



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023

No. 128

House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 25, 2023.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE COLLINS 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.

ENDING GLOBAL HUNGER

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on July 12, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the FAO, released its annual assessment on the state of global food security.

This year's report, titled "The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2023," confirmed that nearly 30 percent of humanity, or roughly 2.4 billion people, lacked access to adequate

food in 2022. A greater number, 3.1 billion, were unable to afford a healthy diet.

The report paints a world where hundreds of millions of people face more precarious circumstances, deepened by the ravages of climate change, regional turmoil, and rising food costs. It describes how the recovery from the global coronavirus pandemic has been uneven and how the war in Ukraine has affected access to food, especially nutritious food.

Last year, UNICEF reported that 148 million children under the age of 5 were stunted, meaning that their inadequate diets impaired their growth. The FAO director general called this the "new normal," where climate change, conflict, and economic instability are pushing those on the margins over the edge.

Mr. Speaker, as someone who believes food is a fundamental human right for everyone on this planet, I believe the American people can and should be proud of the leadership the United States has shown in addressing the global crisis. We have provided billions in aid to those most affected by droughts, natural disasters, violence, and conflict. We have literally saved millions of lives.

Our farmers have provided food—wheat, soy, corn, rice, beans, lentils, peas, and cooking oil—to those most in need around the world. Our peanut farmers and specialty processors have provided therapeutic foods for severely malnourished children. Our NGOs are on the ground in many of the most desperate regions of the world. They make sure that food is provided to those most in need and work with local communities to build resilience to survive future economic and extreme weather shocks. Yet, we must all do more.

I recently met with the new executive director of the World Food Programme, Cindy McCain. She took over the reins in April and is determined to

strengthen efficiency and transparency at the WFP, to stretch every dollar and every food contribution to its maximum. She needs to make those donations stretch because she is facing an impossible task, too many crises, too many people in need, and not enough money.

The WFP has already been forced to cut food rations and the number of people it serves all over the world, including in places like Syria and Haiti. Unlike the U.S., too many donors have yet to respond and too many nations like the Gulf states and the Middle East have failed to contribute their fair share.

The world cannot afford to stand by when heat waves, heavy rains, and flooding are wrecking crops and casting more uncertainty over the availability and cost of food.

I know that many fear a global migration as millions are forced to abandon their homes and livelihoods. For me, a greater concern is how massive internal displacement within countries, from rural areas to cities, might undermine agriculture, food security, and economic and social stability inside those nations and regions. The internal movement, that instability, is not in the best interest of anyone, including the United States.

I know from experience that the U.S. and the global community can respond effectively to this crisis if we have the political will to do so. Even now, we see improvements happening in Latin America and Asia, so there is hope.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, I am so dismayed by efforts inside this Congress to undermine or even eliminate the very programs that contribute to alleviating the suffering of hunger, famine, and food insecurity around the world, including among children.

Like our farmers, like our NGOs, and like the WFP and countless other nations and groups, we in Congress must do our part. We must make sure these

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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programs are well funded so that the United States has the resources it needs to lead the world in ending global hunger.

CARING FOR OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, in President Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address, he called on our Nation to care for those "who shall have borne the battle."

As we debate legislation this week to support our Nation's 16.5 million veterans, we must remember that charge that was given to us by President Lincoln to care for those who have given so much of themselves, of their time, in order to keep our Nation free and our Nation safe.

It is essential that we honor our commitment to those men and women and fully fund veterans benefits and VA programs. We owe an incredible debt of gratitude to those who have worn a uniform in service of the United States.

From inpatient hospitalizations to outpatient primary care and addiction services, our veterans hospitals provide the essential services that our veterans can rely on.

While working as a doctor, I was proud to treat veterans at the James E. Van Zandt Veterans' Administration Medical Center in Blair County, Pennsylvania. These men and women have served in conflicts including World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Iraq, and Afghanistan. Having the opportunity to provide care to these veterans is one of the proudest moments of my medical career.

Moving forward, we must ensure that our veterans hospitals are equipped with the latest tools, technologies, and treatments to ensure that our veterans are receiving the highest and utmost care.

UNBEARABLE CONDITIONS FOR FARMERS

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, this summer, farmers across Pennsylvania will grow produce, milk dairy cows, till their fields, and tend to their orchards that help to feed our entire Nation.

Recently, I spent time at Richards Farm in Fulton County, Pennsylvania, and met with the owner, Ryan Richards, to talk about the challenges that are faced by dairy producers who work to provide the nutritional products that Pennsylvanians and all Americans rely on.

Sadly, the failed policies of the Biden administration have made conditions unbearable for family farmers. It is time to stop the handouts to liberal special interests and reinvest in the policies and programs that enable our American farmers to succeed. It is time to rescind the \$1 billion allocated for Green New Deal programs in President Biden's so-called Inflation Reduction

Act. It is time to put an end to runaway spending and finally support our great American farmers.

DEADLINE FOR BACKDATED HONORING OUR PACT ACT BENEFITS

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, almost exactly a year ago, on August 10, 2022, President Joe Biden signed into law the Honoring our PACT Act, which has been correctly described as the largest healthcare and benefits expansion in the history of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

This was the result of a 5-year effort by veterans service organizations, from The American Legion to the Iraq and Afghan Veterans of America, and many others, to bring external pressure on Congress to pass a measure which will knock down barriers so that people who are suffering the ill effects of toxic exposure will actually have the care they earned by wearing the uniform of this country and serving in some of the most difficult parts of the world.

After that measure was signed and had to overcome a last-minute filibuster by Senate Republicans, which resulted in a 5-day sleep-in on the steps of the Capitol when they finally relented and allowed a bipartisan vote to move forward and the bill to the President's desk, there was a lot of concern as to whether or not the VA would actually move quickly to enact and implement these measures.

A year into the law, I am happy to report that over 300,000 PACT Act claims have been approved; over 100,000 new veterans have been enrolled in VA healthcare from the PACT Act planning population; and over 4 million toxic exposure screenings have been provided.

The toxic exposure screening is a quick 10- to 15-minute review to find people who may be eligible for PACT Act benefits. It is open to all veterans, if anyone is listening, not just veterans who are enrolled in the VA. All veterans are entitled to have a toxic exposure screening.

The questions asked are whether or not you were exposed to open burn pits in the Middle East, Gulf war-related exposures, Agent Orange during the Vietnam war, radiation, contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, or other exposures.

In my district, the Second Congressional District, over 1,000 veterans have filed PACT Act claims, and many have been successful in terms of getting their claims approved.

