicly available a report describing—

(1) the total annual recycling and composting rates reported by all Federal agencies;

(2) the total annual percentage of products containing recyclable material, compostable material, or recovered materials purchased by all Federal agencies, including—

(A) the total quantity of procured products containing recyclable material or recovered materials listed in the comprehensive procurement guidelines published under section 6002(e) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6962(e)); and

(B) the total quantity of compostable material purchased;

(3) recommendations for updating—

(A) the comprehensive procurement guidelines published under section 6002(e) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6962(e)); and

(B) the environmentally preferable purchasing program established under section 6604(b)(11) of the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13103(b)(11)); and

(4) the activities of each Federal agency that promote recycling or composting.

(e) IMPROVING DATA AND REPORTING.—

(1) INVENTORY OF MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITIES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and biannually thereafter, the Administrator, in consultation with States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, shall—

(A) prepare an inventory of public and private materials recovery facilities in the United States, including—

(i) the number of materials recovery facilities in each unit of local government in each State; and

(ii) a description of the materials that each materials recovery facility can process, including—

(I) in the case of plastic, a description of—

(aa) the types of accepted resin, if applicable; and

(bb) the packaging or product format, such as a jug, a carton, or film;

(II) food packaging and service ware, such as a bottle, cutlery, or a cup;

(III) paper;

(IV) aluminum, such as an aluminum beverage can, food can, aerosol can, or foil;

(V) steel, such as a steel food or aerosol can;

(VI) other scrap metal;

(VII) glass; or

(VIII) any other material not described in any of subclauses (I) through (VII) that a materials recovery facility can process; and

(B) submit the inventory prepared under subparagraph (A) to Congress.

(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE BASELINE OF DATA FOR THE UNITED STATES RECYCLING SYSTEM.—The Administrator, in consultation with States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, shall determine, with respect to the United States—

(A) the number of community curbside recycling and composting programs;

(B) the number of community drop-off recycling and composting programs;

(C) the types and forms of materials accepted by each community curbside recycling, drop-off recycling, or composting program;

(D) the number of individuals with access to recycling and composting services to at least the extent of access to disposal services;

(E) the number of individuals with barriers to accessing recycling and composting services to at least the extent of access to disposal services;

(F) the inbound contamination and capture rates of community curbside recycling, drop-off recycling, or composting programs;

(G) where applicable, other available recycling or composting programs within a community, including store drop-offs; and

(H) the average costs and benefits to States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes of recycling and composting programs.

(3) STANDARDIZATION OF RECYCLING REPORTING RATES.—

(A) COLLECTION OF RATES.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may use amounts made available under subsection (h) to biannually collect from each State the nationally standardized rate of recyclable materials in that State that have been successfully diverted from the waste stream and brought to a materials recovery facility or composting facility.

(ii) CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY BUSINESS INFORMATION.—Information collected under clause (i) shall not include any confidential or proprietary business information, as determined by the Administrator.

(B) USE.—Using amounts made available under subsection (h), the Administrator may use the rates collected under subparagraph (A) to further assist States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes—

(i) to reduce the overall waste produced by the States and units of local government; and

(ii) to increase recycling and composting rates.

(4) REPORT ON END MARKETS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in consultation with States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, shall—

(i) provide an update to the report submitted under section 306 of the Save Our Seas 2.0 Act (Public Law 116-224; 134 Stat. 1096) to include an addendum on the end-market sale of all recyclable materials, in addition to recycled plastics as described in that section, from materials recovery facilities that process recyclable materials collected from households and publicly available recyclable materials drop-off centers, including—

(I) the total, in dollars per ton, domestic sales of bales of recyclable materials; and

(II) the total, in dollars per ton, international sales of bales of recyclable materials;

(ii) prepare a report on the end-market sale of compost from all compostable materials collected from households and publicly available compost drop-off centers, including the total, in dollars per ton, of domestic sales of compostable materials; and

(iii) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress the update to the report prepared under clause (i) and the report prepared under clause (ii).

(B) CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY BUSINESS INFORMATION.—Information collected under clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall not include any confidential or proprietary

business information, as determined by the Administrator.

(f) STUDY ON THE DIVERSION OF RECYCLABLE MATERIALS FROM A CIRCULAR MARKET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall develop a metric for determining the proportion of recyclable materials in commercial and municipal waste streams that are being diverted from a circular market.

(2) STUDY; REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the development of a metric under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall conduct a study of, and submit to Congress a report on, the proportion of recyclable materials in commercial and municipal waste streams that, during each of the 10 calendar years preceding the year of submission of the report, were diverted from a circular market.

(3) DATA.—The report under paragraph (2) shall provide data on specific recyclable materials, including aluminum, plastics, paper and paperboard, textiles, and glass, that were prevented from remaining in a circular market through disposal or elimination, and to what use those specific recyclable materials were lost.

(4) EVALUATION.—The report under paragraph (2) shall include an evaluation of whether the establishment or improvement of recycling programs would—

(A) improve recycling rates; or

(B) reduce the quantity of recyclable materials being unutilized in a circular market.

(g) VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES.—The Administrator shall—

(1) in consultation with States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, develop, based on the results of the studies, reports, inventory, and data determined under subsections (c) through (f), and provide to States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes, through the Model Recycling Program Toolkit or a similar resource, best practices that the States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes may use to enhance recycling and composting, including—

(A) labeling techniques for containers of waste, compostable materials, and recycling, with the goal of creating consistent, readily available, and understandable labeling across jurisdictions;

(B) pamphlets or other literature readily available to constituents;

(C) primary and secondary school educational resources on recycling;

(D) web and media-based campaigns; and

(E) guidance for the labeling of recyclable materials and compostable materials that minimizes contamination and diversion of those materials from waste streams toward recycling and composting systems; and

(2) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to Congress a report describing the best practices developed under paragraph (1).

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$4,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027 to carry out this section.

**SA 149.** Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle G of title X, insert the following:

**SEC. 10 . EXTENSION OF DEADLINE TO PROMULGATE CERTAIN REGULATIONS.**

Section 413(a) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5373(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “21 months” and inserting “38 months”; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking “30 months” and inserting “50 months”.

**SA 150.** Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XV, insert the following:

**SEC. . ANNUAL REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF LONG-RANGE STAND-OFF WEAPON.**

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than March 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until the date on which long-range stand-off weapon reaches initial operational capability, the Administrator for Nuclear Security, in coordination with the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chairman of the Nuclear Weapons Council, shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the joint development of the long-range stand-off weapon, including the missile developed by the Air Force and the W80-4 warhead life extension program conducted by the National Nuclear Security Administration.

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

(1) An estimate of the date on which the long-range stand-off weapon will reach initial operational capability.

(2) A description of any development milestones for the missile developed by the Air Force or the warhead developed by the National Nuclear Security Administration that depend on corresponding progress at the other agency.

(3) A description of coordination efforts between the Air Force and the National Nuclear Security Administration during the period covered by the report.

(4) A description of any schedule delays projected by the Air Force or the National Nuclear Security Administration and the anticipated effect such delays would have on the schedule of work of the other agency.

(5) Plans to mitigate the effects of any delays described in paragraph (4).

(6) A description of any ways, including through the availability of additional funding or authorities, in which the development milestones described in paragraph (2) or the estimated date of initial operational capability referred to in paragraph (1), could be achieved more quickly.

(7) An estimate of the acquisition costs for the long-range stand-off weapon and the W80-4 warhead life extension program.

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

**SA 151.** Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of

Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XXXI, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_\_. CIVIL NUCLEAR EXPORT ACT OF 2023.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Civil Nuclear Export Act of 2023”.

(b) **MODIFICATION OF PROHIBITION ON FINANCING IN THE EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.**—Section 2(b)(5) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)(5)) is amended, in the first sentence, by inserting “, except any purchase that is otherwise permitted under an agreement made in accordance with section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) or any other applicable law of the United States,” after “(C) the purchase”.

(c) **EXPANSION OF PROGRAM ON CHINA AND TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPORTS.**—Section 2(1)(1)(B) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(1)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clause (xi) as clause (xii); and

(2) by inserting after clause (x) the following:

“(xi) Civil nuclear facilities, material, and technologies, and related goods and services that support the development of an effective nuclear energy sector.”

(d) **NUCLEAR LIABILITY COVERAGE.**—Section 2 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(m) **NUCLEAR LIABILITY COVERAGE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If there is a claim or judgment against the Bank relating to bodily injury, death, or damage to or loss of real or personal property, the Secretary of the Treasury shall, subject to paragraph (2), pay, from the general fund of the Treasury such claim or judgment, and related costs, if—

“(A) such bodily injury, death, or damage to or loss of real or personal property is determined in a court of competent jurisdiction to have resulted from a nuclear incident at a nuclear facility that received financial support from the Bank; and

“(B) there is no applicable treaty or other arrangement fully absolving the Bank of liability.

“(2) **MAXIMUM AMOUNT.**—Any claim or judgment, and any related costs paid in accordance with paragraph (1), to the extent not otherwise absolved by any applicable treaty or other arrangement, may not exceed the maximum amount of financial protection per incident required to cover public liability claims under section 170(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2210(b)).

“(3) **PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENTS.**—If the aggregate amount of claims, judgments, and related costs resulting from a single nuclear incident exceeds the maximum amount under paragraph (2), the President—

“(A) may authorize, under such terms and conditions as the President may direct, the payment of such claims or judgments, and costs related to such claims or judgments, from any contingency funds available to the United States Government; and

“(B) if such funds are insufficient or unavailable, shall certify such claims or judgments to Congress for appropriation of the necessary funds.”

(e) **MODIFICATION OF LENDING CAP.**—Section 6(a) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635e(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “applicable amount.” and inserting “applicable amount,

unless the aggregate amount that is in excess of the applicable amount—

“(A) is attributed by the Bank to loans, guarantees, and insurance under the Program on China and Transformational Exports pursuant to section 2(1); and

“(B) does not exceed \$50,000,000,000.”;

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the header, by striking “2” and inserting “4”; and

(B) by striking “2 percent” each place it appears and inserting “4 percent”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) **AUTHORITY TO ATTRIBUTE LOANS, GUARANTEES, AND INSURANCE.**—The Bank may attribute any loan, guarantee, or insurance issued under the Program on China and Transformational Exports pursuant to section 2(1) toward the aggregate amount that is in excess of the applicable amount described in paragraph (1) without regard to the date on which the Bank issued such loan, guarantee, or insurance.”

(f) **MODIFICATION OF MONITORING OF DEFAULT RATES.**—Section 8(g) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635g(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “2 percent” each place it appears and inserting “4 percent”;;

(2) in paragraph (4)(B), by striking “2 percent” and inserting “4 percent”;;

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) in the header, by striking “2” and inserting “4”; and

(B) by striking “2 percent” and inserting “4 percent”;;

(4) in paragraph (6), by striking “2 percent” and inserting “4 percent”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) **EXCLUSION OF TRANSACTIONS RELATING TO THE PROGRAM ON CHINA AND TRANSFORMATIONAL EXPORTS.**—For the purposes of this subsection, if financing provided under the Program on China and Transformational Exports pursuant to section 2(1) results in the default rate calculated under paragraph (1) equaling or exceeding 4 percent, the Bank may exclude such financing, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.”

**SA 152.** Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XXXI, insert the following:

**SEC. 31 \_\_\_\_\_. INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR ENERGY ACT.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “International Nuclear Energy Act”.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.**—The term “advanced nuclear reactor” has the meaning given the term in section 951(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16271(b)).

(2) **ALLY OR PARTNER NATION.**—The term “ally or partner nation” means—

(A) the Government of any country that is a member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

(B) the Government of the Republic of India; and

(C) the Government of any country designated as an ally or partner nation by the Secretary of State for purposes of this section.

(3) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committees on Foreign Relations and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(4) **ASSISTANT.**—The term “Assistant” means the Assistant to the President and Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy described in subsection (c)(1)(D).

(5) **ASSOCIATED ENTITY.**—The term “associated entity” means an entity that—

(A) is owned, controlled, or operated by—

(i) an ally or partner nation; or

(ii) an associated individual; or

(B) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, a country described in paragraph (2), including a corporation that is incorporated in a country described in that paragraph.

(6) **ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUAL.**—The term “associated individual” means a foreign national who is a national of a country described in paragraph (2).

(7) **CIVIL NUCLEAR.**—The term “civil nuclear” means activities relating to—

(A) nuclear plant construction;

(B) nuclear fuel services;

(C) nuclear energy financing;

(D) nuclear plant operations;

(E) nuclear plant regulation;

(F) nuclear medicine;

(G) nuclear safety;

(H) community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;

(I) infrastructure support for nuclear energy;

(J) nuclear plant decommissioning;

(K) nuclear liability;

(L) safe storage and safe disposal of spent nuclear fuel;

(M) environmental safeguards;

(N) nuclear nonproliferation and security; and

(O) technology related to the matters described in subparagraphs (A) through (N).

(8) **EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY NATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “embarking civil nuclear energy nation” means a country that—

(i) does not have a civil nuclear program;

(ii) is in the process of developing or expanding a civil nuclear program, including safeguards and a legal and regulatory framework, for—

(I) nuclear safety;

(II) nuclear security;

(III) radioactive waste management;

(IV) civil nuclear energy;

(V) environmental safeguards;

(VI) community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;

(VII) nuclear liability; or

(VIII) advanced nuclear reactor licensing;

(iii) is in the process of selecting, developing, constructing, or utilizing advanced light water reactors, advanced nuclear reactors, or advanced civil nuclear technologies; and

(iv) is eligible to receive development lending from the World Bank.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “embarking civil nuclear energy nation” does not include—

(i) the People’s Republic of China;

(ii) the Russian Federation;

(iii) the Republic of Belarus;

(iv) the Islamic Republic of Iran;

(v) the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea;

(vi) the Republic of Cuba;

(vii) the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

(viii) the Syrian Arab Republic;

(ix) Burma; or

(x) any other country—

(I) the property or interests in property of the government of which are blocked pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

(II) the government of which the Secretary of State has determined has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism for purposes of—

(aa) section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a));

(bb) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d));

(cc) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)(1)(A)(i)); or

(dd) any other relevant provision of law.

(9) NUCLEAR SAFETY.—The term “nuclear safety” means issues relating to the design, construction, operation, or decommissioning of nuclear facilities in a manner that ensures adequate protection of workers, the public, and the environment, including—

(A) the safe operation of nuclear reactors and other nuclear facilities;

(B) radiological protection of—

(i) members of the public;

(ii) workers; and

(iii) the environment;

(C) nuclear waste management;

(D) emergency preparedness;

(E) nuclear liability; and

(F) the safe transportation of nuclear materials.

(10) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(11) SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL.—The term “spent nuclear fuel” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101).

(12) U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY.—The term “U.S. nuclear energy company” means a company that—

(A) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, the United States; and

(B) is involved in the nuclear energy industry.

(c) WHITE HOUSE FOCAL POINT ON CIVIL NUCLEAR COORDINATION.—

(1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Given the critical importance of developing and implementing, with input from various agencies throughout the executive branch, a cohesive policy with respect to international efforts related to civil nuclear energy, it is the sense of Congress that—

(A) there should be a focal point within the White House, which may, if determined to be appropriate, report to the National Security Council, for coordination on issues relating to those efforts;

(B) to provide that focal point, the President should establish, within the Executive Office of the President, an office, to be known as the “Office of the Assistant to the President and Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy” (referred to in this subsection as the “Office”);

(C) the Office should act as a coordinating office for—

(i) international civil nuclear cooperation; and

(ii) civil nuclear export strategy;

(D) the Office should be headed by an individual appointed as an Assistant to the President with the title of “Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy”; and

(E) the Office should—

(i) coordinate civil nuclear export policies for the United States;

(ii) develop, in coordination with the officials described in paragraph (2), a cohesive Federal strategy for engagement with foreign governments (including ally or partner nations and the governments of embarking civil nuclear energy nations), associated en-

titles, and associated individuals with respect to civil nuclear exports;

(iii) coordinate with the officials described in paragraph (2) to ensure that necessary framework agreements and trade controls relating to civil nuclear materials and technologies are in place for key markets; and

(iv) develop—

(I) a whole-of-government coordinating strategy for civil nuclear cooperation;

(II) a whole-of-government strategy for civil nuclear exports; and

(III) a whole-of-government approach to support appropriate foreign investment in civil nuclear energy projects supported by the United States in embarking civil nuclear energy nations.

(2) OFFICIALS DESCRIBED.—The officials referred to in paragraph (1)(E) are—

(A) the appropriate officials of—

(i) the Department of State;

(ii) the Department of Energy;

(iii) the Department of Commerce;

(iv) the Department of Transportation;

(v) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

(vi) the Department of Defense;

(vii) the National Security Council;

(viii) the National Economic Council;

(ix) the Office of the United States Trade Representative;

(x) the Office of Management and Budget;

(xi) the Office of the Director of National Intelligence;

(xii) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(xiii) the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

(xiv) the United States Agency for International Development;

(xv) the United States Trade and Development Agency;

(xvi) the Office of Science and Technology Policy; and

(xvii) any other Federal agency that the President determines to be appropriate; and

(B) appropriate officials representing foreign countries and governments, including—

(i) ally or partner nations;

(ii) embarking civil nuclear energy nations; and

(iii) any other country or government that the Assistant (if appointed) and the officials described in subparagraph (A) jointly determine to be appropriate.

(d) NUCLEAR EXPORTS WORKING GROUP.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a working group, to be known as the “Nuclear Exports Working Group” (referred to in this subsection as the “working group”).

(2) COMPOSITION.—The working group shall be composed of—

(A) senior-level Federal officials, selected internally by the applicable Federal agency or organization, from—

(i) the Department of State;

(ii) the Department of Commerce;

(iii) the Department of Energy;

(iv) the Department of the Treasury;

(v) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(vi) the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

(vii) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

(viii) the Office of the United States Trade Representative; and

(ix) the United States Trade and Development Agency; and

(B) other senior-level Federal officials, selected internally by the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any other Federal agency or organization that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(3) REPORTING.—The working group shall report to the appropriate White House official, which may be the Assistant (if appointed).