One gentleman who served during the Vietnam war was in Thailand and had Agent Orange illnesses, but because the law prior to the Honoring our PACT Act only covered people who were actually in-country in Vietnam, he was denied coverage. He was successful in getting a 100 percent disability approved.

Another gentleman who served in Guam, another new country that was added to the law because of the Honoring our PACT Act, was also able to get a 100 percent disability with a backpay award.

This is real. It is happening in real time. Ten days ago, we held a PACT Act claims clinic where staff from the local veterans department showed up to screen and also present claims. It was supposed to be only 3 hours. It went way over time. Two hundred veterans were screened, and 75 claims were submitted right there on the spot.

I will end, Mr. Speaker, by saying people should be aware of the fact that, on August 9, which is just days away, if someone files an intent for a claim or a claim, you are going to be entitled to a backpay award to the date that President Biden signed this measure into law. Any claims filed after August 9 will not be entitled to that backpay award.

Claims will still be open and can be approved by the Department of Veterans Affairs, but in terms of getting that backpay award from the date of enactment, it is critical that people file either an intent to file a claim or a claim itself to be eligible for those benefits.

If people have questions, they can go to VA.gov/PACT to answer any of those questions.

This was a great effort that was the result of a grassroots push by veterans all across our country. We must make sure that every single veteran gets the benefits that the law opened the door to.

FUNDING THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, this week, House Republicans will introduce H.R. 4366, the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024, to fully fund our Department of Veterans Affairs.

As a 24-year Army veteran and chairwoman of the Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health, I understand how crucial it is to have a fully funded VA Department. These appropriations bills will ensure that the VA has the resources needed to continue their vital operations.

Current armed services members will also see a more than \$17 billion investment that will go entirely toward improving the quality of life in their barracks and family housing.

These commonsense policies will help improve the VA and the military as a whole, and I urge all of my colleagues to support them.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, Iowans are experiencing one of the hottest summers in history. In weather

like this, ensuring your home stays cool and comfortable is top of mind for many, but it is also lifesaving.

Unfortunately for us, the Biden administration is telling Americans that their thermostats should be at 78 degrees when they are home during the day and even higher when sleeping. How can anyone be comfortable in their home with the thermostat set so high?

That is why I, along with my good friend Senator ERNST, introduced the Lead by Example Act. This bill would require the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency office buildings to be set to the Department of Energy's recommendation of at least 78 degrees, to set their thermostat where they are recommending it be set for you.

Currently, with so many DOE officials working from home, taxpayers are paying to cool empty office buildings. Once again, do as I say, not as I do.

It is outrageous that Biden's executive agencies are the exception to the rule, yet the Department of Energy is urging hardworking Americans to change their lifestyles without any consideration for varying climates or health concerns. That is why I am proud to join Senator ERNST on the Lead by Example Act, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support it.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF FORMER
HAWKEYE FOOTBALL PLAYER CODY INCE

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of former Hawkeye football player Cody Ince, who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 23.

Before Cody became a Hawkeye, he grew up in Wisconsin playing football and he graduated from Unity High School in Balsam Lake. In 2018, Cody came to Iowa City to be an offensive lineman for Hawkeye football and helped the team earn a winning record all three seasons he played.

Cody also received the All-Big Ten honorable mention in 2020, an honor given to standout players for their accomplishments on the field. After graduating in 2022, Cody moved back to Wisconsin and got engaged to his fiancée, Olivia, where they were preparing to start their life together before his sudden passing.

My prayers go out to Olivia and his parents Tammy and Marty. I cannot imagine the pain of losing a child. I will continue to pray for their family in this time of mourning.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ANNELISE BELL

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I will take a moment to congratulate Annelise Bell, a student at Pella Christian High School on her recent Team USA placement at the world championships. She placed second among the Female Solo Junior 1 Division at the International Dance Organization's World Acrobatic Dance Championships in Mexico this past week.

The International Dance Organization is a nonprofit dance federation with over 90 member nations representing dancers from all continents. Annelise is such a talented young lady. I thank her for representing the United States and Iowa well.

Mr. Speaker, I wish a happy anniversary to my district representative John Kaufmann and his wife Rachel on their second wedding anniversary on July 31. Happy anniversary, John and Rachel.

Happy 40th wedding anniversary to my very good friends Kurt and Kathy Haller on August 13.

Happy 44th wedding anniversary to Mary and Kirk Ferentz this August.

I especially wish a very happy 40th anniversary on September 4 to my husband, Curt. Happy anniversary, honey.

CODEL TO BRAZIL, COLOMBIA,
AND PANAMA

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

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the chance to travel with a bipartisan group of Members of the House of Representatives to Brazil, Colombia, and Panama.

During our trip, we discussed important issues like immigration, counterterrorism, trade, and national security.

In Brazil, I learned about the increasing presence of the Chinese Communist Party from local law enforcement officials.

In Colombia, we discussed efforts to combat illegal drug trafficking. We met with leading officials on the longstanding, bilateral relationship between the United States and Colombia.

In Panama, I saw firsthand the challenging conditions faced by migrants attempting to travel to the United States and live their American Dream here. I have empathy for the people I met, and this experience reinforced the importance of addressing immigration with compassion and respect.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is a shining beacon of democracy, and I am not surprised that people from all over the world want to come here. We need to ensure that our borders are secure, that the American people are safe, and migrants are treated with dignity and fairness.

This was an eye-opening experience that affirmed the need for strong, smart, and strategic policies that advance our national interests, our values abroad, and protect our homeland and democracy.

We also must diligently combat the Chinese Communist Party's increasing presence in the region.

I will continue to closely monitor developments in this area and work toward a pragmatic approach to foreign policy that puts America's security first.

Finally, we must take up and pass comprehensive immigration reform. I am eternally optimistic that we can get something done in this Congress.

At the end of the day, addressing the situation at the border and taking up comprehensive immigration reform should not be a Democrat or Republican issue. The American people deserve more than politics as usual, and the time for action is now.

Let's work together, not as Democrats or Republicans, but as Americans to secure our border and advance comprehensive immigration reform.

MIFEPRISTONE IS A DEADLY
DRUG

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, as a Christian, a father, and conservative Member of Congress, I make no secret about it. I am absolutely 100 percent, unapologetically pro-life. I believe life begins at conception, and I believe that we must do everything we can to protect the innocent children living in their mother's wombs who are unable to protect themselves.

This week, House Republicans and the House will be considering H.R. 4368, the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations bill for fiscal year 2024. This bill not only funds many valuable programs on which our farmers and families rely to get food and fiber to our tables, but it also funds the Food and Drug Administration which plays a vital role in the food and drug safety of our country.

Recently, under President Joe Biden, the Food and Drug Administration, or FDA, has done the unthinkable: It has approved and expanded the use of mifepristone—a drug that induces a chemical abortion—for delivery by mail.

This is wrong on so many levels. For starters, let me be clear: this is a deadly drug not only for the baby in the womb, but it can also be deadly for the expectant mother taking it.

According to a scholarly article in "Issues in Law and Medicine" titled: "Deaths and Severe Adverse Events after the use of Mifepristone as an Abortifacient from September 2000 to February 2019," out of 2,660 codable adverse reactions, 20 resulted in deaths, 529 were life-threatening to the mother, and 1,957 were severe adverse reactions.

Given the potentially deadly side effects, what possible justification does the FDA have to approve such a dangerous drug for distribution through the mail, allowing patients to self-administer it without close medical supervision given the potentially dangerous side effects?

Giving a political payback to the abortion industrial complex is not a justification. In fact, there is no justification whatsoever, in my view. Regardless of where you stand on the debate about abortion, this is truly abhorrent.

I don't believe anyone in their right mind would say that this drug is safe

for human consumption. We already know for sure that consuming this drug ends one human life and it has the potential to actually end two lives every time a pregnant woman takes it.

That is why Republicans have included language in the appropriations bill that funds the FDA that prohibits the use of this dangerous and deadly mail-order chemical abortion drug. I hope my colleagues on the other side of the aisle can recognize the clear and present danger this FDA policy represents and make the commonsense decision to support this provision rather than trying to strip it out in the amendment process.

We can only hope for a future where these practices finally come to an end. Until then, conservatives like me will continue fighting to rein in the FDA's reckless approval of dangerous drugs that put women's health in danger and to keep all innocent and voiceless children safe from this abhorrent practice.

RECOGNIZING BRAD KELLAR

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

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a pillar of the Hunt County community. In a world filled with media pundits and talking heads, Brad Kellar was a journalist in every sense of the word. There is a void left by Brad's passing, and I honor his memory today while borrowing excerpts from Brad's colleague, Travis Hairgrove.

In the hearts and minds of people across Hunt County, the Herald-Banner newspaper and Brad Kellar were one and the same, and the two names were used interchangeably for the 30 years that he served his community as a tireless reporter of news stories, both big and small.

Even more important than his work ethic were the relationships Brad built and the trust he earned through the care he put into his reporting and through his kind, affable nature. Many Hunt County residents came to know him as a friend, and his readers enjoyed the collective giggles and groans brought on by Brad's predictably corny puns and self-deprecating jokes.

Brad's beloved wife, Vida, said: "He was loved and he touched a lot of people. He loved his job, he loved writing, he loved the art of making a story, he loved the people of Greenville, and could find the good in just about anybody."

With Brad being such a household name in Hunt County, many forget that he was originally from Illinois. This, however, didn't affect his devotion to his adopted community that was evidenced by his sacrifice and commitment to service.

Some of the award-winning things he wrote were picked up by the Associated Press, and it was around one of those times that he received an offer from The New York Times to join their staff. He actually considered moving to

New York, but ultimately turned down the job because he and Vida wanted their children to grow up in a town where they knew everyone, and therefore, everyone would know what their kids were up to. Also, Brad loved what he did, and he genuinely cared for the community he lived in and wrote about.

Brad's dedication to service also made an impression on his eldest son, Nick, who went on to study journalism at Texas A&M University-Commerce and later worked in mass media for several years. Nick recently said: For me, he was a role model, and he showed me what it was to be a man.

Brad's love for his community wasn't limited to the way he did his job. It was accentuated by the way he poured himself into the lives of others, particularly with the kids at his wife's daycare, Stepping Stones Learning Academy.

Brad often visited the daycare center where he encouraged the children to be inquisitive, and he rarely missed the opportunity to let them know that they were special and that they were loved.

The extent to which Brad cherished people, especially children, was probably intensified by the complications his daughter, Jaylynn, went through when she was born prematurely 24 years ago. At one point they thought that they might lose her, but as soon as they knew she was going to be okay, Brad held Jaylynn in his arms, and Vida heard him say, "Love is going to hold you because God has put His hand on you."

While the example of love and devotion that Brad showed his family will continue to inspire them for the rest of their lives, the extent to which he touched the lives of so many has been reflected by the flood of condolences and memories that have been shared since his passing.

I conclude my remarks with a remembrance from our mutual friend, Greenville Mayor Jerry Ransom, who commented at a city council meeting that, "Brad was a staple in our community with his steadfast reporting of Greenville and Hunt County news. More than anything, I think he was also a very proud father, husband, and friend."

FBI FORM 1023

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

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on January 21, 2021, I introduced Articles of Impeachment against Joe Biden, and less than 2 weeks later, I was kicked off all of my committees by House Speaker NANCY PELOSI. They said it was for Facebook comments and replies and likes, but we all know the truth. It was because my Articles of Impeachment on Joe Biden were correct. He was indeed abusing his power as Vice President of the United States.

Now we have more information to prove that not only was I right then, but it was more damning than we already knew, but I will roll back. President Trump was wrongfully impeached twice, and both of these impeachments must be expunged by the House of Representatives.

□ 1230

Mr. Speaker, what I would like to talk about is the difference in the type of information we have. The Democrats brought out the Steele dossier. The Steele dossier was written as a Democrat political opposition research paper. The information was written by a contractor, and it was fed to the FBI with no transparency on sub sources. The contractor had no primary source information, and the FBI operationalized uncorroborated claims to secure FISA warrants on political campaign officials of the opposing political party.

Information was later debunked by Congress, the Inspector General, and special counsel investigations; but the mainstream media won Pulitzer Prizes on the bogus Russian narrative, and then they led the witch hunt leading to impeaching President Trump over a phone call with the President of Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, let me tell the House what type of information we actually have. We have an FBI form called an FD-1023 form. Here is the difference for the public listening. On the FD-1023 form, the information originated from an FBI informant who had been relied on for many years and was considered the FBI's top informant and was also paid roughly \$200,000 over multiple years by the FBI.

Information was written by the FBI agent on the official FBI form and relied on with no additional sub sources. The FBI informant was a direct ear-and-eyewitness to the information provided.

The FBI apparently took no action to further the investigative claim. The FBI has refused to describe any investigative steps to assess the investigative information; therefore, it has not been debunked despite the White House's lies and false claims.

The mainstream media has largely ignored the story or parroted the White House false claims.

What does the FD-1023 form tell us?