(4) DUTIES.—The working group shall coordinate, not less frequently than quarterly,

with the Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee of the Department of Commerce, the Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee of the Department of Energy, and other advisory or stakeholder groups, as necessary, to maintain an accurate and up-to-date knowledge of the standing of civil nuclear exports from the United States, including with respect to meeting the targets established as part of the 10-year civil nuclear trade strategy described in paragraph (5)(A).

(5) STRATEGY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the working group shall establish a 10-year civil nuclear trade strategy, including biennial targets for the export of civil nuclear technologies, including light water and non-light water reactors and associated equipment and technologies, civil nuclear materials, and nuclear fuel that align with meeting international energy demand while seeking to avoid or reduce emissions.

(B) COLLABORATION REQUIRED.—In establishing the strategy under subparagraph (A), the working group shall collaborate with—

(i) the Secretary;

(ii) the Secretary of Commerce;

(iii) the Secretary of State;

(iv) the Secretary of the Treasury;

(v) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;

(vi) the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(vii) the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

(viii) the United States Trade Representative; and

(ix) representatives of private industry.

(e) ENGAGEMENT WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall launch, in accordance with applicable nuclear technology export laws (including regulations), an international initiative to modernize the civil nuclear outreach to embarking civil nuclear energy nations.

(2) FINANCING.—In carrying out the initiative described in paragraph (1), the President, acting through an appropriate Federal official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed) or the Chief Executive Officer of the International Development Finance Corporation, if determined to be appropriate, and in coordination with the officials described in subsection (c)(2), may, if the President determines to be appropriate, seek to establish cooperative financing relationships for the export of civil nuclear technology, components, materials, and infrastructure to embarking civil nuclear energy nations.

(3) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the initiative described in paragraph (1), the President shall—

(A) assist nongovernmental organizations and appropriate offices, administrations, agencies, laboratories, and programs of the Department of Energy and other relevant Federal agencies and offices in providing education and training to foreign governments in nuclear safety, security, and safeguards—

(i) through engagement with the International Atomic Energy Agency; or

(ii) independently, if the applicable entity determines that it would be more advantageous under the circumstances to provide the applicable education and training independently;

(B) assist the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to expand the support provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency to embarking civil nuclear energy nations for nuclear safety, security, and safeguards;

(C) coordinate the work of the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation

and the Export-Import Bank of the United States to expand outreach to the private investment community to create public-private financing relationships to assist in the adoption of civil nuclear technologies by embarking civil nuclear energy nations, including through exports from the United States;

(D) seek to better coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable, the work carried out by each of—

- (i) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;
- (ii) the Department of Energy;
- (iii) the Department of Commerce;
- (iv) the Nuclear Energy Agency;
- (v) the International Atomic Energy Agency; and

(vi) the nuclear regulatory agencies and organizations of embarking civil nuclear energy nations and ally or partner nations; and

(E) coordinate the work of the Export-Import Bank of the United States to improve the efficient and effective exporting and importing of civil nuclear technologies and materials.

(f) COOPERATIVE FINANCING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS AND EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY NATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall designate an appropriate White House official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed), and the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation to coordinate with the officials described in subsection (c)(2) to develop, as the President determines to be appropriate, financing relationships with ally or partner nations to assist in the adoption of civil nuclear technologies exported from the United States or ally or partner nations to embarking civil nuclear energy nations.

(2) UNITED STATES COMPETITIVENESS CLAUSES.—

(A) DEFINITION OF UNITED STATES COMPETITIVENESS CLAUSE.—In this paragraph, the term “United States competitiveness clause” means any United States competitiveness provision in any agreement entered into by the Department of Energy, including—

- (i) a cooperative agreement;
- (ii) a cooperative research and development agreement; and
- (iii) a patent waiver.

(B) CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the relevant officials described in that paragraph shall consider the impact of United States competitiveness clauses on any financing relationships entered into or proposed to be entered into under that paragraph.

(C) WAIVER.—The Secretary shall facilitate waivers of United States competitiveness clauses as necessary to facilitate financing relationships with ally or partner nations under paragraph (1).

(g) COOPERATION WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS ON ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR DEMONSTRATION AND COOPERATIVE RESEARCH FACILITIES FOR CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce, shall conduct bilateral and multilateral meetings with not fewer than 5 ally or partner nations, with the aim of enhancing nuclear energy cooperation among those ally or partner nations and the United States, for the purpose of developing collaborative relationships with respect to research, development, licensing, and deployment of advanced nuclear reactor technologies for civil nuclear energy.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—The meetings described in paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a focus on cooperation to demonstrate and deploy advanced nuclear reactors, with an emphasis on U.S. nuclear energy compa-

nies, during the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act to provide options for addressing energy security and climate change; and

(B) a focus on developing a memorandum of understanding or any other appropriate agreement between the United States and ally or partner nations with respect to—

- (i) the demonstration and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors; and
- (ii) the development of cooperative research facilities.

(3) FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS.—In conducting the meetings described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce, shall seek to develop financing arrangements to share the costs of the demonstration and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors and the development of cooperative research facilities with the ally or partner nations participating in those meetings.

(4) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Commerce shall jointly submit to Congress a report highlighting potential partners—

(A) for the establishment of cost-share arrangements described in paragraph (3); or

(B) with which the United States may enter into agreements with respect to—

- (i) the demonstration of advanced nuclear reactors; or
- (ii) cooperative research facilities.

(h) INTERNATIONAL CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION.—Section 959B of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16279b) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

- “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”;
- (2) in subsection (a) (as so designated)—
- (A) in paragraph (1)—
- (i) by striking “financing.”; and
- (ii) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

- (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “preparations for”;
- (ii) in subparagraph (C)(v), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) to support, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the safe, secure, and peaceful use of civil nuclear technology in countries developing nuclear energy programs, with a focus on countries that have increased civil nuclear cooperation with the Russian Federation or the People’s Republic of China; and

“(4) to promote the fullest utilization of the reactors, fuel, equipment, services, and technology of U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in subsection (b) of the International Nuclear Energy Act) in civil nuclear energy programs outside the United States through—

“(A) bilateral and multilateral arrangements developed and executed in coordination with the Secretary of State that contain commitments for the utilization of the reactors, fuel, equipment, services, and technology of U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in that subsection);

“(B) the designation of 1 or more U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in that subsection) to implement an arrangement under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that the designation is necessary and appropriate to achieve the objectives of this section;

“(C) the waiver of any provision of law relating to competition with respect to any activity related to an arrangement under sub-

paragraph (A) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Commerce, determines that a waiver is necessary and appropriate to achieve the objectives of this section; and

“(D) the issuance of loans, loan guarantees, other financial assistance, or assistance in the form of an equity interest to carry out activities related to an arrangement under subparagraph (A), to the extent appropriated funds are available.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The program under subsection (a) shall be supported in consultation with the Secretary of State and implemented by the Secretary—

“(1) to facilitate, to the maximum extent practicable, workshops and expert-based exchanges to engage industry, stakeholders, and foreign governments with respect to international civil nuclear issues, such as—

- “(A) training;
- “(B) financing;
- “(C) safety;
- “(D) security;
- “(E) safeguards;
- “(F) liability;
- “(G) advanced fuels;
- “(H) operations; and
- “(I) options for multinational cooperation

with respect to the disposal of spent nuclear fuel (as defined in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101)); and

“(2) in coordination with—

- “(A) the National Security Council;
- “(B) the Secretary of State;
- “(C) the Secretary of Commerce; and
- “(D) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

“(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out subsection (a)(3) \$15,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.”.

(i) INTERNATIONAL CIVIL NUCLEAR PROGRAM SUPPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), shall launch an international initiative (referred to in this subsection as the “initiative”) to provide financial assistance to, and facilitate the building of technical capacities by, in accordance with this subsection, embarking civil nuclear energy nations for activities relating to the development of civil nuclear energy programs.

(2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the initiative, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may award grants of financial assistance to embarking civil nuclear energy nations in accordance with this paragraph—

- (i) for activities relating to the development of civil nuclear energy programs; and
- (ii) to facilitate the building of technical capacities for those activities.

(B) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant of financial assistance under subparagraph (A) shall be not more than \$5,500,000.

(C) LIMITATIONS.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may award—

- (i) not more than 1 grant of financial assistance under subparagraph (A) to any 1 embarking civil nuclear energy nation each fiscal year; and
- (ii) not more than a total of 5 grants of financial assistance under subparagraph (A) to any 1 embarking civil nuclear energy nation.

(3) SENIOR ADVISORS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the initiative, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may provide financial assistance to an embarking civil nuclear energy nation



for the purpose of contracting with a U.S. nuclear energy company to hire 1 or more senior advisors to assist the embarking civil nuclear energy nation in establishing a civil nuclear program.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—A senior advisor described in subparagraph (A) shall have relevant experience and qualifications to advise the embarking civil nuclear energy nation on, and facilitate on behalf of the embarking civil nuclear energy nation, 1 or more of the following activities:

(i) The development of financing relationships.

(ii) The development of a standardized financing and project management framework for the construction of nuclear power plants.

(iii) The development of a standardized licensing framework for—

(I) light water civil nuclear technologies; and

(II) non-light water civil nuclear technologies and advanced nuclear reactors.

(iv) The identification of qualified organizations and service providers.

(v) The identification of funds to support payment for services required to develop a civil nuclear program.

(vi) Market analysis.

(vii) The identification of the safety, security, safeguards, and nuclear governance required for a civil nuclear program.

(viii) Risk allocation, risk management, and nuclear liability.

(ix) Technical assessments of nuclear reactors and technologies.

(x) The identification of actions necessary to participate in a global nuclear liability regime based on the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, with Annex, done at Vienna September 12, 1997 (TIAS 15-415).

(xi) Stakeholder engagement.

(xii) Management of spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.

(xiii) Any other major activities to support the establishment of a civil nuclear program, such as the establishment of export, financing, construction, training, operations, and education requirements.

(C) CLARIFICATION.—Financial assistance under this paragraph may be provided to an embarking civil nuclear energy nation in addition to any financial assistance provided to that embarking civil nuclear energy nation under paragraph (2).

(4) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY NATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Offices of the Inspectors General for the Department of State and the Department of Energy shall coordinate—

(A) to establish and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a joint strategic plan to conduct comprehensive oversight of activities authorized under this subsection to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse; and

(B) to engage in independent and effective oversight of activities authorized under this subsection through joint or individual audits, inspections, investigations, or evaluations.

(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State to carry out the initiative \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027.

(j) BIENNIAL CABINET-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SAFETY, SECURITY, SAFEGUARDS, AND SUSTAINABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President, in coordination with international partners, as determined by the President, and industry, shall hold a biennial conference on civil nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability (referred to in this subsection as a “conference”).

(2) CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS.—It is the sense of Congress that each conference should—

(A) be a forum in which ally or partner nations may engage with each other for the purpose of reinforcing the commitment to—

(i) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(ii) environmental safeguards; and

(iii) local community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites; and

(B) facilitate—

(i) the development of—

(I) joint commitments and goals to improve—

(aa) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(bb) environmental safeguards; and

(cc) local community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;

(II) stronger international institutions that support nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(III) cooperative financing relationships to promote competitive alternatives to Chinese and Russian financing;

(IV) a standardized financing and project management framework for the construction of civil nuclear power plants;

(V) a standardized licensing framework for civil nuclear technologies;

(VI) a strategy to change internal policies of multinational development banks, such as the World Bank, to support the financing of civil nuclear projects;

(VII) a document containing any lessons learned from countries that have partnered with the Russian Federation or the People’s Republic of China with respect to civil nuclear power, including any detrimental outcomes resulting from that partnership; and

(VIII) a global civil nuclear liability regime;

(ii) cooperation for enhancing the overall aspects of civil nuclear power, such as—

(I) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(II) nuclear laws (including regulations);

(III) waste management;

(IV) quality management systems;

(V) technology transfer;

(VI) human resources development;

(VII) localization;

(VIII) reactor operations;

(IX) nuclear liability; and

(X) decommissioning; and

(iii) the development and determination of the mechanisms described in subparagraphs (G) and (H) of subsection (k)(1), if the President intends to establish an Advanced Reactor Coordination and Resource Center as described in that subsection.

(3) INPUT FROM INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that each conference should include a meeting that convenes nuclear industry leaders and leaders of government agencies with expertise relating to nuclear safety, security, safeguards, or sustainability to discuss best practices relating to—

(A) the safe and secure use, storage, and transport of nuclear and radiological materials;

(B) managing the evolving cyber threat to nuclear and radiological security; and

(C) the role that the nuclear industry should play in nuclear and radiological safety, security, and safeguards, including with respect to the safe and secure use, storage, and transport of nuclear and radiological materials, including spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.

(k) ADVANCED REACTOR COORDINATION AND RESOURCE CENTER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall consider the feasibility of leveraging existing activities or frameworks or, as necessary, establishing a center, to be known as the “Advanced Reactor Coordination and Resource

Center” (referred to in this subsection as the “Center”), for the purposes of—

(A) identifying qualified organizations and service providers—

(i) for embarking civil nuclear energy nations;

(ii) to develop and assemble documents, contracts, and related items required to establish a civil nuclear program; and

(iii) to develop a standardized model for the establishment of a civil nuclear program that can be used by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(B) coordinating with countries participating in the Center and with the Nuclear Exports Working Group established under subsection (d)—

(i) to identify funds to support payment for services required to develop a civil nuclear program;

(ii) to provide market analysis; and

(iii) to create—

(I) project structure models;

(II) models for electricity market analysis;

(III) models for nonelectric applications market analysis; and

(IV) financial models;

(C) identifying and developing the safety, security, safeguards, and nuclear governance required for a civil nuclear program;

(D) supporting multinational regulatory standards to be developed by countries with civil nuclear programs and experience;

(E) developing and strengthening communications, engagement, and consensus-building;

(F) carrying out any other major activities to support export, financing, education, construction, training, and education requirements relating to the establishment of a civil nuclear program;

(G) developing mechanisms for how to fund and staff the Center; and

(H) determining mechanisms for the selection of the location or locations of the Center.

(2) OBJECTIVE.—The President shall carry out paragraph (1) with the objective of establishing the Center if the President determines that it is feasible to do so.

(1) INVESTMENT BY ALLIES AND PARTNERS OF THE UNITED STATES.—

(1) COMMERCIAL LICENSES.—Section 103 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2133(d)) is amended, in the second sentence—

(A) by inserting “for a production facility” after “No license”; and

(B) by striking “any any” and inserting “any”.

(2) MEDICAL THERAPY AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT LICENSES.—Section 104 d. of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2134(d)) is amended, in the second sentence, by inserting “for a production facility” after “No license”.

(m) STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND WORKING GROUP.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a working group, to be known as the “Strategic Infrastructure Fund Working Group” (referred to in this subsection as the “working group”) to provide input on the feasibility of establishing a program to support strategically important capital-intensive infrastructure projects.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The working group shall be—

(A) led by a White House official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed), who shall serve as the White House focal point with respect to matters relating to the working group; and

(B) composed of—

(i) senior-level Federal officials, selected by the head of the applicable Federal agency or organization, from—

(I) the Department of State;

(II) the Department of the Treasury;

(III) the Department of Commerce;  
 (IV) the Department of Energy;  
 (V) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(VI) the United States International Development Finance Corporation; and

(VII) the Nuclear Regulatory Commission;  
 (ii) other senior-level Federal officials, selected by the head of the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any other Federal agency or organization that the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

(iii) any senior-level Federal official selected by the White House official described in subparagraph (A) from any Federal agency or organization.

(3) REPORTING.—The working group shall report to the National Security Council.

(4) DUTIES.—The working group shall—

(A) provide direction and advice to the officials described in subsection (c)(2)(A) and appropriate Federal agencies, as determined by the working group, with respect to the establishment of a Strategic Infrastructure Fund (referred to in this paragraph as the “Fund”) to be used—

(i) to support those aspects of projects relating to—

(I) civil nuclear technologies; and

(II) microprocessors; and

(ii) for strategic investments identified by the working group; and

(B) address critical areas in determining the appropriate design for the Fund, including—

(i) transfer of assets to the Fund;

(ii) transfer of assets from the Fund;

(iii) how assets in the Fund should be invested; and

(iv) governance and implementation of the Fund.

(5) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the working group shall submit to the committees described in subparagraph (B) a report on the findings of the working group that includes suggested legislative text for how to establish and structure a Strategic Infrastructure Fund.

(B) COMMITTEES DESCRIBED.—The committees referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

(i) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(C) ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND.—The report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall include suggested legislative language requiring all expenditures from a Strategic Infrastructure Fund established in accordance with this subsection to be administered by the Secretary of State (or a designee of the Secretary of State).

(n) NOTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO SAFETY AND SECURITY OF NEW EXPORTS OF ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTORS.—Before the United States may export an advanced nuclear reactor to a country that has not previously received an advanced nuclear reactor from the United States, the Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall provide a notification to the appropriate committees of Congress that addresses whether the country—

(1) is technically equipped to safely operate and maintain the advanced nuclear reactor; and

(2) has a transparency plan in place for oversight of any assistance received from the United States Government for the purpose of purchasing the advanced nuclear reactor.

(o) ENSURING CONTINUED SAFETY AND SECURITY OVERSIGHT OF ENHANCED ENERGY COOPERATION.—

(1) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary (or their designees) shall jointly brief the committees of Congress described in subparagraph (B) on the procedures being used to mitigate any nuclear proliferation risks of—

(i) any recommendations for enhanced energy cooperation that may emerge from the meetings described in subsection (g)(1); or

(ii) any new exports of advanced nuclear reactors.