I will tell you exactly what it says, Mr. Speaker, because not only have I read it, but I also have it in my possession right here.

This is a form that the American people and the entire public should have because it is unclassified. Nevertheless, Christopher Wray, the Director of the FBI, forced us to read it in a SCIF and would not hand it over to us.

Thankfully, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY released this form because it was provided to him by a brave whistleblower. This form entails the damning information that then-Vice President Joe Biden took a \$5 million bribe from

the oligarch that owns Burisma. Not only did Joe Biden take a \$5 million bribe, so did Hunter Biden.

What did Joe Biden deliver as Vice President of the United States?

He got Viktor Shokin, the Ukrainian prosecutor general, fired from his job.

How did Vice President Joe Biden get that done?

He threatened to withhold \$1 billion of USAID to Ukraine until Viktor Shokin was fired.

Do you know what, Mr. Speaker? He was fired.

In 2016 Joe Biden himself bragged to the foreign council and told them that he got him fired. He bragged about it. It is on video.

Even so, that is not all they have done. Hunter Biden has also gotten his father on the phone over two dozen times to talk with his business partners and talk with them about the business that they are doing.

Even more so, in our possession through our investigations on our Republican-led committees, we also have a WhatsApp chat from Hunter Biden which says: I am sitting here with my father, and we would like to understand why the commitment made has not been fulfilled.

Who is his father?

Joe Biden.

It continues on: Tell the director that I would like to resolve this now before it gets out of hand, and now means tonight.

What I am demanding is that the Republican-led House of Representatives move forward on an impeachment inquiry on Joe Biden because this type of corruption should never be allowed to stand.

We must expunge President Trump's wrongful impeachments, and we must impeach Joe Biden.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BURNS CHEVROLET THROUGHOUT SOUTH CAROLINA

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

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of Burns Chevrolet throughout South Carolina.

C. Weldon, otherwise known as C.W. Burns, was inspired by his grandfather to learn to become a mechanic. His family's dreams became a reality as he graduated from the Rahe Automobile and Tractor School in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 5, 1919, at the young age of 19.

Upon completing the program, C.W. returned to Pageland, South Carolina, to work in a garage. The owner gave C.W. a raise after his first week because he did far more work than any other mechanic there. Soon afterwards,

C.W. opened his own service station, eventually starting his first Chevrolet dealership in Pageland on July 15, 1923—100 years ago today.

In 1927, C.W. expanded his business and bought Ellison Chevrolet in Lancaster, South Carolina, with a partner, Mr. W.H. Cato. They originally named it Burns & Cato, Inc. Later C.W. bought out Mr. Cato's shares for \$5,250 on February 5, 1930; therefore, owning the entire branch.

Following the success of the Lancaster branch, C.W. bought Kershaw Chevrolet with his brother Jimmy R. Burns and W.H. Shaw, Jr., in 1931.

In 1959, C.W. realized there would be far too much family for Lancaster Motor Company to absorb shortly after his twin sons graduated from college; therefore, C.W. sent his son, C. Weldon Burns, Jr., to Rock Hill, South Carolina, to open Burns Chevrolet there. Weldon purchased the Chevrolet dealership in Rock Hill on July 17, 1959.

Weldon then partnered with Claude W. Burns, III, and D. Frank Polk, Jr., in Burns Chevrolet in Rock Hill. Weldon then opened Burns Chevrolet Oldsmobile in Gaffney, South Carolina. A few years later in 1989, Weldon bought out Frank in Gaffney and C. Sam Burns partnered with Weldon in Gaffney, South Carolina.

Weldon and his three sons applied for the Ford dealership in Lancaster and were appointed Ford dealers on February 17, 1994. Robert W. Burns bought out his dad and brothers in 2003 to have sole ownership of Burns Ford in Lancaster.

To usher in the new generation of Burns to the family business, Claude W. Burns, III, added the Cadillac brand in Rock Hill to the family collection on June 30, 2000. Additionally, D. Frank Polk became the Buick GMC dealer in Gaffney, South Carolina, shortly after in 2005.

In 2010 Charles Samuel Burns became the dealer at Burns Chevrolet of Gaffney and sole owner, until he appointed his son, Charles S. Burns, Jr., a partner and dealer in 2020.

On January 27, 2017, Weldon's sons, Claude and Robert, along with Claude's son, James R. Burns, added a new Ford dealership in York, South Carolina. James R. Burns continued to become the dealer of the Burns Chevrolet Cadillac in Rock Hill.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize the century of dedication and service the entire Burns family has brought to the automotive industry in South Carolina. The Burns family has set the gold standard for what has made America the greatest nation known to man: our free enterprise system. For over 100 years, the Burns family continues to serve and gain new customers. Again, from all of us who live and reside in South Carolina, we send thanks to the Burns family.

SILVER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, last month, back home in Sellersburg, Indiana, Silver Creek High School's baseball team made history by winning the program's first-ever class 3A State title.

It is truly an honor and a privilege to recognize Silver Creek High School on the House floor. This is not only an impressive victory, but a testament to the guidance and leadership of Coach Joe Decker and his coaching staff who worked diligently to mold these young men not only into State champions—but future leaders.

I hope Coach Decker enjoys this well-deserved retirement.

The players' countless hours of practice, preparation, and teamwork has finally paid off and will, without a doubt, inspire future generations of players and coaches to strive for both excellence and good sportsmanship. They have not only made their school proud but the entire community and their Congresswoman.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward with great anticipation to see what they will accomplish next.

I congratulate them, once again, on their first-ever State championship win. I am sure it won't be their last.

ACTIVIST PROPOSALS AT THE SEC

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Financial Services Committee, a member of the ESG Working Group, and the Representative of the Ninth District of Indiana, I can say with certainty that we need the Securities and Exchange Commission to be transparent and accountable to the American people.

In my work with committee, one issue I have been particularly focused on is the shareholder proposal process. In the current system, activists can persistently resubmit similar far-left proposals year after year despite those proposals being previously rejected by a majority of shareholders.

This shift in focus toward advancing environmental, social, and political policies distracts from the primary purpose of our public markets which is to enable companies to raise capital, foster economic growth, and provide a return on investment for everyday investors.

The SEC's recent proposals would make this problem worse by allowing more and more politically motivated shareholder proposals to be considered.

This busy work provides no benefit to business.

So why would we allow these already decided upon political topics to plague our boardrooms?

It is simply not fair to companies, including the ones across my district, to have to continuously invest resources in fighting or litigating activist proposals that clearly do not benefit the company or its shareholders, especially when similar proposals have already been rejected.

The SEC proposals defy logic and sound investment strategy. That is why last week I introduced the No Expensive, Stifling Governance Act, or

the No ESG Act, as the very first bill of its kind to be introduced in Congress.

The No ESG Act would stop this burdensome rule from being enacted and help put an end to redundant and onerous shareholder proposals.

More specifically, for companies listening back home, this would address the SEC's proposed amendments on rule 14a-8.

While the current system benefits a small group of activists over everyday investors, this proposed rule would increase the burden on shareholders and businesses and divert attention away from the issues that actually matter.

The bottom line is that southern Indiana companies shouldn't be forced to become political platforms where politics overshadow sound financial decisionmaking.

When I said that my priority was to improve the financial landscape for the Ninth District, I meant it. Accomplishing that depends heavily on putting forth legislation that would make a real difference, and the No ESG Act is that kind of legislation.

I am glad to be contending on behalf of the State of Indiana to solve this problem that has been overlooked for far too long.

TUCSON PASSPORT CENTER AND WESTERN PASSPORT CENTER

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

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the monumental effort happening in my district of the Tucson Passport Center and Western Passport Center.

The employees here are working around the clock—sometimes 7 days a week—to help Americans across our country receive their passports during an unprecedented surge in demand and clear the backlog of applications.

These men and women are not only helping Americans in a timely manner, but they are also coming up with creative and innovative solutions so travelers' plans are not disrupted.

A record one-half million passport applications are being submitted every week—every single week—by our friends and our neighbors. Families going on vacation, students studying abroad, business travelers seeking trade opportunities, whatever the reason, Americans are traveling abroad like never before, and they aren't going to get very far without a passport.

The Western Passport Center is seeing upwards of 200 in-person emergency and urgent traveler counter appointments per day.

The Tucson Passport Center has ramped up organizations to print 80,000 passports per day, working in tandem with their colleagues in Arkansas to supply the 29 passport agencies and centers across the country.

Last month alone, Tucson printed 1.1 million passports—eclipsing the million they printed the month before.

I am honored to have these passport centers in Arizona's Sixth Congressional District. These individuals are really stepping up on behalf of myself, my constituents, and all the people they have helped. I thank them for a job well done.

□ 1245

POWER OF THE PURSE

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

Mr. COLLINS. Madam Speaker, I am reminded of the old hymn, "There Is Power in the Blood," "power in the blood, wonder working power." It also reminds me of something else, that Congress has the power of the purse.

Madam Speaker, yesterday, before I returned to D.C., I had a meeting with a local county official. I thought we were going to discuss infrastructure and workforce problems. He wanted to talk to me about veterans, homeless veterans, how it was increasing so much in his county, and the fact that we have borders that are just porous, with record numbers of people crossing those borders. Here we are, setting them up in rooms and with food, yet we have veterans all across this country living under bridges.

Madam Speaker, when I got to the world's busiest airport, I ran into a dear friend, a marine, on his way to his next assignment. I thought it was very ironic because here we are this week, discussing the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. That is right, the power of the purse.

We owe our veterans a debt of gratitude that we can't ever repay. We also owe our military, our current members of the military, all the tools that they can get in their toolbox.

That is why, this week, we are going to be discussing things. We are fully funding the health program for our veterans and fully funding the veterans benefits in all the VA programs. We are also focusing on infrastructure investments for our current military.

There is another thing we have with that power of the purse—not just funding, but cutting. See, we are going to cut out of our military DEI and CRT, which are hurting recruitment and killing morale.

Madam Speaker, as we go throughout this week and have this debate, for their salvation, I encourage my colleagues to focus on that power of the blood, but I also encourage them to focus on the power of the purse for these appropriations bills.

ENSURING A SAFE AND SECURE FOOD SUPPLY

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, this week, in this great House, we are set to consider this year's agriculture appropriations bill, a piece of legislation that will impact not only our farmers but every American across this great Nation.

This legislation put forward by my colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee represents a critical step forward in safeguarding our Nation's food and drug supply, supporting our farmers, and ensuring that all Americans, including those in rural communities and low-income families, have access to essential nutrition programs.

If we learned anything from the pandemic, it is that we should have a strong domestic supply chain so that we aren't relying on foreign countries for things like food and medication. This bill demonstrates our commitment to strengthening our national security and food supply by making strategic allocations for agricultural research, rural broadband, and programs focused on animal and plant health.

These are not just budgetary allocations. They are investments in the future of our Nation. By providing sufficient funds for a strong supply chain and for safe food, drugs, and medical devices, we reaffirm our dedication to the well-being of every American.

This legislation further protects our national security by ensuring that agricultural land remains out of the hands of foreign adversaries, such as Communist China, Russia, North Korea, or Iran, safeguarding our national interests.

Our efforts to rein in wasteful spending and bureaucracy are paramount. This bill would redirect funds from partisan bills, such as the Inflation Reduction Act, and utilize them to support our producers in our rural communities.

I personally met with dairy farmers, grape growers, and other agricultural producers in my district to understand the unique challenges faced by our farmers in our rural communities.

I am proud to support this year's agricultural appropriations legislation and to demonstrate our commitment to our hardworking farmers, rural communities, and all Americans who rely on a safe and secure food and drug supply.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to stand together in support of this critical legislation.

FUNDING AGRICULTURE AND MILITARY PRIORITIES

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I also rise today to comment on the two appropriations bills before the House this week and to point out that I would like to thank the Appropriations Committee for doing a good job on both bills.

We are going to take up, this week, the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act and the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

I am proud to say that the U.S. has the strongest military in the world, but I recently ran into someone on break and heard about the horrible conditions, almost embarrassing conditions—you have to kind of wonder about the military—that they had to live in.

In any event, when we put together this bill, we had to make sure that the living conditions for the military were such that they are, first of all, appropriate for such brave fighting men and women, and, secondly, that we continue to attract and retain our people who signed up for the military.

It is apparent, therefore, that of all the appropriations bills that will come up, the military construction and veterans affairs bill, contrary to what we have been hearing around here in partisan attacks, does contain an increase in funding over last year's bill—just about the only segment of the government that does.

Meanwhile, I am glad to say that the agriculture bill contains a significant reduction over last year. Why do we have to spend less? For one thing because the excessive spending is where the inflation comes from. With too many dollars sloshing around the U.S. economy, those dollars have led to the spiraling, out-of-control cost of housing and the out-of-control cost of automobiles.

The Republicans have done a good job of, at least with regard to discretionary spending, finally saying we should have a year in which the overall level of spending is going down.

First of all, I would like to point out some of the things that are funded in the agriculture bill. We continue to have critical investments in agriculture research and rural broadband.