(B) COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DESCRIBED.—The committees of Congress referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

(i) the Committees on Foreign Relations, Energy and Natural Resources, and Armed Services of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Energy and Commerce, and Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) PROHIBITION ON EXPORTS OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES.—On and after the date of the enactment of this Act, an advanced nuclear reactor may not be exported from the United States to a country unless that country—

(A) has signed an additional protocol to its safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(B) has put in place a comprehensive safeguards agreement and is working toward signing an additional protocol with the International Atomic Energy Agency; or

(C) is party to a civilian nuclear cooperation agreement under section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) (commonly known as a “123 Agreement”).

(p) JOINT ASSESSMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND INDIA ON NUCLEAR LIABILITY RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall establish and maintain within the U.S.-India Strategic Security Dialogue a joint consultative mechanism with the Government of the Republic of India that convenes on a recurring basis—

(A) to assess the implementation of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of India Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, signed at Washington October 10, 2008 (TIAS 08-1206);

(B) to discuss opportunities for the Republic of India to align domestic nuclear liability rules with international norms; and

(C) to develop a strategy for the United States and the Republic of India to pursue bilateral and multilateral diplomatic engagements related to analyzing and implementing those opportunities.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the joint assessment developed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A).

(q) LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE ZAPORIZHZHYA NUCLEAR POWER PLANT.—

(1) BRIEFING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State (or a designee of the Secretary of State) shall provide a briefing to

the appropriate committees of Congress regarding the capture of the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant by Russian armed forces.

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The briefing required by subparagraph (A) shall focus on—

(i) events leading up to the capture of the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant by Russian armed forces;

(ii) ongoing efforts to ensure the continued operation of the reactor and the safety and security of the plant;

(iii) efforts to mitigate potential risks to the surrounding civilian population; and

(iv) any safety and security measures implemented since the capture.

(2) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report outlining lessons learned from attacks on the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant, including—

(i) the efforts to ensure the safety and security of the Zaporizhzhya nuclear power plant;

(ii) how those lessons can be applied to other nuclear sites in Ukraine while there is an ongoing threat of armed conflict in Ukraine; and

(iii) how those lessons could apply to other nuclear power plants in the event of armed conflict.

(B) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required by subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

**SA 153.** Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, insert the following:

**SEC. 12 . REPORT ON ENERGY POLICY AND COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY STRATEGIES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on—

(1) the extent to which supply vulnerabilities drive the energy policy of the People's Republic of China; and

(2) the impact of such policy on the commercial and military strategies of the People's Republic of China.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An assessment of the oil insecurity of the People's Republic of China and the policies the Government of the People's Republic of China has adopted to mitigate such oil insecurity.

(2) Recommendations for actions the United States Government may take to complicate such policies.

(3) An analysis of actions taken by the navy of the People's Liberation Army to challenge the United States Navy in commercial sea lanes and commercial sea routes that are vital to the People's Republic of China.

(4) An analysis of the feasibility of and the military requirements for, in the event of a conflict with the People's Republic of China,

an effective blockade of energy shipments bound for the People's Republic of China, and recommendations for—

(A) force requirements necessary in the Indian Ocean, the South China Sea, and the Strait of Malacca; and

(B) incorporating regional allied and partner countries—

(i) to effectively deter or defeat the navy of the People's Liberation Army; or

(ii) to implement such a blockade.

(5) An analysis of the ability of the People's Republic of China to satisfy its energy needs during a crisis or conflict through—

(A) pipelines;

(B) overland shipments;

(C) rationing; and

(D) stockpiles.

(6) An identification of commercial projects in South Asia or Central Asia under consideration by the Government of the People's Republic of China to bypass sea routes, and an assessment of the best method for the United States to frustrate or complicate the implementation of such projects.

(7) Recommendations on the best methods to leverage, for the benefit of United States commercial and military interests in the region, the dependence of the People's Republic of China on oil imports through sea routes.

(8) An analysis of the role of oil in the energy policy of the People's Republic of China and in the operation of the People's Liberation Army.

(9) An assessment of the effect that potential disruptions in oil imports would have on the electricity supply, industrial output, and national security of the People's Republic of China.

(10) Recommendations for executive and congressional action—

(A) to disrupt efforts by national oil companies of the People's Republic of China to cultivate relations with oil suppliers in the developing world; and

(B) to counteract the increasing control exercised by such companies over foreign oil production through the use of oil-backed loans.

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

(1) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

**SA 154.** Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XXXI, insert the following:

**SEC. 31. U.S. NUCLEAR FUEL SECURITY INITIATIVE.**

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Nuclear Fuel Security Act of 2023”.

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

(1) the Department should—

(A) prioritize activities to increase domestic production of low-enriched uranium; and

(B) accelerate efforts to establish a domestic high-assay, low-enriched uranium enrichment capability; and

(2) if domestic enrichment of high-assay, low-enriched uranium will not be commercially available at the scale needed in time to meet the needs of the advanced nuclear reactor demonstration projects of the Department, the Secretary shall consider and implement, as necessary—

(A) all viable options to make high-assay, low-enriched uranium produced from inventories owned by the Department available in a manner that is sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers, without impacting existing Department missions, until such time that commercial enrichment and deconversion capability for high-assay, low-enriched uranium exists at a scale sufficient to meet future needs; and

(B) all viable options for partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules until that time.

(c) **OBJECTIVES.**—The objectives of this section are—

(1) to expeditiously increase domestic production of low-enriched uranium;

(2) to expeditiously increase domestic production of high-assay, low-enriched uranium by an annual quantity, and in such form, determined by the Secretary to be sufficient to meet the needs of—

(A) advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(B) the consortium;

(3) to ensure the availability of domestically produced, converted, enriched, deconverted, and reduced uranium in a quantity determined by the Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies, to be sufficient to address a reasonably anticipated supply disruption;

(4) to address gaps and deficiencies in the domestic production, conversion, enrichment, deconversion, and reduction of uranium by partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States if domestic options are not practicable;

(5) to ensure that, in the event of a supply disruption in the nuclear fuel market, a reserve of nuclear fuels is available to serve as a backup supply to support the nuclear non-proliferation and civil nuclear energy objectives of the Department;

(6) to support enrichment, deconversion, and reduction technology deployed in the United States; and

(7) to ensure that, until such time that domestic enrichment and deconversion of high-assay, low-enriched uranium is commercially available at the scale needed to meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers, the Secretary considers and implements, as necessary—

(A) all viable options to make high-assay, low-enriched uranium produced from inventories owned by the Department available in a manner that is sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(B) all viable options for partnering with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules.

(d) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.**—The term “advanced nuclear reactor” has the meaning given the term in section 951(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16271(b)).

(2) **ASSOCIATED ENTITY.**—The term “associated entity” means an entity that—

(A) is owned, controlled, or dominated by—

(i) the government of a country that is an ally or partner of the United States; or

(ii) an associated individual; or

(B) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States, including a corporation that is incorporated in such a country.

(3) **ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUAL.**—The term “associated individual” means an alien who is a national of a country that is an ally or partner of the United States.

(4) **CONSORTIUM.**—The term “consortium” means the consortium established under section 2001(a)(2)(F) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(a)(2)(F)).

(5) **DEPARTMENT.**—The term “Department” means the Department of Energy.

(6) **HIGH-ASSAY, LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM; HALEU.**—The term “high-assay, low-enriched uranium” or “HALEU” means high-assay low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 2001(d) of the Energy Act of 2020 (42 U.S.C. 16281(d))).

(7) **LOW-ENRICHED URANIUM; LEU.**—The term “low-enriched uranium” or “LEU” means each of—

(A) low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 3102 of the USEC Privatization Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h)); and

(B) low-enriched uranium (as defined in section 3112A(a) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h-10a(a))).

(8) **PROGRAMS.**—The term “Programs” means—

(A) the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (e)(1);

(B) the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department; and

(C) the HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program established under subsection (e)(3).

(9) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(10) **U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY.**—The term “U.S. nuclear energy company” means a company that—

(A) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, the United States; and

(B) is involved in the nuclear energy industry.

(e) **ESTABLISHMENT AND EXPANSION OF PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary, consistent with the objectives described in subsection (c), shall—

(1) establish a program, to be known as the “Nuclear Fuel Security Program”, to increase the quantity of LEU and HALEU produced by U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(2) expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department to ensure the availability of domestically produced, converted, enriched, deconverted, and reduced uranium in the event of a supply disruption; and

(3) establish a program, to be known as the “HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program”—

(A) to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers until such time that commercial enrichment and deconversion capability for HALEU exists in the United States at a scale sufficient to meet future needs; and

(B) where practicable, to partner with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to meet those needs and schedules until that time.

(f) **NUCLEAR FUEL SECURITY PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the Nuclear Fuel Security Program, the Secretary—

(A) shall—

(i) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, enter into 2 or more contracts to begin acquiring not less than 100 metric tons per year of LEU by December 31, 2026 (or the earliest operationally feasible

date thereafter), to ensure diversity of supply in domestic uranium mining, conversion, enrichment, and deconversion capacity and technologies, including new capacity, among U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(ii) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, enter into 2 or more contracts with members of the consortium to begin acquiring not less than 20 metric tons per year of HALEU by December 31, 2027 (or the earliest operationally feasible date thereafter), from U.S. nuclear energy companies;

(iii) utilize only uranium produced, converted, enriched, deconverted, and reduced in—

(I) the United States; or  
(II) if domestic options are not practicable, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States; and

(iv) to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that the use of domestic uranium utilized as a result of that program does not negatively affect the economic operation of nuclear reactors in the United States; and

(B)(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless—

(I) funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(II) the commitment is funded entirely by funds made available to the Secretary from the account described in subsection (j)(2)(B); and

(ii) may make a commitment described in clause (i) only—

(I) if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from the commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made; and

(II) to the extent of that up-front obligation recorded in full at that time.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1)(A)(ii), the Secretary shall consider and, if appropriate, implement—

(A) options to ensure the quickest availability of commercially enriched HALEU, including—

(i) partnerships between 2 or more commercial enrichers; and

(ii) utilization of up to 10-percent enriched uranium as feedstock in demonstration-scale or commercial HALEU enrichment facilities;

(B) options to partner with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to provide LEU and HALEU for commercial purposes;

(C) options that provide for an array of HALEU—

(i) enrichment levels;  
(ii) output levels to meet demand; and  
(iii) fuel forms, including uranium metal and oxide; and

(D) options—

(i) to replenish, as necessary, Department stockpiles of uranium that were intended to be downblended for other purposes, but were instead used in carrying out activities under the HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program;

(ii) to continue supplying HALEU to meet the needs of the recipients of an award made pursuant to the funding opportunity announcement of the Department numbered DE-FOA-0002271 for Pathway 1, Advanced Reactor Demonstrations; and

(iii) to make HALEU available to other advanced nuclear reactor developers and other end-users.

(3) AVOIDANCE OF MARKET DISRUPTIONS.—In carrying out the Nuclear Fuel Security Pro-

gram, the Secretary, to the extent practicable and consistent with the purposes of that program, shall not disrupt or replace market mechanisms by competing with U.S. nuclear energy companies.

(g) EXPANSION OF THE AMERICAN ASSURED FUEL SUPPLY PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies, shall—

(1) expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department by merging the operations of the Uranium Reserve Program of the Department with the American Assured Fuel Supply Program; and

(2) in carrying out the American Assured Fuel Supply Program of the Department, as expanded under paragraph (1)—

(A) maintain, replenish, diversify, or increase the quantity of uranium made available by that program in a manner determined by the Secretary to be consistent with the purposes of that program and the objectives described in subsection (c);

(B) utilize only uranium produced, converted, enriched, deconverted, and reduced in—

(i) the United States; or  
(ii) if domestic options are not practicable, a country that is an ally or partner of the United States;

(C) make uranium available from the American Assured Fuel Supply, subject to terms and conditions determined by the Secretary to be reasonable and appropriate;

(D) refill and expand the supply of uranium in the American Assured Fuel Supply, including by maintaining a limited reserve of uranium to address a potential event in which a domestic or foreign recipient of uranium experiences a supply disruption for which uranium cannot be obtained through normal market mechanisms or under normal market conditions; and

(E) take other actions that the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate to address the purposes of that program and the objectives described in subsection (c).

(h) HALEU FOR ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS PROGRAM.—

(1) ACTIVITIES.—On enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall immediately accelerate and, as necessary, initiate activities to make available from inventories or stockpiles owned by the Department and made available to the consortium, HALEU for use in advanced nuclear reactors that cannot operate on uranium with lower enrichment levels or on alternate fuels, with priority given to the awards made pursuant to the funding opportunity announcement of the Department numbered DE-FOA-0002271 for Pathway 1, Advanced Reactor Demonstrations, with additional HALEU to be made available to other advanced nuclear reactor developers, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(2) QUANTITY.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary shall consider and implement, as necessary, all viable options to make HALEU available in quantities and forms sufficient to maximize the potential for the Department to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers, including by seeking to make available—

(A) by September 30, 2024, not less than 3 metric tons of HALEU;

(B) by December 31, 2025, not less than an additional 8 metric tons of HALEU; and

(C) by June 30, 2026, not less than an additional 10 metric tons of HALEU.

(3) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary shall take into consideration—

(A) options for providing HALEU from a stockpile of uranium owned by the Department, including—

(i) uranium that has been declared excess to national security needs during or prior to fiscal year 2023;

(ii) uranium that—  
(I) directly meets the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers; but

(II) has been previously used or fabricated for another purpose;

(iii) uranium that can meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers after removing radioactive or other contaminants that resulted from previous use or fabrication of the fuel for research, development, demonstration, or deployment activities of the Department, including activities that reduce the environmental liability of the Department by accelerating the processing of uranium from stockpiles designated as waste;

(iv) uranium from a high-enriched uranium stockpile (excluding stockpiles intended for national security needs), which can be blended with lower assay uranium to become HALEU to meet the needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers; and

(v) uranium from stockpiles intended for other purposes (excluding stockpiles intended for national security needs), but for which uranium could be swapped or replaced in time in such a manner that would not negatively impact the missions of the Department;

(B) options for expanding, or establishing new, capabilities or infrastructure to support the processing of uranium from Department inventories;

(C) options for accelerating the availability of HALEU from HALEU enrichment demonstration projects of the Department;

(D) options for providing HALEU from domestically enriched HALEU procured by the Department through a competitive process pursuant to the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (e)(1);

(E) options to replenish, as needed, Department stockpiles of uranium made available pursuant to subparagraph (A) with domestically enriched HALEU procured by the Department through a competitive process pursuant to the Nuclear Fuel Security Program established under subsection (e)(1); and

(F) options that combine 1 or more of the approaches described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) to meet the deadlines described in paragraph (2).

(4) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) CERTAIN SERVICES.—The Secretary shall not barter or otherwise sell or transfer uranium in any form in exchange for services relating to—

(i) the final disposition of radioactive waste from uranium that is the subject of a contract for sale, resale, transfer, or lease under this subsection; or

(ii) environmental cleanup activities.

(B) CERTAIN COMMITMENTS.—In carrying out activities under this subsection, the Secretary—

(i) may not make commitments under this subsection (including cooperative agreements (used in accordance with section 6305 of title 31, United States Code), purchase agreements, guarantees, leases, service contracts, or any other type of commitment) for the purchase or other acquisition of HALEU or LEU unless—

(I) funds are specifically provided for those purposes in advance in appropriations Acts enacted after the date of enactment of this Act; or

(II) the commitment is funded entirely by funds made available to the Secretary from the account described in subsection (j)(2)(B); and

(ii) may make a commitment described in clause (i) only—

(I) if the full extent of the anticipated costs stemming from the commitment is recorded as an obligation at the time that the commitment is made; and

(II) to the extent of that up-front obligation recorded in full at that time.

(5) SUNSET.—The authority of the Secretary to carry out activities under this subsection shall terminate on the date on which the Secretary notifies Congress that the HALEU needs of advanced nuclear reactor developers can be fully met by commercial HALEU suppliers in the United States, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with U.S. nuclear energy companies.

(i) DOMESTIC SOURCING CONSIDERATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary may only carry out an activity in connection with 1 or more of the Programs if—

(A) the activity promotes manufacturing in the United States associated with uranium supply chains; or

(B) the activity relies on resources, materials, or equipment developed or produced—

(i) in the United States; or

(ii) in a country that is an ally or partner of the United States by—

(I) the government of that country;

(II) an associated entity; or

(III) a U.S. nuclear energy company.

(2) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of paragraph (1) with respect to an activity if the Secretary determines a waiver to be necessary to achieve 1 or more of the objectives described in subsection (c).

(j) REASONABLE COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out activities under this section, the Secretary shall ensure that any LEU and HALEU made available by the Secretary under 1 or more of the Programs is subject to reasonable compensation, taking into account the fair market value of the LEU or HALEU and the purposes of this section.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN FUNDS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 3302(b) of title 31, United States Code, revenues received by the Secretary from the sale or transfer of fuel feed material acquired by the Secretary pursuant to a contract entered into under clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (f)(1)(A) shall—

(i) be deposited in the account described in subparagraph (B);

(ii) be available to the Secretary for carrying out the purposes of this section, to reduce the need for further appropriations for those purposes; and

(iii) remain available until expended.

(B) REVOLVING FUND.—There is established in the Treasury an account into which the revenues described in subparagraph (A) shall be—

(i) deposited in accordance with clause (i) of that subparagraph; and

(ii) made available in accordance with clauses (ii) and (iii) of that subparagraph.

(k) NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION.—The Nuclear Regulatory Commission shall prioritize and expedite consideration of any action related to the Programs to the extent permitted under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.) and related statutes.

(l) USEC PRIVATIZATION ACT.—The requirements of section 3112(d)(2) of the USEC Privatization Act (42 U.S.C. 2297h-10(d)(2)) shall not apply to activities related to the Programs.

(m) NATIONAL SECURITY NEEDS.—The Secretary shall only make available to a member of the consortium under this section for commercial use or use in a demonstration project material that the President has determined is not necessary for national security needs during or prior to fiscal year 2023, subject to the condition that the material

made available shall not include any material that the Secretary determines to be necessary for the National Nuclear Security Administration or any critical mission of the Department.