I will tell you, I have a rural state. I have 10 counties. When I show up at my town's association, again and again, I hear about the need for more rural broadband for health purposes and also to keep up-to-date on all research and anything else that we have to do to help people in the rural areas.

I am also glad that we are going to prevent the purchase of agricultural land from foreign countries that will inevitably lead to a loss in this country of our sovereignty.

We are going to, even more importantly, eliminate the USDA's diversity, equity, and inclusion office, which I think requires a little bit more of a discussion. It is not that huge of an office, but I think the effort of President Biden to continue to emphasize this equity, diversity, is misplaced.

The goal of these offices is to, I think, encourage people to view people by where their ancestors came from, not where they are now. Their goal is

clearly to persuade the American public that we have racial problems.

If you look at the statistics, that just plain is not so, and I want to point these things out for everyone, including any children who may be getting the wrong idea from television or education areas.

During the last year, the 10 countries that saw the greatest number of people sworn in as Americans were, in order, Mexico, Philippines, India, Dominican Republic, China, Cuba, Colombia, Vietnam, Haiti, and El Salvador. None of these countries are European countries. In other words, people from everywhere else around the world are trying to get in here. Obviously, we do not have a big racial problem in this country or all these people would not be trying to come here.

Another interesting list is the most successful, in terms of income, people coming to the United States. Number one, people from India—I know a lot of very successful people from India. Frequently, they came here not even knowing how to speak English, but they succeed by hard work and strong families. People from the Philippines, Taiwan, Cuba, and Pakistan are all doing better than the native-born.

I am very pleased that the Appropriations Committee removed this DEI funding. I intend to vote for these bills.

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 54 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:

Holy and eternal God, You have made everything suitable for its time. Give us pause to consider the beauty inherent in this day and the rightness of all that is around us at this very moment.

What a challenge that presents us, as there is so much that is far from beautiful, so much that isn't right. Yet You have set eternity in our heart, and this is a mystery we cannot comprehend, we are blind to Your creative and redemptive work in our lives.

Give us faith, O God, in Your eternal purpose. Grant us the faith to believe that You see all things past, present, and future. All the things of yesterday, today, and tomorrow are subject to You.

Remind us that You are outside and above time. Your power to guide and

direct our steps and order our days is not restricted to the limitations of our linear understanding.

In our haste to control the chaos around us, in our anxiety to the face of uncertainty, in our impatience to rectify the wrongness we battle daily, grant us a sense of Your steadfast love and sovereign protection, which was granted us in eternity past, abides with us now, and will guide us in the future.

Sure of Your everlasting kindness, we offer our prayers in Your most holy name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

Pursuant to clause 1, 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 California (Mr. LIEU) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LIEU 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.

NEVER FORGET THE DEBT OF GRATITUDE THAT WE OWE OUR NATION'S HEROES

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, we must never forget the debt of gratitude we owe to our Nation's heroes.

This year's Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies appropriations bill does just that.

First and foremost, this bill ensures that veterans' healthcare programs receive full funding. We have an obligation to provide them with the best medical care and support they deserve without compromise.

This initiative also aims to make the VA more efficient, which will give our

veterans improved access to the care and resources they need to lead fulfilling lives after their service.

Beyond funding, we recognize the need to address the challenges our veterans face as they transition back to civilian life. Our focus remains on preserving and strengthening programs that assist veterans in finding meaningful employment, educational opportunities, and mental health support.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to show our veterans the same unwavering dedication that they have shown to us.

JUDGE KAPLAN'S RULING

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, on July 19, 2023, Federal Judge Lewis Kaplan rejected Donald Trump's request for a new trial and confirmed that Donald Trump raped E. Jean Carroll.

I must submit this court ruling into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I will read what the judge found. On page 43, the judge wrote: "Ms. Carroll testified that the sexual assault—the 'rape'—of which she accused Mr. Trump involved especially painful, forced digital penetration. . . ."

The judge further writes: "The testimony of the outcry witnesses, [Mses.] Birnbach and Martin, corroborated the essence of Ms. Carroll's account of a violent, traumatic sexual assault."

On page 44, the judge wrote: "The jury's finding of sexual abuse therefore necessarily implies that it found that Mr. Trump forcibly penetrated her vagina."

The judge further writes: ". . . in other words, that he raped her. . . ."

Mr. Speaker, Judge Kaplan's memorandum opinion denying defendant's rule 59 motion can be found at: <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.nysd.590045/gov.uscourts.nysd.590045.212.0.pdf>.

RECOGNIZING PELLA WINDOWS

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I recognize Pella Corporation of Pella, Iowa, for being named one of "America's Greatest Workplaces of 2023" by Newsweek.

This designation focuses on categories such as professional development, job satisfaction, compensation, work-life balance, and other categories. Pella has been a mainstay in our community for 98 years, a family-owned business, and employs over 10,000 people nationwide.

Pella is one of the most innovative companies in the United States and has over 150 patents. They actively work to create space for professional development and employee empowerment.

Congratulations to Pella Corporation for this recognition, and I thank them

for continuing to make our community proud.

Mr. Speaker, I wish a happy 20th anniversary to my sister and brother-in-law, Mari-Eleanor and Ralph Martino on September 6. Happy anniversary, Mari-Eleanor and Ralph.

I extend first anniversary wishes to Taylor, my daughter, and her husband David Lazarowitz on September 4. Happy anniversary to Taylor and David.

APPLAUDING THE WORK OF THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

(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, this week House Republicans and the House of Representatives will be considering the fiscal year 2024 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies appropriations bill that prioritizes agencies and programs that protect our Nation's food and drug supply and support America's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities, like the ones I represent in Tennessee.

As a farmer and former State agriculture commissioner, I cannot overly stress the importance of the programs in this bill and how farmers and families rely on them. Whether it is rural broadband, WIC, or supplemental nutrition, the programs in this bill go a long way to make sure folks have enough food and fiber to be productive citizens in our society.

That is not all this bill does: it reins in wasteful Washington spending, protects the lives of unborn children, and prohibits agricultural land purchases by those associated with foreign adversaries.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work of the Appropriations Committee to include these provisions.

LGBTQ+ SERVICEMEMBERS DESERVE ACCESS TO LIFESAVING HEALTHCARE AND SERVICES

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

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the heinous attack on LGBTQ+ servicemembers and veterans, including in the fiscal year Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies appropriations bill.

While it is no surprise that Republicans continue their consistent attempts to dehumanize, discriminate, and devalue LGBTQ+ people, it is shameful that they have chosen to carry this distasteful political attack into this body's appropriations process. Why?