(n) INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.—This section shall be applied in a manner consistent with the obligations of the United States under international agreements.

(o) REPORT ON CIVIL NUCLEAR CREDIT PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that identifies the anticipated funding requirements for the civil nuclear credit program described in section 40323 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18753), taking into account—

(1) the zero-emission nuclear power production credit authorized by section 45U of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(2) any increased fuel costs associated with the use of domestic fuel that may arise from the implementation of that program.

(p) SUPPLY CHAIN INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE CAPACITY BUILDING.—

(1) SUPPLY CHAIN INFRASTRUCTURE.—Section 10781(b)(1) of Public Law 117-167 (commonly known as the “CHIPS and Science Act of 2022”) (42 U.S.C. 19351(b)(1)) is amended by striking “and demonstration of advanced nuclear reactors” and inserting “demonstration, and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors and associated supply chain infrastructure”.

(2) WORKFORCE CAPACITY BUILDING.—Section 954(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16274(b)) is amended—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “Graduate”;

(B) by striking “graduate” each place it appears;

(C) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting “community colleges, trade schools, registered apprenticeship programs, pre-apprenticeship programs,” after “universities,”;

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking “2021 through 2025” and inserting “2023 through 2027”;

(E) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(F) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(A) FOCUS AREAS.—In carrying out the subprogram under this subsection, the Secretary may implement traineeships in focus areas that, in the determination of the Secretary, are necessary to support the nuclear energy sector in the United States, including—

“(i) research and development;

“(ii) construction and operation;

“(iii) associated supply chains; and

“(iv) workforce training and retraining to support transitioning workforces.”.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have five 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, July 11, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 1:30 p.m., to conduct a closed 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, July 11, 2023, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hybrid hearing.

##### PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

The Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that privileges of the floor be granted to my second session summer interns, who are Madisen Lundamo, Jackson Church, Claire Moreland, Zev Katz, Sierra Sterling, McKinley Rhoades, Lillian Yang, Cameron Paison, Emma Mullet, Shanone Tejada, and to my Senate Committee on Indian Affairs interns, who are Morgan Gray and Micah Wimmer, for the month of July 2023, as well as to my Coast Guard fellow, Amanda Klawinski, for the duration of the 118th Congress.

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

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 2023 AS “NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH”

#### EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JULY 2023 AS “AMERICAN GROWN FLOWER MONTH”

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF OLIVER HAZARD PERRY MORTON

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 284 and the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions: S. Res. 284, S. Res. 289, and S. Res. 290.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, 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 resolution (S. Res. 284), with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 22, 2023, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

(The resolutions (S. Res. 289 and S. Res. 290), with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12; 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 the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that at 11:30 a.m. the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on confirmation of the Cartwright nomination; that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session ripen during the disposition of the Cartwright nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the Joun nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the Kotagal nomination, all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; finally, that 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 actions.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. For the information of the Senate, Members should expect two votes at 11:30 a.m., two votes at 2:30 p.m., and two votes at 5:30 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:15 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 10 a.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

##### FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

ANDREW N. FERGUSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM

OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2016, VICE NOAH JOSHUA PHILLIPS.

ANDREW N. FERGUSON, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2023. (REAPPOINTMENT)

MELISSA HOLYOAK, OF UTAH, TO BE A FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSIONER FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF SEVEN YEARS FROM SEPTEMBER 26, 2018, VICE CHRISTINE S. WILSON, RESIGNED.

##### INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD

JAMIE FLY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2027. (NEW POSITION)

##### JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION

LAURA DOVE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 17, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

LAURA DOVE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING NOVEMBER 17, 2023, VICE PAULINE R. MAIER, TERM EXPIRED.

BRADFORD PENTONY WILSON, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE JAMES MADISON MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 27, 2026, VICE CATHERINE ALLGOR, TERM EXPIRED.

##### OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

AMANDA WOOD LAIHOW, OF MAINE, TO BE A MEMBER OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 27, 2029. (REAPPOINTMENT)

##### MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

HENRY J. KERNER, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD FOR THE TERM OF SEVEN YEARS EXPIRING MARCH 1, 2030, VICE TRISTAN LYNN LEAVITT, TERM EXPIRED.

##### THE JUDICIARY

KATHERINE E. OLER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE JOHN M. CAMPBELL, RETIRED.

JUDITH E. PIPE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, VICE MICHAEL L. RANKIN, RETIRED.

CHARLES J. WILLOUGHBY, JR., OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR THE TERM OF FIFTEEN YEARS, WILLIAM M. JACKSON, RETIRED.

JOSEPH ALBERT LAROSKI, JR., OF MARYLAND, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE TIMOTHY C. STANCEU, RETIRED.

JENNIFER L. HALL, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE, VICE RICHARD G. ANDREWS, RETIRING.

BRANDY R. MCMILLION, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN, VICE GERSHWIN A. DRAIN, RETIRED.

LISA W. WANG, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, VICE LEO MAURY GORDON, RETIRED.

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APRIL M. PERRY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JOHN R. LAUSCH, JR., RESIGNED.

##### THE JUDICIARY

KAROLINE MEHALCHICK, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, VICE JOHN E. JONES III, RETIRED.

MARGARET M. GARNETT, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE VINCENT L. BRICCETTI, RETIRED.

##### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL J. LUTTON

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY AND APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 7034:

##### To be general

LT. GEN. JAMES J. MINGUS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. THOMAS L. JAMES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. CHRISTINE A. BEELER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. CHARLES D. COSTANZA

##### IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. JAMES H. ADAMS III

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. JOHN B. SKILLMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. MICHAEL T. SPENCER

##### IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be general

LT. GEN. MICHAEL A. GUETLEIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be general

LT. GEN. STEPHEN N. WHITING

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. PHILIP A. GARRANT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. DONALD J. COTHERN

BRIG. GEN. TROY L. ENDICOTT

BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY A. SEJBA

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate July 11, 2023:

##### THE JUDICIARY

KYMBERLY KATHRYN EVANSON, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ROSEMARIE HIDALGO, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

##### DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

XOCHITL TORRES SMALL, OF NEW MEXICO, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY LANCE  
CORPORAL LORRAINE DIAMOND

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary service of Marine Corps veteran and Montgomery County District Attorney Lance Corporal Lorraine Diamond.

After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1992 to 1994, LCpl Diamond excelled academically, earning Bachelor's Degrees in Business Administration and Accounting and a Master of Business Administration from Mount Saint Mary College. LCpl Diamond also attained her Juris Doctorate at the Elisabeth Haub Law School at Pace University, where she was the Editor-in-Chief of the Pace Law Review.

LCpl Diamond began her legal career working for Ernst & Young, LLP as a State and Local Tax Consultant in the Tri-State Area of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Her initial work in law earned her the favor and respect of the legal community in the region.

LCpl Diamond relocated to the North Country in 2007 to serve as the Senior Legal Counsel to the Department of Social Services in Fulton County. After 5 years in Fulton County, LCpl Diamond became an Assistant Public Defender in neighboring Montgomery County, later taking the office of Assistant District Attorney in 2017.

In January 2021, LCpl Diamond was sworn in as the District Attorney of Montgomery County following her successful election bid in 2020. Since then, she has served honorably in the position and upheld the law in her duties as DA.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to recognize Montgomery County District Attorney Lance Corporal Lorraine Diamond's esteemed career of integrity, courage, and commitment to our country and to the rule of law.

RECOGNIZING BETHANY NURSING  
HOME'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise today to recognize Bethany Nursing Home in Waupaca for the celebration of their 125th anniversary.

Bethany Nursing Home boasts a rich history of care and service dating back to the 1890s. The organization began under the name Bethania Bornerjem, Danish for "Bethany Children's Home", and specialized in providing a home to orphans. In 1954, the organization changed their mission and became a retirement home starting out with 18 residents.

Since then, Bethany Nursing Home has seen impressive growth with the constant additions of staff, as well as consistent improvements and expansions. The home now features 100 skilled nursing home beds, 49 assisted living rooms, 40 assisted living apartments, 41 independent living units, and even a retreat house for family and friends. The nursing home offers a variety of care options including independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing, and rehabilitation. In 2013 the home opened the state of the art "Springs Wellness Center" that features many amenities including computerized strength training machines, an aerobic and dance studio, a walking trail along the beautiful Crystal River, and more.

Bethany Nursing Home works hard to offer numerous services to their residents including cooking demonstrations, support groups, guest speakers, educational and fitness classes, and volunteer opportunities—the engagement and services provided are remarkable and truly provide a great all-around experience. Bethany Nursing Home provides unique care by bringing all the area churches together to work closely to provide expert care for all residents of different faiths and backgrounds.

I want to thank all staff involved for providing such excellent service to the residents and I want to congratulate Bethany Nursing Home on reaching this impressive milestone. I wish them prosperity and continued success for many more years to come.

HONORING DR. ANITA  
OBERHOLSTER, RECIPIENT OF  
THE YOLO AMERICAN DREAM  
AWARD

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Anita Oberholster, a renowned member of our community who has been chosen to receive the prestigious Yolo American Dream Award for California's Fourth Congressional District. This award honors immigrants who have excelled professionally, through entrepreneurship and innovation, in the arts and culture, or through community service. Dr. Oberholster's exceptional research and philanthropic activities make her a very deserving recipient of this recognition.

Dr. Oberholster was born in South Africa, where she received a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and Chemistry and an honors degree in Chemistry from Stellenbosch University. She then went to Australia to earn a Ph.D. in Wine Science from the University of Adelaide in South Australia in 2008. She moved to the United States in 2011 to work at University of California, Davis as a cooperative extension specialist, professor of extension. There she became a vital member of our community through her research in finding solutions to problems plaguing the wine industry.

Dr. Oberholster has been a board member of the American Society of Viticulture and Enology for 6 years and is currently the 2nd vice-president of the society. Additionally, Dr. Oberholster has also worked as the secretary of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture Foundation (ASEV) which fundraises to give scholarships to viticulture and enology students. Furthermore, she is a member of the LLC Management Committee which works to organize the Unified Grape and Wine Symposium. She is currently the chair of the coordination and extension committee that is responsible for the Department of Viticulture and Enology Extension and Outreach activities. Previously, she was the chair of the Viticulture and Enology graduate group and worked as an advisor to incoming students.

Dr. Oberholster is now the vice-chair of the Department of Viticulture and Enology and is doing important research to benefit the grape and wine communities. She focuses on the challenges the grape and wine industries are dealing with, including Grapevine Red Blotch Disease and the impact of smoke from wildfires on grape and wine quality. Dr. Oberholster prioritizes sustainability and works to help our wine community through methods such as improving the quality of winery wastewater recycling methods.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Oberholster's research and contributions to our wine community, and work to help students has greatly enriched our Yolo community. Her readiness to help others is evident in her impactful work at University of California, Davis and the ASEV Foundation. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today with the Yolo American Dream Award.

HONORING ANAIKA SEIDE

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Anaika Seide, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue her mission.

A Miami native with Haitian origins, Anaika came to my office ready to change the American justice system. While in my office, Anaika has pushed my agendas to great lengths—from assisting in communication, to conducting research, to writing policy pieces.

In our time together, I have recognized that Anaika is a force in policy. Her passion has been powerful over the last semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Her commitment to justice and equality has led Anaika to graduate Cum Laude in May of 2022 from the historical HBCU Morgan State University with a Bachelor's in Sociology. Anaika actively participates in community service initiatives, advocating for the rights and well-being of underprivileged individuals. Anaika has and will continue to make a difference and leave her mark

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

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

on environmental policy as she continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Anaika Seide for her exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
MARK BROWNELL

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service and remarkable career of Air National Guard veteran Lieutenant Colonel Mark Brownell.

LtCol Mark Brownell began his career as a flight nurse with the 139th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron of the New York Air National Guard. During his impressive 23-year career in the service, he provided critical care and medical support to countless individuals in need across the United States and numerous combat zones.

LtCol Brownell's first deployment was in 1990, when the 139th AES was deployed during Operation Desert Shield in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. In 1991, LtCol Brownell was assigned to Logbase Charlie on the Iraq-Kuwait border as a Medical Airlift Staging Facility (MASF) Nurse, overseeing care and patient movement of over 350 American and international coalition soldiers, along with civilians.

During Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003, Mark was recognized for Outstanding Achievement as Flight Nurse, working in the MASF of the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing. He would assist in the evacuation of over 9,000 casualties from the United States and partner forces from the Multinational Force—Iraq. He also participated in Operation Enduring Freedom in 2007 and served as the Chief Nurse at the Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Center, relocating more than 2,500 injured and wounded soldiers.

In between tours in Iraq, LtCol Brownell was deployed across the United States to assist in rescue and recovery operations during Hurricane Katrina of 2004 and Hurricane Ike of 2007. He provided critical nursing care during aeromedical evacuation flights out of New Orleans and served as the Assistant Officer in Command of the MASF assisting in recovery efforts during Hurricane Ike, resulting in the successful movement of over 300 patients.

Outside of military service, Mark was a volunteer at the Tribes Hill Fire Department. During his 45 years of service to the department, he spent more than a decade as its Chief. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Mark Brownell's utmost dedication to public service and serving our country.

RECOGNIZING DENNIS  
MUCHMORE'S SERVICE TO OAK-  
LAND UNIVERSITY AND TO THE  
STATE OF MICHIGAN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dennis Muchmore, a member of the Board of Trustees of Oakland University and the Honingman Law Firm in Detroit, Michigan. His contributions to his university, community, and his state are worthy of commendation.

Dennis was born and raised in Charleston, Illinois, and stayed in town after high school to attend Eastern Illinois University. After graduation, he attended graduate school at Michigan State University, where he completed a Master's in Public Administration.

In the 1970s, Dennis began a long career of public service to the state of Michigan and his community. He served as a consultant to the Select Committee on Municipal Finance, an Administrative Assistant to multiple senators, and for four years was the Senior Vice President of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce. Dennis also served as executive director of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs and the chair of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. His work in government culminated by serving as Governor Rick Snyder's chief of staff from 2010 to 2016.

Though he is no longer working for our state government, Dennis still interacts with government daily as the Co-Leader of Government Relations and Regulatory Practice at Honigman Law Firm. He has been involved in major projects like the purchase and maintenance of the high-speed AMTRAK line between Detroit and Indiana and the Gordie Howe International Bridge, a public bridge connecting the city of Detroit and the Canadian city of Windsor that is currently under construction. These projects have and will greatly increase the ability of commuters, tourists, and commerce to reach our great state.

As a Trustee for Oakland University, Dennis has overseen a period of substantial renovation on campus in order to better serve the faculty and students and bring the university into the 21st century. Renovations to Varner Hall, O'Dowd Hall, and South Foundation Hall, among others, have made campus life more enjoyable for all and made the university more competitive with Michigan's other fantastic institutions. Later this year, construction will begin on a new Visitor Center that will "redefine the visitor experience for everyone who walks through the gates."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the lifetime of work that Dennis Muchmore has accomplished. Whether in public or in private, Dennis has always taken the time to improve the lives of Michiganders everywhere. We thank him for his continued service, and are excited to see what he will help develop here in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAL  
RESEARCH LABORATORY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to pay tribute to the Naval Research Laboratory's contributions to our Naval Services, the Nation, and the pursuit of scientific discovery and innovation. On July 2, 2023 the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) reached a momentous milestone—its 100th anniversary. Throughout its century of service to the Navy and our Nation, this renowned Laboratory has had a powerful impact on U.S. naval power and national defense.

With scientific and engineering expertise, informed by its understanding of naval and national needs, NRL works in league with industry, academia, and other government organizations as it helps build sea power through mission-related research and development. In this, NRL has been enormously successful and has contributed substantially to the development of game-changing military technologies that secured the United States global technological and military leadership throughout key moments in history. NRL was pivotal in the invention of the first U.S. radar, deployed in time for the Pacific naval battles of World War II. NRL led the way with the launch of the world's first intelligence satellite, *GRAB-I*, a technology that helped keep the Cold War cold. And finally, NRL developed the original concept, prototypes, and first operational satellite of the Global Positioning System, which transformed America's military, economy, society, and the world itself.

NRL's more recent achievements include its scientific role in developing the historic first operational ship-defense laser weapon, a technology that will be vital to defeating hypersonic missiles and asymmetric threats. Another is an instantaneous emergency assessment system for airborne contaminants and weapons of mass destruction that has supported security for Super Bowls, State of the Union events, and the last four presidential inaugurations. To protect U.S. intelligence communications, NRL invented Tor (The onion router) as a way to "peel off" and separate identification from routing for internet connections. Tor's many users include the military, journalists, whistle-blowers, victims of domestic abuse, and dissidents suffering within authoritarian regimes.

These accomplishments are only representative of thousands of technologies and innovations, many of them still classified, that this remarkable Laboratory has produced since opening its gates 100 years ago. Together, they demonstrate the broad and powerful influence NRL has on our Navy and Republic through the work of dedicated Government scientists, engineers, and support personnel who serve the national interest.

The U.S. Congress congratulates NRL on its centennial anniversary and wishes the Laboratory continued success in its mission to strengthen American naval power and develop vital technologies and capabilities for defending the United States, and democracy around the world.



HONORING MICHAEL WOLF

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Wolf of Wolf Vineyard services, who was named the 2023 Napa Valley Agriculturalist of the Year by the Napa County Farm Bureau. He is being honored for his lifelong contributions to Napa Valley agriculture, commitment to community service and his contributions to the Napa County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Wolf was born in New York and moved to California after graduating from Alfred University with a bachelor of arts degree in history from Alfred University. Mr. Wolf is a treasured member of the Napa community as he has held numerous leadership positions and continues to put the interests of others first.

Mr. Wolf has generously contributed to the Napa community as the founder of the Ag Health Benefits Scholarship Foundation that provides advancement opportunities for members of the Ag Health Benefits Alliance through education in agriculture or other fields. Mr. Wolf served as a past Chairman and current Trustee of the Ag Health Benefits Alliance. He serves as the Director of the Napa Valley Farmworkers where he has been a long-term supporter of their mission to support and promote vineyard workers through education and professional development.

In addition to supporting educational opportunities in agriculture, Mr. Wolf is a loyal professional member of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture and a member of the Napa Valley Wine Technical Group. He also served as the past Director and President of the Napa County Farm Bureau.

Mr. Wolf's support and hard work extends beyond agriculture. He is a continued supporter of the Queen of the Valley and St. Helena Hospital Foundations to help support a strong health care system in our community. In addition, Mr. Wolf aids the COPE Family Center that provides parenting education and a variety of family support services in Napa as well as OLE Health, a nonprofit health center serving vulnerable populations in and around Napa County.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Wolf has made immense contributions to agriculture and the Napa County Farm Bureau. There is no doubt that Mr. Wolf has been a dedicated advocate for the Napa Valley community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING THE ACADEMIC  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF AUDREY  
SMITH

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Audrey Smith for earning the dean's list award at the First Robotics World Competition in Houston, Texas. Ms. Smith is one of ten students who received recognition for her leadership, team efforts, and community involvement.

A native of Rockwall, Texas, Ms. Smith is currently a rising senior at Rockwall High School. As a student, she focuses on science, technology, engineering, math, and college preparatory courses. In her junior year, she led her competitive robotics team and received numerous honors for her work, including the Honor Roll and the President's Volunteer Service Award. After graduation, Ms. Smith plans to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and study mechanical engineering.

During her free time, Ms. Smith takes opportunities to further her knowledge of robotics and participates in her school's varsity tennis team, where she was the top ranked player in her sophomore and junior years. Additionally, she is an accomplished pianist, recreational shooter, and scuba diver. I'm proud to represent such talented students in my district, and I have no doubt that she will continue to be an exceptional example for her peers.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Ms. Smith's outstanding academic performance and entrepreneurial spirit. I wish her the best of luck and continued success in the new school year.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY  
SERVICE OF CAPTAIN CHRIS-  
TOPHER GARROW

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of service of Captain Christopher Garrow.

A native of the North Country, Chris was born on July 22, 1975, and grew up in Peru, New York, attending Peru High School. Following his graduation in 1994, he answered the call of service and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He began his military career as an Infantryman before being selected to serve as a Marine Security Guard at the United States Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. Returning to Peru in 1999, Chris joined the New York State Police and continued forward with his life's mission of serving others.

Throughout his 23-year career with the New York State Police, Chris was held in extremely high regard by all who knew him. An over-achiever by nature, Chris began his career as a trooper and ultimately received the ranks of Sergeant, Station Commander, Zone Sergeant, Lieutenant, and most recently, Captain, a personal career goal of his. Excelling in various roles, Chris was a distinguished pistol expert and served as a firearms instructor, a member of the State Police Underwater Rescue Team, and a Field Training Officer.

Over a lifetime of service, Chris received several awards and distinctions recognizing his extraordinary efforts and behavior. While serving in the Marine Corps, Chris was awarded the Good Conduct Medal denoting his honorable and faithful service as well as the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Department of the Navy's highest non-combat decoration for heroism. During his time with the New York State Police, he received both a Superintendent Commendation award and a 9/11 First Responder award. Chris's distin-

guished service record is a clear reflection of his unwavering drive to set a positive example while serving those around him.

More than anything, Chris was a devoted father and husband. He met his wife, Jillian, upon returning to Peru in 1999 and the couple was married 3 years later. Soon thereafter, the pair had 2 wonderful daughters, Ella and Maggie. Whether skiing down a mountain, hanging out on a boat, or watching sporting events, Chris's greatest joy in life was spending quality time with his 3 girls.

Captain Christopher Garrow was a courageous soldier, a decorated public servant, and a loving father and husband. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am honored to recognize his extraordinary life of service.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE TOWN OF  
NEWSTEAD

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Town of Newstead in Erie County, New York. I want to thank Supervisor Dawn D. Izydorczak and the celebration committee for putting together a fantastic week celebrating this flourishing community.

On March 27, 1823, the New York State Legislature officially voted to form the Town of Erie: a 55-square mile area of land that would be renamed as Newstead in 1831. The source of the name change is fascinating: following intense debate among Newstead's officials over a new name, it was reportedly Abigail Fillmore, wife of future 13th President Millard Fillmore, who suggested that the town be called Newstead.

Newstead's convenient location in between Buffalo and Rochester resulted in the town becoming a prominent location for trade and travel. Everyone from tourists to businessmen to soldiers visited Newstead while on their journeys to shape Western New York and the United States at-large. The centralization of shops, mills, and storage depots during Newstead's earlier decades eventually resulted in the 1918 establishment of the Village of Akron, now of regional acclaim for being home of Perry's Ice Cream.

Residents of Newstead can both recognize and be proud of their town's historical significance within Western New York. I am honored to share in this rich history by representing Newstead as their Member of Congress and look forward to watching Newstead continue to welcome new visitors, families, and neighbors.

I ask that this Legislative Body join me to celebrate the Town of Newstead's 200th anniversary.

HONORING MR. GILBERT RANGEL,  
JR., RECIPIENT OF THE AMER-  
ICAN DREAM AWARD

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gilbert Rangel, Jr., a

renowned member of our community who has been chosen to receive the prestigious American Dream Award for California's Fourth Congressional District. This award honors people who come to the United States and have excelled professionally, through entrepreneurship and innovation, in the arts and culture, or through community service.

Mr. Rangel grew up in his family's home in Guadalajara, Mexico. He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree business entrepreneurship. He is married to Janeth Perez, with whom he has 4 children. Mr. Rangel's life has been a constant migration between California and Mexico, during which he has made significant contributions to his communities.

Mr. Rangel began his career in San Joaquin County in migrant student educational services before being appointed by the Office of Governor Schwarzenegger to aid in the development of AmeriCorps in California. He continued his work under Governor Brown and was then recruited by the Lake County Office of Education to implement a local AmeriCorps program. Mr. Rangel provided support to emergency services and translations for the Spanish speaking community during the wildfires between 2015 and 2020. In 2022, he joined Lake County Tribal Health to implement health education programs.

Mr. Rangel serves as a Board Member for the Kelseyville Unified School District and as an advisor to the Middletown Arts Center. Mr. Rangel founded his company, Equilingual, in 2021 with the mission of achieving equity through language and supporting communications between local organizations and the Spanish speaking community. Mr. Rangel's connection to both the United States and Mexico has given him a unique perspective that has enabled him to have a positive impact in communities across California.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize Mr. Gilbert Rangel, Jr. for his achievements and for enriching our community. He has demonstrated resolve in his ability to reacclimate throughout his life, channeling the experience of living between Mexico and the United States into a central aspect of his identity. It is fitting and proper that we honor him here today with the American Dream Award.

#### HONORING STEPHANIE UVIOVO

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Stephanie Uvivo, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue her mission.

An FIU student with Nigerian origins, Stephanie came to my office ready to impact the international relations system. While in my office, Stephanie has pushed my agendas to great lengths—from drafting memos, to organizing information, to researching data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Stephanie is a force in international relations. Her passion has been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Her commitment to justice has led Stephanie to volunteer at RESULTS where she advo-

cates for policies to champion affordable housing for all Americans. Stephanie has and will continue to make a difference and leave her mark on public policy as she continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Stephanie Uvivo for her exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

#### RECOGNIZING RICHARD MICKA'S SERVICE TO THE WILDLIFE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Richard Micka, Chairman of the Board for the International Wildlife Refuge Alliance, on the occasion of his retirement. The contributions he has made and the stewardship he has shown for the International Wildlife Refuge in Trenton, Michigan is worthy of commendation.

Richard was born, raised, and still to this day resides in Monroe, Michigan. A graduate from the University of Detroit, Richard has always appreciated all the natural beauty that this region has to offer. The only time he has spent away was for the seven years he spent in the Medical Corps of our United States Air Force, where he was a Captain. When he returned from the service, he spent 36 years working at La-Z-Boy's Monroe Headquarters.

While at home, Richard's hobby is caring for the outdoor spaces in Monroe County. He has spent time on the Commission on the Environment and Water Quality, the River Raisin Public Advisory Council, as well as the Monroe County Drain Commission. In 1974, he earned the Conservationist of the Year Award from the Michigan United Conservation Clubs for his work on restoring the Point Mouillee State Game Area.

For the last 14 years, Richard has served as the Chairman of the Board for the International Wildlife Refuge Alliance. The Alliance is essential to coordinating the private and public partnerships that allow the DRIWR to be an incredible habitat for our region's wildlife as well as a destination for people of all ages to come and appreciate our world's natural beauty. Richard has been there since the beginning, and his fingerprints are everywhere you look. Under his leadership, many new plots of land and educational programs have been added to the Refuge. His tenure also saw the opening of the Refuge Gateway and the John D. Dingell, Jr. Visitor Center, a project that was well over a decade in the making. Today, the DRIWR stands as a beacon for all those anglers, dog walkers, mushroom hunters, or people who just want to catch a beautiful sunset from the pier.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the lifetime of work that Richard Micka has accomplished. Since his earliest days, he was shown a passion for our wild places that few could match. Both John Dingell and I always valued his partnership, energy and wisdom, and though we will miss him as the Chairman of the IWRA, I am sure that we will continue to find him out in the

wild, educating our youth and making sure everyone appreciates the beauty that surrounds them. I thank Richard.

#### RECOGNIZING JULIA ANDREWS ON HER 95TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a devoted wife, dedicated mother, and outstanding public servant, Mrs. Julia Andrews. An event celebrating her 95th birthday was held on Saturday, June 17, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel in Arlington, Virginia.

Mrs. Andrews is a native of Dougherty County, Georgia and she has given her life's work in service to her country. She dedicated 34 years working to support America's national security as a civilian employee at the Albany Marine Corps Logistics Base. While she was providing outstanding service at the base, she did not do so alone; when Mrs. Andrews began her tenure in 1954, she joined her husband, Goliath Andrews, in service there who began his own 35-year career at the Albany Marine Corps Logistics Base in 1952. Truly, Mr. and Mrs. Andrews exemplified patriotism and a sense of service to which all Americans aspire.

It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Mrs. Andrews has paid her rent and she has paid it well. Her commitment to service is evident both in her career and in her retirement when she continued to seek out ways to serve her community and her country. A lifetime voting Democrat, Mrs. Andrews has been an endearing and familiar face to the residents of Dougherty County during election season. Year after year, Mrs. Andrews happily served as an election volunteer, working to help the citizens of Dougherty County successfully execute their civic duty. While exercising that civic duty, Mrs. Andrews' fellow citizens enjoyed and benefited from her warmth, kindness, and zeal. Undoubtedly, those qualities of hers have touched the lives of many whom she has volunteered to assist and has strengthened our democracy in a multitude of quiet but powerful and important ways.

Mrs. Andrews is a woman after God's own heart. She is a member of the Greater Third Kiokee Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia. She has been and continues to be a stalwart of that Church, having become a member 82 years ago in 1941. The model of Christian virtue that she demonstrates by the way she lives her life has surely touched the lives of so many people and has been an inspiration to generations of fellow members of the Greater Third Kiokee Baptist Church. She truly embodies the words of Acts 9:36: "She was abounding in good deeds and acts of charity."

Mrs. Andrews has accomplished many things in her life, but none of these would have been possible without her faith, the love and support of her husband, Goliath Andrews, and their 4 children, Vincent Andrews, Cynthia Buckley, Janice Thomas, and the late Larry Andrews.

Mrs. Andrews is the proud matriarch of a loving and growing family that now spans

across several generations. Many members of that family lovingly came to Arlington, Virginia on June 17, 2023, to celebrate her. I have no doubt that they would not have missed the chance to celebrate her for the world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and I along with the more than 765,000 people of the Second Congressional District in extending our sincerest appreciation and best wishes to Mrs. Julia Andrews on her 95th Birthday and for her phenomenal service to God and Humankind. May God continue to bless her and her family.

HONORING LINSEY GALLAGHER

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Linsey Gallagher, who was named the 2023 Friend of Agriculture by the Napa County Farm Bureau. Ms. Gallagher is being honored for her substantial contribution to Napa Valley agriculture through fostering meaningful partnerships with agriculture and Napa's tourism and hospitality sectors that have produced tangible benefits for the Napa Valley agricultural community.

Ms. Gallagher was born and raised in a rural agricultural community in Vermont. She earned her bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Vermont and went on to earn her master's degree in business administration from Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

In addition to Ms. Gallagher's role as the President and CEO of Visit Napa Valley, she also serves in several leadership positions across the Napa Valley community. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Napa Valley Vine Trail, Napa Green, the California Travel Association, Visit California and the Children's Museum of Napa Valley. Ms. Gallagher was also a graduate of the Leadership Napa Valley program, which has been operating for the last 35 years.

As a natural collaborator, Ms. Gallagher partnered with wine and agriculture industries to accelerate tourism recovery and contribute to residents' quality of life and the Napa Valley community's economic resilience. She took the lead on hospitality industry recovery in Napa Valley after the pandemic and devastating wildfires.

When she is not working in the community, Ms. Gallagher enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband Lon and their 2 children, Harlow and Logan.

Mr. Speaker, Linsey Gallagher is deeply appreciated for her dedication to promoting tourism in the Napa community and advocating for local agriculture. There is no doubt that Ms. Gallagher has been a dedicated leader in Napa County and beyond. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING ALEXIA COSMAN

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Alexia Cosman, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue her mission.

A Florida native with Canadian origins, Alexia came to my office ready to change the American environmental system. While in my office, Alexia has pushed my transportation and infrastructure agenda to great lengths—from drafting memos, to organizing information, to researching environmental data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Alexia is a force in environmental policy. Her passion has been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Her commitment to environmental justice has led Alexia to spearhead a study examining the diversity and density of microbes, and she later presented her findings at an American Society of Microbiology research symposium. Alexia has and will continue to make a difference and leave her mark on environmental policy as she continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Alexia Cosman for her exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE SOUTHERN MISSOURI COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

### HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Southern Missouri Community Health Center, of West Plains, Missouri, on celebrating its 20th anniversary of service to the Greater West Plains Community and surrounding areas.

Since receiving its first patient in February 2003, the Southern Missouri Community Health Center has provided access to excellent quality, affordable medical, dental and mental healthcare to all individuals in need in Howell, Oregon and Ripley counties and the surrounding area.

With more than 65 employees, including physicians, nurse practitioners, dentists, dental hygienists, and licensed clinical social workers, SMCHC provides service to approximately 9,000 individuals annually. The Southern Missouri Community Health Center is a critical element of the local healthcare system that improves healthcare outcomes by allowing individuals to overcome barriers to healthcare access, and by acting as a front-line response to unexpected crises, such as natural disasters, and emerging healthcare crises. Governed by a patient majority board, the SMCHC ensures that each of its patients are the top priority.

The impact of the Southern Missouri Community Health Center stretches far beyond

healthcare, as the Center makes a long-lasting positive mark on lives of the members of its community.

It is my great pleasure to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Southern Missouri Community Health Center and applaud its hard work and commitment to providing excellent, accessible services to its community.

HONORING RONALDO HERRERA,  
RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN  
DREAM AWARD

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ronaldo Herrera, a renowned member of our community who has been chosen to receive the prestigious American Dream Award for California's 4th Congressional District. This award honors immigrants who have excelled professionally, through entrepreneurship and innovation, in the arts and culture, or through community service. Mr. Herrera is a very deserving recipient of this honor.

Mr. Herrera was born in El Llano, Mexico and moved to St. Helena in 1972 along with his family. After briefly returning to Mexico when his father retired, Mr. Herrera returned to St. Helena at the age of 15 where he started working as a dishwasher at Auberge du Soleil at night while also going to high school full time. Following graduation, he started as a harvest laborer at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars and over the next 10 years he worked his way up to cellar master for respected winemaker Warren Winiarski. Mr. Herrera then began holding significant positions at other nearby wineries including assistant winemaker at Chateau Potelle, winemaker at Vine Cliff Winery and director of winemaking at Paul Hobbs Consulting.

In 1997, Ronaldo made 200 cases of Chardonnay as a "side project" and Mi Sueño (Spanish for 'My Dream') was born. Over the next 26 years, Mr. Herrera and his wife, Lorena Herrera, have come to be recognized as one of the great independently owned and operated wine producers in California with the tremendous honor of having 3 of Mi Sueño's wines served at the White House by President George W. Bush and President Barack Obama.

Mr. Herrera has been a role model for his community. He has generously contributed his time and resources to a number of community organizations in the Napa Valley, including the Napa Valley Vintners, and is a founding member of the Mexican American Vintners Association.

Mr. Herrera's outstanding accomplishments go beyond his work. Mr. Herrera is a loving husband and father who has the highest standards of ethics. Mr. Herrera's love for winemaking and dedication to his communities have made him a priceless addition to the Napa Valley and an inspiration to all.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize Mr. Ronaldo Herrera for his achievements and for enriching our community. We honor him here today with the American Dream Award, as his accomplishments and service to our community are a testament to the American Dream.

HONORING TROY POLICE DETECTIVE SGT. MICHAEL E. PARROW, SR.

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of service and sacrifice of Army veteran and Troy City Police Detective Sgt. Michael E. Parrow, Sr.

Sgt. Parrow graduated from La Salle Institute in Troy in 1973. After graduating, he enlisted in the United States Army serving in Vietnam and in Europe as a Military Policeman while simultaneously attending the University of Maryland—Europe. Sgt. Parrow's service overseas earned him the Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and numerous awards for proficiency with his standard issue service weapons.

Upon returning home in 1976, Sgt. Parrow would join the Rensselaer County Sheriff's Department where he would serve for 7 years as a deputy. Sgt. Parrow then began working for the Troy City Police Department. While serving as an officer, he received the Silver Shield Award for heroism, the John J. Givney "Officer of the Year" award, and earned more than 60 letters of commendation and awards for noteworthy performance as an officer of the law.