This is a voluntary military, Mr. Speaker. There are 1 million gay and lesbian veterans, and more than 130,000

of them identify as transgender. On top of that, 65,000 Active Duty members currently serving in our military identify as LGBTQ+.

In their bill, which we will debate later on this week, Republicans argue that we should turn our backs on these volunteers who have dedicated their lives to serving our country. Saying that they do not deserve access to life-saving healthcare services based on their identity is ridiculous.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to stick with our LGBTQ+ veterans.

□ 1415

RECOGNIZING JESSICA CARTER

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

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dedicated public servant to our country, Jessica Carter.

Jess has been my right hand for the past few years, helping me better serve the people of Washington's Fourth Congressional District as my chief of staff. During that time she has led our team with integrity, grit, and unparalleled resolve. Now, after almost 30 years of serving our Nation, she will be leaving Capitol Hill.

As one of the Hill's finest, Jess started in 1995, moving up the ranks from legislative assistant to deputy chief of staff in the office of Representative Richard Pombo. She then served as deputy chief of staff and senior adviser for Representative Steve Pearce, then director of public policy at the National Industries for the Blind. Following that she worked for Representatives Stephen Fincher and Francis Rooney before joining my team in 2020.

Since joining Team Newhouse, Jess has been instrumental in helping my office pass 59 pieces of legislation while keeping our team working together every single day. We have been able to achieve extraordinary wins for central Washington and our Nation.

Many consider her both a friend and a colleague, and she will most certainly be missed in the Halls of Congress. As my entire staff knows, once a member of Team Newhouse, always a member of Team Newhouse.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Jess all the best. Capitol Hill will not be the same without her.

REMEMBERING OFFICER JAKE WALLIN OF SAINT MICHAEL, MINNESOTA

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

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Officer Jake Wallin, a brave young veteran from Saint Michael, Minnesota.

On July 14, while responding to a crash in south Fargo, a gunman shot

and killed Jake and wounded two of his fellow officers and one civilian.

Without hesitation, to protect those whom he served, Officer Jake Wallin made the ultimate sacrifice.

My prayers go out to the Wallin family. Please know that the people of western Minnesota share your loss and we pray for Jake's family and for his law enforcement family.

Mr. Speaker, let us never take for granted the heroes who walk among us.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FORMER KNOX COUNTY COMMISSION CHAIR THOMAS "TANK" STRICKLAND

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a heavy heart to honor the life of former Knox County Commission Chair Thomas "Tank" Strickland who passed away on July 18 at 70 years old.

Tank grew up in east Tennessee and attended Austin-East High School. He graduated from the University of Tennessee before becoming the first Black chair of the Knox County Commission. He dedicated his life to making Knoxville a much better place.

When he announced his retirement, he said he hoped he left every single situation, organization, and person in a better condition than when he started.

Mr. Speaker, that was a great understatement.

Even after retiring in 2016, Tank continued to serve the east Knoxville community and the entire community as a whole. Just a week before he passed away, he asked me to honor some other east Tennesseans, Leo and Judy Whiteside, here on the House floor for their service to the community. He handwrote his notes about them and sent them to our office. This is truly a testament to how much he loved our community and the folks around him.

Mr. Speaker, I am thankful not just for his service to Knoxville but also that I could call him a dear friend. When my daddy had his stroke, Tank would check on my mama every day in the hospital. My mama would always say: "That handsome young man came by."

I guess he had a way with the ladies, and my mama loved him.

Tank was a dear friend to my parents and my girls. He left behind a great legacy and made our community a better place. He leaves his lovely wife, Terry, and a bunch of Omega Psi Phi brothers.

I know he is in Heaven with Jesus, Mr. Speaker, but in a selfish way I will miss him for the rest of my life.

BIDENOMICS IS FAILING FAMILIES

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, President Biden has continued his fabricated excuses for Bidenomics. His message is not reality understood by American families.

According to the New York Post op-ed by Brian Riedl, senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute: "'Bidenomics' is a record of failure," and the President will spend \$5 trillion over the next decade. This spending is "driving prices upward by more than 16 percent . . . since the President took office, at a cost of more than \$10,000 for the typical household," and hourly compensation has fallen by 5 percent. "When incomes cannot keep pace with inflation and families are falling behind, few other economic variables matter."

Biden fails to recognize that inflation reached the highest rate in 40 years under his watch of borrow, tax, and spend, and it is failing families and destroying 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.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. VAN ORDEN). 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 20 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1602

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK) at 4 o'clock and 2 minutes 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.

HAITI CRIMINAL COLLUSION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1684) to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1684

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 "Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) According to a United Nations estimate, approximately 167 criminal gangs operated in Haiti in October 2021, exerting territorial control over as much as two-thirds of the country.

(2) Haitian armed criminal gangs, the most prominent of which are the G9 Family and Allies and 400 Mawozo gangs, conduct violent crimes, including murder, rape, arms and drug trafficking, racketeering, kidnapping, and blockades of fuel and aid deliveries. These crimes have perpetuated the ongoing security and humanitarian crises in Haiti, which have worsened since the assassination of President Jovenel Moise on July 7, 2021.

(3) The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Human Rights Service jointly found a 333 percent increase in human rights violations and abuses against the rights to life and security in Haiti between July 2018 and December 2019.

(4) At least 19,000 Haitians were forcibly displaced during 2021 due to rising criminal violence.

(5) Armed gangs have used rape, and other forms of sexual violence to instill fear, punish, subjugate, and inflict pain on local populations with the goal of expanding their areas of influence in Port-au-Prince.

(6) At least 803 kidnappings were reported in Haiti during the first 10 months of 2021, including the kidnapping of more than 16 United States citizens, giving Haiti having the highest per capita kidnapping rate of any country in the world.

(7) There is significant evidence of collusion between criminal gangs and economic and political elites in Haiti, including members of the Haitian National Police, which has resulted in widespread impunity and directly contributed to Haiti's current security crisis.

(8) On December 10, 2020, the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury designated former Haitian National Police officer Jimmy Chérizier, former Director General of the Ministry of the Interior Fednel Monchery, and former Departmental Delegate Joseph Pierre Richard Duplan under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114-328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note) for their connections to armed criminal gangs, including organizing the November 2018 La Saline massacre.

SEC. 3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

(2) ECONOMIC ELITES.—The term "economic elites" means board members, officers, and executives of groups, committees, corporations, or other entities that exert substantial influence or control over Haiti's economy, infrastructure, or particular industries.