During his time with the Troy Police Department, Sgt. Parrow proudly served in various positions ranging from patrolman to evidence technician before his promotion to Sergeant in 2003. He was assigned to the detective bureau in 2005 where he remained for 13 years until his retirement in 2018. Despite stepping away from the department, Michael remained an employee of Rensselaer County Health Department as a medicolegal death investigator.

Even when not in uniform, Michael Parrow, Sr. still found ways to serve his local community. He was known for coaching the Lansingburgh Little League and Pop Warner football teams, becoming loved by players and parents alike for his team spirit, camaraderie, and dedication to the programs. Michael served as the president of Capital District Pop Warner for years and was an active member of the Eastern Region staff.

Sgt. Parrow's record of service to his country and Rensselaer County is admirable, and it is my honor to recognize the commendable career and inspiring legacy of Detective Sgt. Michael E. Parrow, Sr.

HONORING JIANNA CELESTIN

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Jianna Celestin, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue her mission. A Florida native with Haitian origins, Jianna came to my office ready to leave her impact on international relations. While in my office, Jianna has pushed my agendas to great lengths— from drafting memos, to organizing information, to researching data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Jianna is a force in civil rights. Her passion

has been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Her commitment to social justice has led Jianna to serve as vice-president of the Students of Color Association at Miami Country Day School. Jianna is in the process of completing a Global Studies Diploma Endorsement project. Jianna has and will continue to make a difference and leave her mark on policy as she continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jianna Celestin for her exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

HONORING SENATOR BILL DODD

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Senator Bill Dodd, who was recognized by the Napa County Farm Bureau with the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award. Senator Dodd is presented with this award for his effectiveness in resolving public policy issues and consistent dedication to Napa County and the Napa County Farm Bureau.

Senator Dodd was born and raised on a small farm in Napa. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in business administration from California State University, Chico. During college he was involved in student government, serving on the Policy Advisory Board and as president of the Inter-Fraternity Council. Before being elected to the State Senate, he owned and operated one of the largest full-service Culligan Water operations in California and served as president of the water quality industry's state and national trade associations. In 1985, he was elected President of the Pacific Water Quality Association (PWQA) and in 1994 he was elected to National Water Quality Association (WQA). During his tenure, the industry embraced third-party certification of water treatment products and lobbied in Sacramento on important legislation to protect consumers.

In 2000, Senator Dodd was elected to the Napa County Board of Supervisors. During his service, he helped complete the Napa flood control project—which protects thousands of properties from flooding—restored 900 acres of environmental wetlands and secured \$1 billion in investment for local businesses. After 14 years on the Board of Supervisors, he was elected to the California State Assembly where he worked to help small businesses, protect the environment, and support seniors and working families. He advanced a balanced, sustainable budget that invests in our state's education system from preschool through higher education. Senator Dodd also helped establish the state's Earned Income Tax Credit, promoted career technical education, and supported the creation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument that preserved over 330,000 acres of the California Coast Ranges in Napa, Yolo, Solano, Lake, Colusa, Glenn and Mendocino counties.

After a year in the Assembly, Senator Dodd was elected to the California State Senate,

representing California's 3rd district which encompasses all of Napa, Solano, and Yolo counties and portions of Contra Costa, Sonoma, and Sacramento counties. He serves as the chair of the Senate Governmental Organization Committee and is a co-chair of the Senate Select Committee on California's Wine Industry and the Legislative Delta Caucus. Senator Dodd's work has covered many topics from improving public education and the environment to data privacy and protecting seniors. He has established himself as 1 of the most prolific lawmakers in our state, writing 99 bills that have been signed into law. In addition, he has been a leader on wildfire safety and prevention legislation, writing numerous bills to protect Californians from future fires and accompanying utility rate hikes.

When he is not at the State Capitol, Senator Dodd enjoys spending time with his wife Mary and their 5 children and 12 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Dodd is deeply appreciated for his dedication to solving policy issues. There is no doubt that Senator Dodd has been a dedicated advocate for Napa County and beyond. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

RECOGNIZING MS. ANGELINE ALLARD

**HON. MIKE GALLAGHER**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the remarkable life of Angeline Allard. Angie was a great Wisconsinite, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and community servant. Her life is a demonstration of what it truly means to care and what it means to passionately serve one's community.

Angie was born in 1942 and grew up in Detroit, Michigan. For four years, she lived in The Guardian Angel Home, an orphanage that became her home after the passing of her father. While there, she learned many life lessons and developed her caring spirit.

Angie was known throughout the community as the "Angel of Paul's Pantry." She volunteered for the first time with the Green Bay pantry in 1985, and one year later she became the first employee. She dedicated 38 years to the pantry and took incredible pride in the service that she provided to the community. She was the go-to person at the pantry and took on many different roles including overseeing all visitors, managing daily food distribution, and much more. She dedicated her life to the pantry and was constantly present.

Angie was known for her no-nonsense leadership and tough as nails exterior that made her devotion and service to Paul's Pantry truly remarkable. She was a tough woman that possessed a heart of gold and a remarkable sense of generosity. In 2003 she received an Apostolic blessing by Pope John Paul II from the Vatican in recognition of her dedication to her community. She even made an appearance on The Glenn Beck radio show in 2013 to recognize her incredible efforts to Paul's Pantry.

Aside from her service to the pantry, she gave back to the community in any way she could—she loved to give away fresh vegetables from her garden and would not take no

for an answer. Her devotion to others was relentless and she especially loved to take care of children.

Angie is survived by her children Marie and William, her siblings Beverly, Carolyn, Elaine, and Michael, her four grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. Angie will be remembered and missed by many throughout the community. Her service, dedication, and lifelong commitment to Paul's Pantry have created a legacy that will not be soon forgotten. My prayers and condolences go out to her family and to all the people she impacted.

TRIBUTE TO NACHHATTAR AND  
SUSANA CHANDI

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Nachhattar and Susana Chandi on receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce. Nachhattar and Susana have been true leaders in the Coachella Valley for decades, and residents throughout the community deeply appreciate their many contributions.

The Chandi family story is one that echoes the epitome of the American dream. Both Nachhattar and Susana are immigrants who have become naturalized U.S. citizens while growing a highly successful family business. The couple co-founded the Chandi Group USA, which owns and operates more than 20 gas station and convenience stores, nearly a dozen car washes, and several restaurant businesses. Nachhattar's passion for development led to the establishment of the Black Gold Builders Group, which is responsible for the construction of the Chandi Group's projects. In total, more than 700 people are employed in the Coachella Valley and throughout California by the Chandi Group USA.

In addition to growing a thriving business, Nachhattar and Susana have been incredibly generous in supporting philanthropic causes in the Coachella Valley and beyond. Nachhattar currently sits on the Pepperdine University Board of Trustees and the couple supports over 34 youth, military, senior and community-based organizations from El Centro to Sacramento, California. He has been honored with numerous awards recognizing his leadership and his charitable contributions to the community. He has been named "Business Person of the Year" by the State Legislature in 2013, the Entrepreneur of the Year for 2015 by both the Indio Chamber of Commerce and Rotary International, Indian Wells, and the 2018 Large Business of the Year by the Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce. Susana has been an active affiliate of Steven's Hope for Children, Dr. Carreon Foundation, Mecca & North Shore Community, Family YMCA of the Desert, Big Sisters Big Brothers of the Desert, and the Boys and Girls Club of the Coachella Valley.

With their admirable record of entrepreneurship and service, Nachhattar and Susana Chandi are incredibly deserving of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce. I

would like to thank Nachhattar and Susana for their friendship and selfless dedication to our community and wish them the very best in the future.

HONORING MADHULIKA SINGH, RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM AWARD

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Madhulika Singh, whom I have selected to receive the American Dream Award for California's 4th Congressional District. This award recognizes the achievements of immigrants in my district who have made remarkable contributions to our communities in the areas of Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation or Community Service. Ms. Singh is very deserving of this award and recognition.

Ms. Singh was born in New Delhi, India, and moved to the United States to receive her master's degree in electrical engineering from Yale University. She earned 2 additional master's degrees in business administration and information management from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Ms. Singh is the first person in her family to make a life for herself in the United States, and she credits her success to her strong educational foundation and family relationships.

Ms. Singh is deeply involved in her community and holds numerous volunteer positions. She has volunteered as a phone operator with Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence and as a speaker for the Role Model Program in at-risk schools in and around San Jose. Immigrant role models of color like Ms. Singh are essential in offering students diverse perspectives and uplifting the voices of underrepresented communities.

She is Co-founder and President of the PreetiRange Sanctuary in Solano County where she devotes her efforts to animal rights in California and beyond. PreetiRange hosts the annual University of California, Davis People for the Elimination of Animal Cruelty through Education event, partners with the Jain Community of Northern California for a program that teaches young people about having compassion towards animals and partners with the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas at Ukiah, CA, for annual liberation of animals.

Ms. Singh understands that education is a key to success and is dedicated to bettering our community at home and around the world via education. She has conducted India Culture and Traditions seminars for school-teachers to spread awareness and support the ongoing professional enhancement of teachers. Her animal sanctuary participates in Peña Adobe Historical Society's outreach program, which is an invaluable educational resource in her community. Her support of the India Literacy Project and her time visiting nonformal education centers illustrates her beliefs that education should be available to everyone.

When she is not fiercely advocating for animal rights or issues that affect the Indian community, Ms. Singh enjoys spending time with her husband Michael and their 4 children, Brian, Madhur, Rebecca and Manisha.

Mr. Speaker, we recognize Madhulika Singh for her achievements and for enriching our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today with the American Dream Award.

HONORING RICKY RODRIGUEZ

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Ricky Rodriguez, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue his mission.

A Florida native with Cuban and Haitian origins, Ricky came to my office ready to impact the American system. While in my office, Ricky has pushed my civil rights agenda to great lengths—from drafting memos, to organizing information, to researching data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Ricky is a force in policy. His passion has been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. His commitment to justice has led Ricky to graduate from Florida A&M University, where he obtained a Bachelor's in Political Science. Ricky has and will continue to make a difference and leave his mark on public policy as he continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ricky Rodriguez for his exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

RECOGNIZING CHAD RIEGEL

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Chad Riegel who will retire from the United States Navy on July 1, 2023.

I would like to commemorate BU1 Chad Riegel for his incredibly successful career. He is part of the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion, known as the Navy Seabees. His unit was one of the first to arrive in Afghanistan after 9/11, arriving in October of 2001. They were tasked with building facilities to accommodate follow-on military forces, including camps for military personnel and prisons for al-Qaeda and Taliban forces.

Chad has deployed all around the world, traveling to at least 22 countries. He was in active duty from September of 1997 to September of 2002, serving in the NMCB 133 and from November of 2012 to November of 2013, serving in the NMCB 15. He has been serving in reserve duty since September of 2007 in the NMCB 15 and in the Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit 202.

Throughout his service, he went on three tours, one to Bosnia in 1998 and two to Afghanistan, one in 2001 and another in 2013. Chad has received several medals to commemorate his service and dedication, including a National Defense Service Ribbon, a

Navy Battle E Ribbon, an Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with 1 bronze star, 2 Army Achievement Medals, a Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 3 bronze stars, a Good Conduct Award, a Humanitarian Service Medal, a M-16 Expert Rifle Qualifier, 2 NATO Medals, a Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal, a Navy Reserve Meritorious Service Medal, an Expert Pistol Shot Medal, a Seabee Combat Warrior Service Medal, and an Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 1 bronze star.

Chad and his wife, Jenni are parents to two children, Kaylee and Max. It is my honor to recognize Mr. Chad Riegel's accomplishments and wish him a wonderful retirement spent with his family and those close to him.

HONORING THE 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MIKE AND SANDY FRANCIS

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 60th Wedding Anniversary for Hopatcong Borough Mayor Mike Francis and his wife, Sandy Francis.

Mike and Sandy Francis married on June 20th, 1963. They met at Watchung Hills High School in Warren, New Jersey. Their lockers were next to each other as freshmen, although they didn't start dating until their senior year. They moved to Hopatcong in 1973 and are the proud parents of three children and eight grandchildren.

Mike and Sandy have been an integral part of the Hopatcong community throughout the last fifty years, including many years of public service. Mike has served as a member of the Hopatcong Borough Council since 2008, and as Mayor of Hopatcong since 2016. Mike also serves on the Sussex County Planning Board and the New Jersey Highlands Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Mike and Sandy Francis for their 60 years of matrimony and for their many years of service to the Hopatcong community.

HONORING CORI CARLSON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cori Carlson, who was named 2023 Member of the Year by the Napa County Farm Bureau for her work with wildfire mitigation efforts and her contribution to agriculture education across our county.

Born in Vallejo, California, Ms. Carlson's upbringing on a farm influenced her decision to make agriculture a central part of her life. Growing up, she experienced 2 different fires that threatened the homes and livelihoods of her family, friends and community. This shaped her focus within agriculture to specialize in wildfire prevention through grazing.

Ms. Carlson received a bachelor of animal science from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and went on to re-

ceive her master of science in nursing leadership from Sonoma State University. Throughout her life she has developed a passion for educating her peers, colleagues and future generations. Ms. Carlson educated elementary school students through farm education field days as well as organized events around agriculture and wildfire prevention for the greater community. She also contributed to a pilot program to bring in community partners and expand the reach of 4-H programs in Napa County.

Beyond her work in agriculture and education, Ms. Carlson started a Paramedic to Nurse Bridge program in Napa in order to develop strong nursing candidates and open a career pathway for Emergency Medical Service professionals. She also served as the Emergency Services and Trauma Manager at Queen of the Valley Hospital and the Paramedic Program Director at Napa Valley College.

Currently, Ms. Carlson owns Napa Pasture Protein, a contract grazing and farming company and holds several leadership positions within the community. She serves as the Chair of the Napa County 4-H Project Learning and Development Committee, the 4-H Oak and Vine Community Club Leader, the Paramedic to Nurse Bridge Coordinator at Pacific Union College and as a volunteer firefighter at the Napa County Fire Capell Station.

Mr. Speaker, Cori Carlson is deeply appreciated for her leadership to support wildfire mitigation efforts. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her accomplishments today.

HONORING OLIMPIA ANDRADE

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Olimpia Andrade, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue her mission.

A Massachusetts native with Cape Verdean origins, Olimpia came to my office to improve the American policy system. While in my office, Olimpia has pushed my agendas to great lengths—from drafting memos, to organizing information, to researching data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Olimpia is a force in research. Her passion has been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. Olimpia attends Spelman College where she is studying Political Science. Her commitment to justice has led Olimpia to become involved with organizations on her campus such as the Spelman Chapter of the NAACP and the Ford First Generation Mentorship Program. Olimpia has and will continue to make a difference and leave her mark on public policy as she continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Olimpia Andrade for her exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

RECOGNIZING HONORABLE CHARLES HOBBY STRIPLING, SR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of a dedicated husband, loving father, humble public servant, and friend of longstanding, the Honorable Charles Hobby Stripling, Sr. Sadly, Hobby transitioned this life on July 3, 2023. A homegoing service celebrating the life of this remarkable man was held at 10:00 a.m. on July 7, 2023, at the Vienna United Methodist Church in Vienna, Georgia.

Charles Hobby Stripling was born on August 30, 1932, in Turner County, Georgia to the union of Maggie Thelma Hobby Stripling and Jodie Lee Stripling. Hobby graduated from Cordele High School in 1948 at the age of 16 and married his sweetheart, Joanne Duncan. They were married for 58 years until her passing in 2006 and were the parents of 2 sons, Charles Hobby Stripling, Jr. and Robby Stripling. Hobby was blessed to find love for a second time and in 2011 he married Ann Gambrell. They shared 12 wonderful years together and created a blended family to include Tonya Gambrell Thompson, Torri Gambrell Zeigler and Greg Gambrell. Together the Stripling and Gambrell children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and other kin merged into a loving family unit which Hobby cherished with great pride.

During his life, Hobby held various jobs until he returned to Vienna, Georgia in 1962 to open the Vienna Red & White Super Market with James and Elsi Pass. He later opened Zippy Food Store, the first convenience store in Vienna, Georgia, which he operated for many years. This gave him the opportunity to interact with his neighbors, empathize with their challenges and spark a career of public service to ensure positive change for his neighbors, friends and family.

It has been said that "Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy on this earth." Hobby paid his rent and paid it well. He served as Mayor of Vienna, Georgia for 24 years; President of the Georgia Municipal Association; and campaign manager for former Atlanta Georgia Mayor, Congressman and UN Ambassador, Andrew Young in his run for Georgia Governor. He was pivotal in my successful 1992 congressional campaign and in 1993, when the time came for me to hire a District Director, Hobby was a perfect fit. His leadership, compassion, patience, fidelity, advice, and friendship were the manifestations of love in action. He served the people of the 2nd Congressional District and me well for 10 years, then went on to serve as the District Director for Congressman Jim Marshall for 7 years and in 2008 was appointed by President Barack Obama to be Georgia State Director of the Farm Service Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Hobby Stripling accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God, the love and support of his beloved wives, Joanne and Ann, his blended extended family and the many souls that inspired and motivated him to serve. He touched countless lives in a positive way and because he did, the world is a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the 765,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District in honoring the life and service of the Honorable Charles Hobby Stripling, Sr. and in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends and all those who mourn his loss. May we all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID  
LARRY CUMMINGS

**HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY**  
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and deep admiration that I honor the life and legacy of David Larry Cummings, a remarkable individual whose commitment to service and tireless dedication to his community will forever be remembered.

David Cummings embodied the true spirit of public service, exemplifying the values of honor, compassion, and dedication. Throughout his life, he left a mark on the Akron-Newstead area, where he served as Town Supervisor and Councilman for over three decades. His passion and leadership were evident in the numerous accomplishments he achieved for the community. From bringing town water to Newstead residents, to the construction of essential facilities such as the Akron-Newstead Senior Center and the Joint Town of Newstead and Village of Akron Municipal Facility, David's visionary approach to governance improved the lives of countless individuals.

David's efforts in designing and creating the Cultural Center at the Newstead Public Library will continue to foster a love for learning and the arts for future generations. He also secured funding to expand and create new sections of the bicycle path, promoting healthy lifestyles and outdoor recreation.

David's commitment to service extended beyond New York. He served honorably in the United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard and displayed unwavering dedication to his country.

Today, as we mourn the loss of a true servant leader, let us also celebrate David Larry Cummings' remarkable life. His legacy will continue to inspire us to serve our communities with honor, compassion, and a relentless desire to make a difference. May his family find solace in knowing that his contributions to society will be forever cherished and remembered.

HONORING 90 YEARS OF FAMILY  
BUSINESS WITH THE STOTLAR  
PHARMACY

**HON. MIKE BOST**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Stotlar Pharmacy of Pinckneyville, Illinois, for its over 90 years of service to Perry

County residents. This is a true American success story: a family owned and operated small business in the heart of one of the region's best small cities.

Stotlar Pharmacy was founded in 1932 by Joe Stotlar. At the time of its founding, the Stotlar Pharmacy not only filled prescriptions, but had a soda fountain, sold toiletries, gifts, film, cameras, similar to what many would consider an "old time" drug store.

In the 1960s, the pharmacy saw many changes, which included moving across the street from their original location, and now offering pharmacy services, delivery, and a gift shop.

Joe Stotlar's sons, Jim and Gene, were physicians with offices close by as they assisted in overseeing the store after their father. The family tradition continues today with Joe's grandchildren: Bill, Barbara, Tom, and Rich. His grandchildren are now serving as the proud owners and managers of Stotlar Pharmacy.

Joe's family remembers him as a very good businessman who was willing to help out anyone in their time of need. With all the Stotlar family has given to our community, I am proud to now give them the recognition they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Stotlar Pharmacy for all they do to keep Southern Illinoisans happy and healthy. We are fortunate to have such strong family businesses in Southern Illinois, something that should inspire the next generation of community leaders to come.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF SANDY BARBER

**HON. PAT FALLON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions to the Fannin County community by Sandy Barber. For over 22 years, Mrs. Barber has served as the Executive Director of the Fannin County Children's Center, and she has over 31 years of experience in the nonprofit and child welfare sectors.

A native of Arlington, Mrs. Barber graduated from Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Her passion for child welfare services originates from her longtime desire to help put an end to the victims of abuse. Under her leadership, Fannin County Children's Center has expanded its community programs and outreach to assist children who have been abused and neglected. Some of these efforts include expanding mental health services, offering emergency resources and providing clothing. Mrs. Barber also oversaw the purchase and renovation of their current facility in Bonham, Texas.

Moreover, Mrs. Barber has served on the board for Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates and the Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas. To recognize her outstanding work, she was named the Texoma Regional Citizen of the Year and Bonham Citizen of the Year. Mrs. Barber also received the Athena Leadership Award and the Angels in Adoption Award in 2019. I'm confident that many young people have been inspired by Mrs. Barber's efforts

and have no doubt that they will follow her footsteps to help prevent horrific acts of child abuse.

I have requested the United States flag to be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mrs. Barber's important contributions to the children of North Texas. May God Bless her.

HONORING MR. JACK DING, RECIPIENT OF THE AMERICAN DREAM AWARD

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Jack Ding, a renowned member of our community who has been chosen to receive the prestigious American Dream Award for California's Fourth Congressional District. This award honors immigrants who have excelled professionally, through entrepreneurship and innovation, in the arts and culture, or through community service. Mr. Ding's exceptional leadership and advocacy makes him a very deserving recipient of this recognition and award.

Mr. Ding was born in China, where he received a diploma for electrical engineering. He immigrated to the United States in 1993 to study at Dominican University, working his way through school to receive a Master's in Business Administration. He became a United States Citizen in 2008 and moved to the City of Sonoma, where he became a vital member of the community through his advocacy and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Ding began his career as a tax practitioner for the Internal Revenue Service in 2007. He then opened his small business, Unicom Tax Services, with a focus on tax representation. In 2010, he helped establish a free tax clinic at La Luz Center in Sonoma. He has served on the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission and is currently serving on the Sonoma City Council. Mr. Ding has been a champion for the interests of California taxpayers. Mr. Ding is a member of the National Association of Enrolled Agents, and has been an outspoken advocate for taxpayers, traveling to the United States' Capitol on multiple occasions to advocate to amend the Tax Cut and Jobs Act and most recently to increase the IRS funding and tax reform.

Mr. Ding was elected as the Mayor of the City of Sonoma in 2022, becoming the first Asian American to hold this office. Mr. Ding regularly engages with immigrant groups, encouraging people to be active participants in local and national politics. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Ding's utilized the American Rescue Plan and fiscal policy to increase Sonoma's reserve funds by \$3 million. In addition, he has led fundraising efforts for a pavilion to honor local Chinese laborers' contribution to the local wine industry. In response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Mr. Ding hosted a press conference with the Ukrainian Counsel General to condemn the invasion and helped raise over \$150,000 for Ukraine Sister City.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ding's advocacy, and service as an elected official have greatly enriched the Sonoma community. His readiness

to help others is evident in his impactful work in the district and on Capitol Hill. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today with the American Dream Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation, I was unable to attend session on June 23, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on rollcall No. 287, NAY on rollcall No. 288, and YEA on rollcall No. 289.

REMEMBERING ROY HERRON

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember a devoted public servant and dear friend, former Tennessee State Senator Roy Herron, who died on Saturday after injuries sustained in a jet ski accident at the age of 69.

Roy was a multi-faceted man of the people—a lawyer and Methodist minister, who served in the state House and Senate for 26 years and was the Democratic nominee for the 8th Congressional District in 2010. He also wrote three books about the role of faith in politics and a fourth book about Tennessee political humor, co-authored with his friend Cotton Ivy.

A gifted politician, Roy was first elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1986 to fill the seat vacated when Ned McWherter became governor. He served in the House in the 95th through 99th Tennessee General Assemblies and in the Senate in the 100th through 107th, where he served as floor leader and then chairman of the Senate Democratic Caucus. He was my Senate colleague from 1997 until I left the state Senate and came to Congress in 2007. He also chaired the Select Committee on Children and Youth, the Senate General Welfare, Health and Human Resources Committee, and the Joint TennCare Oversight Committee. He was a member of the Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Government Operations Committee, the Joint Committee on Charitable Gaming, and the Joint Select Committee on Education.

I was hopeful that we would be colleagues in Washington when he declared his candidacy for Congress in 2009 after John Tanner announced his retirement. Roy campaigned throughout the 8th District in his old red Ford pickup. Despite receiving the endorsement of every major Tennessee newspaper, he lost the general election to Stephen Fincher, a cotton farmer who refused to debate him, as Tennessee took a hard right turn. In 2011, he was seriously injured in a bicycling accident while training for an Iron Man competition. He later served as chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party from 2013 to 2015.

Roy graduated at the top of his class at the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1975 and

was chosen as a Rotary Scholar and spent a year studying religion at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Returning to Tennessee, he received both a master's degree in Divinity and a J.D. from Vanderbilt University in 1980.

Besides his accomplishments and dedication to public service, Roy will be remembered as a truly nice guy. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife Nancy and his sons John, Rick and Ben, and his many friends and supporters. His was a life well lived, and he will be missed.

CELEBRATING “DANCE CITY”  
DANCE TEAM

**HON. ILHAN OMAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the exceptional achievement of the Dance City, a local dance team based in North Minneapolis, for their remarkable victory at Starpower National Talent Competition. The dedication, talent, and hard work demonstrated by the members of Dance City have propelled them to extraordinary success on the national stage, winning first place in Hip Hop and first overall. Faced with competition from 100 teams around the country, the Dance City girls rallied to the challenge and emerged with their well-earned victory.

Director of Dance City and Coach, Cierra Burnaugh, created her studio to serve young black girls in the Minneapolis community. Her dedication to her students and drive to provide a creative outlet for these young dancers is admirable. The community support that helped the team compete, exhibits the mutual understanding of how important it is to invest in younger generations. Young people like these talented dancers are our future, and they are learning invaluable skills that will serve them for a lifetime.

Their triumph is a testament to the power of determination, perseverance, and teamwork. This success is a shining example of what can be accomplished when people are empowered to pursue their dreams and strive for excellence. It is a testament to the dedication, passion, and teamwork of everyone involved, and I do not doubt that it will inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

I want to express my sincere congratulations to every member of Dance City, their families, their exceptional instructors, and everyone who has contributed to their growth and development. Their recent achievement not only fills North Minneapolis and the 5th Congressional District with pride but also highlights the thriving arts and cultural landscape in our community. May their success continue to illuminate the path for future generations of dancers, inspiring them to embrace their talents and strive for greatness. I could not be happier to have Minneapolis represented by these bright young women.

HONORING PRETRIAL, PROBATION  
AND PAROLE SUPERVISION  
WEEK 2023

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Nation's community supervision professionals, who are dedicated public servants and perform many vital roles in their work with justice-involved adults and juveniles. They identify opportunities and services to help individuals successfully contribute to society, while holding them accountable for their actions. They remain mindful of their role in protecting public safety.

In honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2023, we salute all those who have chosen this important career. In the District of Columbia, we especially thank the employees of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) and the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA) for their service. CSOSA and PSA are models of excellence in community supervision. Their work reflects the theme of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2023, “Stronger Together.”

Community supervision agencies are valuable partners of other government agencies, nonprofits, neighborhood-based groups and all who strive to make our nation safer and stronger. We extend our gratitude to them and encourage all people to recognize their many achievements as we proclaim July 16–22, 2023, Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2023.

RECOGNIZING THE BLUE PACIFIC  
ACT

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my Boosting Long-Term U.S. Engagement in the Pacific (BLUE Pacific) Act, co-introduced with my Pacific Islands Caucus Colleagues Congresswoman RADEWAGEN, Congressman BERA and Congressman SHERMAN.

This bill directs a comprehensive and sustained approach to U.S. engagement in the Pacific Islands, a critical part of the broader Indo-Pacific where much of the future of the world is being charted.

The lands and waters of the jurisdictions spread across Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia comprise an area larger than the land areas of China and Russia combined and represent a major portion of the vast Pacific Ocean and our Earth's surface. The peoples of these islands have developed their own proud cultures and identity over millennia, and for centuries now have shared historic, cultural, economic and strategic ties with the United States. Tens of thousands of U.S. and allied servicemembers died throughout the Pacific Islands in World War Two defending the common values shared between our country and the Pacific Islands. Our presents and futures are entwined; they are being and will be determined jointly.



Last year's U.S.-Pacific Islands Summit in Washington and the Strategy for Pacific Partnership released at that summit built on prior versions of our BLUE Pacific Act first introduced by our Pacific Islands Caucus in 2019. They represented a confirmation of our shared histories and path and a full re-engagement on all fronts with the Pacific Islands.

Our BLUE Pacific Act reintroduced today updates our prior versions to account for portions already enacted through other vehicles as well as the U.S.-Pacific Islands Summit. It supports the tenets of the Pacific Islands Forum's 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, ensuring that our efforts are fully responsive to and synchronized with the expressed direction and needs of the Pacific Islands nations. It specifically codifies the Strategy for Pacific Partnership and requires updates to the strategy every four years. It also includes language encouraging the allocation of more staff to the Pacific Islands, and the facilitation of U.S. support for trade capacity building, environmental change mitigation, education, civil society engagement and security training.

These further initiatives support the significant strides we have made in recent years towards fully reengaging the Pacific Islands region across a range of common values and interests and in response to specific Pacific Islands needs. In this moment, as the Pacific Islands recover from the health and economic impacts of the pandemic and are confronted with increased environmental, security and other challenges, this re-engagement is vital. Our bill says to the Pacific Islands that the United States is a partner they can trust and rely upon over the long term.

For these reasons, I ask that my colleagues support our bill. Mahalo (thank you).

RECOGNIZING THE CAPSTONE AT  
CENTERRA FOR THEIR WORK IN  
PROVIDING ASSISTED LIVING  
AND MEMORY CARE TO THE  
PEOPLE OF COLORADO'S FOURTH  
DISTRICT

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the opening of The Capstone at Centerra Senior Living in Loveland, Colorado. Capstone at Centerra is a leader in innovative housing and medical solutions for seniors in Colorado's Fourth District. As an organization, Capstone serves its residents at every stage of the aging process, providing assisted living, memory care, and respite care designed to encourage independence and support individuals with personalized care.

Colorado is one of the fastest aging states in the Nation, and by 2040, 1 in 4 Coloradans will be over the age of 60. With a rapidly aging population and a shortage of assisted living facilities and memory care services there is a critical need for more facilities, like Capstone, especially in rural areas like the Eastern Plains.

Organizations who face the healthcare crisis head-on and continue to provide high-quality, personalized, and innovative care deserve to be recognized and supported.

I am proud to recognize the Capstone at Centerra for improving the quality of life for seniors in Northern Colorado. I hope that their perseverance in advancing care will inspire other communities to provide continued, personalized housing and medical care for older adults.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL  
J. FRAIOLI

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleagues Congressman JIM COSTA and Congressman RAÚL GRIJALVA, to pay tribute to our long-time friend and advisor Michael Fraioli, who passed away after a courageous battle with leukemia.

Mike was a devoted husband and father and is survived by his wife of 27 years, Carol Eickert, his beloved children Michelle and Matthew, and his brother Tom. A Central Valley kid, Mike was born in Modesto, California and was a long-time resident of Chevy Chase, MD. After working in his hometown of Modesto on the successful campaign electing Tony Coelho to the U.S. House of Representatives, Mike moved to Washington, D.C. to begin his long and successful career in politics as a strong Democrat.

Mike was the founder and owner of Fraioli & Associates, where he advised some of the highest-level Democrats in Congress and was a vocal advocate for a variety of labor organizations including IAMAW, IBEW, and AFL-CIO. Mike made an indelible impact on both my political journey and my life. I had the honor to work with Mike since 1996, a few months before I was elected to Congress. I spent thousands of hours with Mike over a period of 27 years—and I enjoyed every hour.

As I reflect on Mike's life, I am reminded of his unyielding belief in the power of organizing and the necessity of empowering individuals to shape their own futures. He was a tremendous advocate and friend. His passing leaves a void not only in the realm of politics but in the hearts of all who had the honor of knowing him.

We would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Mike's wife Carol, and his children Michelle and Matthew.

HONORING ANDRES SADA

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the service and accomplishments of Andres Sada, my intern who is transitioning from my office to continue his mission.

A Florida native with Panamanian origins, Andres came to my office ready to impact the American legislative system. While in my office, Andres has pushed my agendas to great lengths—from drafting memos, to organizing information, and researching data.

In our time together, I have recognized that Andres is a force in policy. His passion has

been powerful over the semester as we have fought for the lives of underserved and disadvantaged communities. His commitment to international affairs has led Andres to organizing events regarding Latin American Politics at the George Washington University. Andres has successfully piloted the first GW Pride MUN conference for Out in International Affairs. Andres has and will continue to make a difference and leave his mark on public policy as he continues to fight for a better system.

On behalf of Florida's 24th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Andres Sada for his exemplary accomplishments, dedication to public service, and trailblazing leadership.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
COMMANDER ALLAN RANDOLPH  
TOPP, UNITED STATES NAVY,  
RETIRED

**HON. DEAN PHILLIPS**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a life well lived. I'm saddened to announce the passing of an American hero, retired U.S. Navy Commander Allan Randolph ("Randy") Topp. I'm honored to help tell his story because I think it's a life that should be memorialized in these hallowed halls, and we here in Congress sometimes need reminding of what it is to lead a life well lived.

Born in 1953 in Atlanta, GA, Randy was known for his playful glimmer throughout his childhood. He decided to attend Vanderbilt University and graduated in 1975 with a double major in Economics and Latin American Studies. After graduating, he began a 20-year career as an officer in the U.S. Navy piloting P-3 Orions, serving on the USS *Constellation*, and leading Training Squadron Six (VT-6) as its Executive Officer and Commanding Officer. He retired from military service with the rank of Commander in 1996, but his professional life was far from over. Randy continued his career with the Raytheon Company in Tucson, AZ, before fully retiring in 2018 to spend more time with his family.

Throughout his career, Randy was a lifetime learner. He continued his education beyond the undergraduate level and received not 1, but 3 masters' degrees: the first, an MBA from the University of New Hampshire, the second, an MS in Electrical Engineering, and the third, an MS in Systems Technology (Space Systems Operations) from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA. He is even a named inventor on multiple patents from his time with Raytheon.

What the accolades and accomplishments don't tell us is just how much of a positive effect Randy had on those around him. Upon hearing of his passing, one of his Navy shipmates commented, "Randy was . . . a great pilot, but also 1 of the fun guys every group needs to keep everything in perspective and moving together. I met him again years later while with Raytheon, and he was still the same great guy . . . Truly a man to be admired; I'm happy to have known him."

This same spirit carried through to his time with his grandchildren, with whom he was excited to experience life. He introduced them to

new adventures like horseback riding, white-water rafting, visiting the rodeo, and attending cowboy cookouts. He appreciated the lifestyle of Tucson, hosting family and friends to introduce them to the Sonoran Desert culture, including enjoying the occasional Sonoran hot dog.

Fair winds and following seas, Commander Topp. I thank him for his service to his family, to his friends and shipmates, and to this Nation. We are forever grateful to him for providing an example of what it means to live life to the fullest.

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RECOGNIZING VIVIAN LITCHARD'S  
SERVICE TO HER NATION

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vivian Litchard, a resident of Ypsilanti, Michigan on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her lifetime of service to her family and to her Nation is worthy of commendation.

Raised right down the road in Belleville, Vivian and many other young women began working at the Willow Run Bomber Plant in Ypsilanti, Michigan in February of 1942. Eighteen years old and fresh out of high school, the women of the Sewing Department worked 54 hours a week hand sewing the covers of the B-24 Liberator bombers' ailerons, rudders, and elevators. It took a couple months for her to see the first completed bomber roll off the line, but soon the Willow Run Bomber Plant would be producing a completed plane every hour. After the war ended, most everyone was sent home. Shortly thereafter, the plant was sold and became the Kaiser Frazer car factory. Vivian said "I realized that I had grown

up at the bomber plant in the 3½ years that I worked there" and when Kaiser Frazer asked many of the wartime plant workers to come back, Vivian answered the call by driving the cars off the line and parking them in the lot.

After the war, Vivian met and married her husband, Lyle, who served in the Signal Corps during the war in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy. Together they had a full and extraordinary life. They raised three children and traveled the world, with the only continent they failed to visit being Antarctica. Their legacy now includes six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. After Lyle's death in 1995, Vivian visited Europe with her seniors group, specifically the beaches of Normandy. This made the war much more real to her, and she became very involved with her fellow Rosie's, including an Honor Flight out to the capital in 2016.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 100th birthday of Vivian Litchard, a woman who answered the call of duty at the tender age of 18 and served our country with dignity in its darkest hours. Though she may say "It really wasn't a big deal, it's just what we all did", we know that without the skilled workers assembling B-24 Liberators in Willow Run, the result of the war may have been much different. We thank her for her service, and wish her much laughter and blessings in her 101st year. I thank Vivian.

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MASON-DIXON FAIR

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 11, 2023*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Delta Cardiff Volunteer Fire

Company (DCVFC) on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Mason Dixon Fair.

In 1998, following the Delta Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company Carnival, thanks to the leadership of Delta Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company President Doug Farrington, the community came together to transform their annual carnival into a Pennsylvania-sanctioned State Fair. Land was purchased and building infrastructure was created to host the inaugural Mason Dixon Fair on July 12–17, 1999.

The fair's first year was held in acclaim by residents of Pennsylvania and Maryland, and this success has continued over the years. The leadership of the fair changed following the passing of Chief Doug Farrington in 2010, and for the next twelve years Fire Company Chief Jeff Griffith continued to build upon the fair's success. Now, Vice President Derek Macomber and his wife Becky lead the fair with assistance from numerous dedicated community volunteers.

Communities across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been built stronger thanks to the volunteer contributions of those who donate their time and talents to put on State Fairs, and that is true of the Mason Dixon Fair in Delta, Pennsylvania.

As they celebrate their 25th anniversary this year, I want to congratulate and thank all the fair volunteers, community members, and organizations including the brave and selfless members of the Delta Cardiff Volunteer Fire Company who have worked to make the Mason Dixon Fair a fun and successful community event. I wish them all continued success in the years to come.

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S2291–2329*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-eight bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2224–2251, and S. Res. 287–290. **Pages S2310–11**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 884, to establish a Government-wide approach to improving digital identity, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 118–47)

S. 92, to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the “Rick Boucher Amphitheater”. (S. Rept. No. 118–48)

S. 162, to amend the Smith River National Recreation Area Act to include certain additions to the Smith River National Recreation Area, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain wild rivers in the State of Oregon. (S. Rept. No. 118–49)

S. 199, to codify the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to conduct certain landscape-scale forest restoration projects. (S. Rept. No. 118–50)

S. 440, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas, to withdraw certain land located in Curry County and Josephine County, Oregon, from all forms of entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws, location, entry, and patent under the mining laws, and operation under the mineral leasing and geothermal leasing laws. (S. Rept. No. 118–51)

S. 452, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a Nuclear Fuel Security Program, expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program, and submit a report on a civil nuclear credit program, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 118–52)

S. 535, to streamline the oil and gas permitting process and to recognize fee ownership for certain oil and gas drilling or spacing units. (S. Rept. No. 118–53)

S. 593, to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to estab-

lish the Cerro de la Olla Wilderness in the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument and to modify the boundary of the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument. (S. Rept. No. 118–54)

S. 612, to reauthorize the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act. (S. Rept. No. 118–55)

S. 623, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to aged, blind, or disabled Alaska Natives or descendants of Alaska Natives from being used to determine eligibility for certain programs. (S. Rept. No. 118–56)

S. 2226, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year.

**Pages S2309–10**

#### Measures Passed:

**National Dairy Month:** Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 284, expressing support for the designation of June 2023 as “National Dairy Month” to recognize the important role dairy plays in a healthy diet and the exceptional work of dairy producers in being stewards of the land and livestock, and the resolution was then agreed to.

**Pages S2328–29**

**American Grown Flower Month:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 289, expressing support for the designation of July 2023 as “American Grown Flower Month”.

**Pages S2328–29**

**Honoring Oliver Hazard Perry Morton:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 290, honoring the life of Oliver Hazard Perry Morton.

**Pages S2328–29**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the situation in Hong Kong that was declared in Executive Order 13936 of July 14, 2020; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–18)

**Page S2308**

**Cartwright Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

**Pages S2302–04**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 49 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 179), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

**Page S2302**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired and the confirmation vote occur at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader.

**Page S2304**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at 11:30 a.m., on Wednesday, July 12, 2023; that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session of Monday, July 10, 2023 ripen following disposition of the nomination; that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, all time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m.; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.

**Page S2329**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 84 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. EX. 174), Xochitl Torres Small, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

**Pages S2291–98**

By 51 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 177), Rosemarie Hidalgo, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice.

**Pages S2298–99, S2301**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 175), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

**Page S2298**

By 50 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 178), Kymberly Kathryn Evanson, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.

**Pages S2299–S2302**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 42 nays (Vote No. EX. 176), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination.

**Pages S2298–99**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Andrew N. Ferguson, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2016.

Andrew N. Ferguson, of Virginia, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2023.

Melissa Holyoak, of Utah, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the unexpired term of seven years from September 26, 2018.

Jamie Fly, of Virginia, to be a Member of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board for a term expiring January 1, 2027.

Laura Dove, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation for a term expiring November 17, 2029.

Laura Dove, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation for a term expiring November 17, 2023.

Bradford Pentony Wilson, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation for a term expiring September 27, 2026.

Amanda Wood Laihow, of Maine, to be a Member of Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for a term expiring April 27, 2029.

Henry J. Kerner, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Merit Systems Protection Board for the term of seven years expiring March 1, 2030.

Katherine E. Oler, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Judith E. Pipe, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years, William M. Jackson, retired.

Joseph Albert Laroski, Jr., of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

Jennifer L. Hall, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware.

Brandy R. McMillion, of Michigan, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

April M. Perry, of Illinois, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Karoline Mehalchick, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

Margaret M. Garnett, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

- 1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.
- 4 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.
- 2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.
- 6 Space Force nominations in the rank of general.

Page S2329

**Executive Communications:** Pages S2308–09

**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages S2311–14

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:**  
Pages S2314–15

**Additional Statements:** Pages S2306–08

**Amendments Submitted:** Pages S2315–28

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S2328

**Privileges of the Floor:** Page S2328

**Record Votes:** Six record votes were taken today. (Total—179) Pages S2298–99, S2301–02

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:15 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2329.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine how the Special Diabetes Program is creating hope for those living with type 1 diabetes, after receiving testimony from Griffin P. Rodgers, Director, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services; Aaron J. Kowalski, New York, New York; Maria Muayad, Yarmouth, Maine, and Elise Cataldo, Hooksett, New Hampshire, all of JDRF; and James Harris, Los Angeles, California.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of General Charles Q. Brown, USAF, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### THE AMERICAN DREAM

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development* concluded a hearing to examine exploiting the American Dream, focusing on land contracts and homebuyers, after receiving testimony from Sarah B. Mancini, National Consumer Law Center, and John Green, Blackstar Stability, both of Washington, D.C.; and Elizabeth Goodell, Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, Minneapolis.

### PGA-LIV DEAL

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations* concluded a hearing to examine the PGA-LIV deal, focusing on implications for the future of golf and Saudi Arabia's influence in the United States, after receiving testimony from Ron Price, Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, and Jimmy Dunne, North Palm Beach, Florida, both of PGA TOUR, Inc.

### SUPERBUGS

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security* concluded a hearing to examine superbugs, focusing on the impact of antimicrobial resistance on modern medicine, after receiving testimony from Michael D. Apley, Kansas State University College of Veterinary Medicine, Manhattan; Helen Boucher, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, Massachusetts, on behalf of the Infectious Diseases Society of America; Melanie Lawrence, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Fairhaven, Massachusetts; and Christine Miller, Melinta Therapeutics, New York, New York, on behalf of the Antimicrobials Working Group and the Biotechnology Innovation Organization.

### INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 42 public bills, H.R. 4527–4568; and 5 resolutions, H.J. Res. 81; and H. Res. 577–581, were introduced.

**Pages H3204–06**

**Additional Cosponsors:**

**Pages H3208–09**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 2622, to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–134);

H.R. 1548, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–135, Part 1);

H.R. 752, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production (H. Rept. 118–136);

H.R. 813, to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–137);

H.R. 3935, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–138);

H.R. 3559, to provide for Federal Aviation Administration research and development, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–139, Part 1); and

H.R. 2544, to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–140).

**Pages H3203–04**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative McClain to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

**Page H3179**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 12:26 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m.

**Page H3182**

**Journal:** The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote.

**Page H3182**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 2:14 p.m. and reconvened at 5 p.m.

**Page H3184**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures: Amending the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser: H.R. 2622, amended, to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to codify certain Securities and Exchange Commission no-action letters that exclude brokers and dealers compensated for certain research services from the definition of investment adviser;

**Pages H3184–85**

**Improving Access to Small Business Information Act:** H.R. 1548, amended, to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to specify that actions of the Advocate for Small Business Capital Formation are not a collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 398 yeas to 11 nays, Roll No. 290; and

**Pages H3185–87, H3190**

**250th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps Commemorative Coin Act:** H.R. 1096, 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, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 409 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 291.

**Pages H3187–90**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to Hong Kong is to continue in effect beyond July 14, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–51).

**Page H3183**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3190–91 and H3191–92.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

## *Committee Meetings*

### INVESTIGATING THE PROXIMAL ORIGIN OF A COVER UP

**Committee on Oversight and Accountability:** Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic held a hearing entitled "Investigating the Proximal Origin of a

Cover Up”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

*Committee on Rules:* Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2670, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2670, the “National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024”, under a structured rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their respective designees. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118–10, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 3. The rule provides that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that at the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment pursuant to this resolution, the Committee of the Whole shall rise without motion. No further consideration of the bill shall be in order except pursuant to a subsequent order of the House. Testimony was heard from Representatives Moylan, Garcia of Texas, Molinaro, Dunn, McCor-

mick, Wenstrup, Greene of Georgia, Smith of New Jersey, Davidson, Foster, Gaetz, James, Rosendale, Johnson of Ohio, Clyde, Green of Texas, Stauber, Sherrill, Ellzey, Crockett, Grothman, Griffith, De La Cruz, and Crenshaw.

### Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

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#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

##### Senate

*Committee on Armed Services:* to hold hearings to examine the nomination of General Randy A. George, USA, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief of Staff of the Army, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Philip Nathan Jefferson, of North Carolina, to be Vice Chairman, and Lisa DeNell Cook, of Michigan, and Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, both to be a Member, each of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, 2 p.m., S–216, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Economic Policy, to hold hearings to examine bank mergers and the economic impacts of consolidation, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

*Committee on the Budget:* to hold hearings to examine protecting Social Security for all, focusing on making the wealthy pay their fair share, 10 a.m., SD–608.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Anna M. Gomez, of Virginia, Geoffrey Adam Starks, of Kansas, and Brendan Carr, of Virginia, each to be a Member, and Fara Damelin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, all of the Federal Communications Commission, Alvin Brown, of Florida, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and routine lists in the Coast Guard, 10 a.m., SR–253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining, to hold hearings to examine S. 636, to establish the Dolores River National Conservation Area and the Dolores River Special Management Area in the State of Colorado, to protect private water rights in the State, S. 912, to require the Secretary of Energy to provide technology grants to strengthen domestic mining education, S. 1015, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the Pleasant Valley Ranger District Administrative Site to Gila County, Arizona, S. 1088, to authorize the relinquishment and in lieu selection of land and minerals in the State of North Dakota, to restore land and minerals to Indian Tribes within the State of North Dakota, S. 1254, to designate and expand wilderness areas in Olympic National Forest in the State of Washington, and to designate certain rivers in Olympic National Forest and Olympic National Park as wild and scenic rivers, S. 1405, to provide

for the exchange of certain Federal land and State land in the State of Utah, S. 1622, to discourage speculative oil and gas leasing and to promote enhanced multiple use management of public land and National Forest System land, S. 1634, to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, S. 1657, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to La Paz County, Arizona, S. 1760, to amend the Apex Project, Nevada Land Transfer and Authorization Act of 1989 to include the city of North Las Vegas, Nevada, and the Apex Industrial Park Owners Association, S. 1776, to provide for the protection of and investment in certain Federal land in the State of California, S. 1890, to provide for the establishment of a grazing management program on Federal land in Malheur County, Oregon, S. 2020, to amend the Oregon Resource Conservation Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group, S. 2042, to amend the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area Act to adjust the boundary of the Sloan Canyon National Conservation Area, S. 2136, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain Federal land to the State of Utah for inclusion in certain State parks, S. 2149, to sustain economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate new areas for recreation, and an original bill to release from wilderness study area designation certain land in the State of Montana, to improve the management of that land, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* business meeting to consider the nominations of Gwynne A. Wilcox, of New York, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, Loren E. Sweatt, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Mediation Board, and other pending calendar business, Time to be announced, S-216, Capitol.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine S. 616, to amend the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation Restoration Act to provide for the transfer of additional Federal land to the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, S. 1898, to amend the Northwestern New Mexico Rural Water Projects Act to make improvements to that Act, and S. 1987, to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine certain pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold hearings to examine Artificial Intelligence and intellectual property, focusing on copyright, 3 p.m., SD-226.

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine pending legislation, 3 p.m., SR-418.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lieutenant General Timothy D. Haugh, USAF, to be the Director of the National Security Agency, and Michael Colin Casey, of Kentucky, to be Director of the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, 2:30 p.m., SH-216.

## House

*Committee on Appropriations,* Full Committee, markup on the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs FY 2024 Appropriations Bill, 10:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, markup on the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies FY 2024 Appropriations Bill, 5 p.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

*Committee on Education and Workforce,* Full Committee, markup on legislation on the Transparency in Billing Act; legislation on the Transparency in Coverage Act; legislation on the Health DATA Act; and legislation on the Hidden Fee Disclosure Act, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, markup on H.R. 4510, the "NTIA Reauthorization Act of 2023"; H.R. 3430, the "Spectrum Relocation Enhancement Act"; H.R. 3385, the "Diaspora Link Act"; H.R. 3369, the "AI Accountability Act"; H.R. 4511, the "Public Safety Communications Act"; H.R. 4506, the "TEAM TELECOM Act"; H.R. 4512, the "Digital Economy Cybersecurity Advisory Act"; H.R. 4505, the "PLAN For Broadband Act"; H.R. 4513, the "Commerce Spectrum Coordination Act of 2023"; H.R. 4504, the "Novel, Advanced, Spectrum and Communications Technology Networks Promotion Act"; and H.R. 3431, the "Spectrum Coexistence Act", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials, markup on H.R. 1435, the "Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act"; H.R. 4468, the "Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023"; and H.R. 4469, the "No Fuel Credits for Batteries Act of 2023", 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on Financial Services,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "Protecting Investor Interests: Examining Environmental and Social Policy in Financial Regulation", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

*Committee on Homeland Security,* Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4470, the "Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2023"; H.R. 4467, the "DHS Border Services Contracts Review Act"; and H.R. 2577, the "DHS Suicide Prevention and Resiliency for Law Enforcement Act", 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement, hearing entitled "Protecting the U.S. Homeland: Fighting the Flow of Fentanyl from the Southwest Border", 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Committee on Natural Resources,* Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled "Examining the Biden Administration's Record on Federal Coal Leasing", 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on H.R. 929, the "Puyallup Tribe of Indians Land Into Trust Confirmation Act of 2023"; H.R. 2882, the "Udall Foundation Reauthorization Act of 2023"; and H.R.



3579, the “Tribal Trust Land Homeownership Act of 2023”, 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

*Committee on Oversight and Accountability*, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4435, the “Unauthorized Spending Accountability Act”; H.R. 1209, the “Fair and Open Competition Act”; H.R. 3358, the “Mission Not Emissions Act”; H.R. 3230, the “Unfunded Mandates Accountability and Transparency Act”; H.R. 890, the “Guidance Out Of Darkness Act”; H.R. 4428, the “Guidance Clarity Act”; H.R. 192, to prohibit individuals who are not citizens of the United States from voting in elections in the District of Columbia; legislation on the Modernizing the Acquisition of Cybersecurity Experts Act; legislation on the AI Training Expansion Act; H.R. 1695, the “Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act”; and Several postal naming measures, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology*, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Enhancing Fire Weather Prediction and Coordination”, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs*, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on H.R. 4278, the “Restore Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability Act”; H.R. 196, the “Expediting Temporary Ratings for Veterans Act”; legislation on the Modernizing Department of Veteran Affairs Disability Benefit Questionnaires Act; H.R. 3504, the “VA Medical Center Security Report Act”; H.R. 2733, the “Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General Training Act”; and H.R. 4225, the “VA Acquisition Review Board Act”, 2 p.m., 360 Cannon.

*Committee on Ways and Means*, Subcommittee on Work and Welfare, hearing entitled “Where is all the Welfare Money Going? Reclaiming TANF Non-Assistance Dollars to Lift Americans Out of Poverty”, 2 p.m., 2020 Rayburn.

### Joint Meeting

*Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe*: to hold hearings to examine supporting a democratic and secure Moldova, 2 p.m., 210, Cannon Building.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 12

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 12

## Senate Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Senate will be in a period of morning business.

At 11:30 a.m., Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Myong J. Joun, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Myong J. Joun, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 2:30 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Kalpana Kotagal, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 5:30 p.m., followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of David M. Uhlmann, of Michigan, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

## House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** Consideration of H.R. 2670—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

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