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term "intelligence community" has the meaning

given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) **POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ELITES.**—The term “political and economic elites” means political elites and economic elites.

(5) **POLITICAL ELITES.**—The term “political elites” means current and former government officials and their high-level staff, political party leaders, and political committee leaders.

(b) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the intelligence community, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti. The report shall—

(A) identify prominent criminal gangs in Haiti, describe their criminal activities including coercive recruitment, and identify their primary geographic areas of operations;

(B) list Haitian political and economic elites who have links to criminal gangs;

(C) describe in detail the relationship between the individuals listed pursuant to subparagraph (B) and the criminal gangs identified pursuant to subparagraph (A);

(D) list Haitian political and economic elites with links to criminal activities who are currently subjected to visa restrictions or sanctions by the United States, its international partners, or the United Nations, including information regarding—

(i) the date on which each such Haitian political or economic elite was designated for restrictions or sanctions;

(ii) which countries have designated such Haitian political and economic elites for restrictions or sanctions; and

(iii) for Haitian political and economic elites who were designated by the United States, the statutory basis for such designation;

(E) describe in detail how Haitian political and economic elites use their relationships with criminal gangs to advance their political and economic interests and agenda;

(F) include a list of each criminal organization assessed to be trafficking Haitians and other individuals to the United States border;

(G) include an assessment of how the nature and extent of collusion between political and economic elites and criminal gangs threatens the Haitian people and United States national interests and activities in the country, including the provision of security assistance to the Haitian government; and

(H) include an assessment of potential actions that the Government of the United States and the Government of Haiti could take to address the findings made pursuant to subparagraph (G).

(2) **FORM OF REPORT.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

(c) **DESIGNATIONS OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ELITES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with other relevant Federal agencies and departments, shall identify persons identified pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (b)(1) who may be subjected to visa restrictions and sanctions under—

(A) section 7031(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2022 (division K of Public Law 117-103; 8 U.S.C. 1182 note); or

(B) section 1263 of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 10102).

(2) **IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the report is submitted pursuant to subsection (b), the President shall impose, on individuals identified pursuant to paragraph (1), to the extent applicable, the sanctions referred to in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such paragraph.

(B) **EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A requirement to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property pursuant to the authority provided by this section shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(ii) **GOOD DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

(3) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) with respect to a foreign person if the President certifies and reports to the appropriate congressional committees before such waiver is to take effect that such waiver—

(A) would serve a vital national interest of the United States; or

(B) is necessary for the delivery of humanitarian assistance or other assistance that supports basic human needs.

(4) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—The list of persons identified pursuant to subsection (b)(1)(B) shall be posted on a publicly accessible website of the Department of State beginning on the date on which the report required under subsection (b)(1) is submitted to Congress.

(d) **SUNSET.**—This section shall cease to have effect on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, prolonged political instability, exceptionally high poverty levels, a resurgence of cholera, food insecurity, a paralyzed economy and crippling inflation prices, continuous devastating natural disasters, lack of access to adequate healthcare, and distressing levels of insecurity—these are the ongoing crises facing the people of Haiti.

Tragically, they are being made worse by corrupt oligarchs and political elites in the country who use gangs as a tool to advance their personal interests and gain power.

Those lawless gangs are responsible for an exponential rise in violence and horrific human rights abuses. They are wreaking havoc against an already vulnerable population.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from New York, Ranking Member MEEKS, who worked with Chairman MCCAUL and their bipartisan cosponsors to help confront those predators with this bill.

This bill ensures that the Secretary of State will impose sanctions on Haiti's economic and political elite responsible for mobilizing these gangs to carry out their dirty work which has unleashed violence with no end in sight.

The bill also requires annual reports to Congress on the ties between these gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti.

To help the Haitian people restore democratic order, we must hold corrupt elites accountable for the violence they are instigating. Prohibiting these criminals from traveling to and operating in the United States is an important step in that direction.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 1684, the Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 1684 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, June 15, 2023.

Hon. JIM JORDAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1684, the Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on

this measure or, similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the Congressional Record during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1684, the Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023.

Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that Haiti is in a dire situation. A United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime report, released this year, highlighted increasingly sophisticated and high-caliber firearms and ammunition being trafficked into Haiti amid an unprecedented and rapidly deteriorating security situation.

This level of criminal activity is the craft of experienced and well-connected individuals who have long utilized crises and instability in Haiti to gain economic control and increase their political sphere of influence.

There are as many as 200 gangs in Haiti who now control at least 85 percent of Port-au-Prince. Gang violence has resulted in the killing of over 1,200 people in Haiti in the first 5 months of the year alone. In just 11 days, the Baz Gran Grif gang murdered 69 people and injured another 83, forcing authorities to abandon several police stations. Authorities believe the gang is responsible for the killing of 14 Haitian National Police officers in late January as part of its ongoing violence.

Political insecurity following Moise's assassination has only furthered the declining security situation. The Haitian National Government's last democratically elected officials' terms expired in January, and new elections are postponed indefinitely.

While we continue to push for a Haitian-led solution to these challenges, the United States must do what it can to not allow corrupt officials that have contributed to Haiti's political and criminal crisis to travel freely to the United States. I am committed to holding corrupt officials accountable and prohibiting their travel to the United States, and this legislation would help in those efforts.

H.R. 1684 authorizes the Secretary of State to sanction Haiti's economic and political elite who regularly use gangs to leverage and maintain power. The bill also ensures that Congress receives regular reports on Haitian gang activity and related criminality.

The Haitian people need to believe that their voices matter and that their government exists to improve their quality of life, not make it more burdensome. We know these conditions are causing the rise in migration out of Haiti as people seek freedom and safety at any cost.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we have a duty to make sure that we identify and hold accountable those who relish in the chaos caused by supporting gang activity, using kidnappings and rape to control and silence communities, and using coercion to bring youth in and around Port-au-Prince into the service of criminal activity.

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

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act introduced by my friend, the ranking member, Mr. MEEKS of New York, to place international pressure on elites in Haiti who have exacerbated and benefited from widespread instability of violence in that turbulent country.

Nearly one-half of the country's population, close to 5 million Haitians, face acute hunger today. Haitians face drastic food, fuel, and medical equipment shortages. Cholera outbreaks are now widespread not far from our shore, and gangs dominate the Haitian economy and daily life through corruption, extortion, and brutal violence.

In fact, the Haitian National Police and Haitian politicians are so compromised by gangs that lawlessness and instability are the new norm.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative MEEKS for keeping our attention on Haiti. The situation is, as he said, dire. The only way we will start helping Haiti root out corruption is to create a cost for those among the Haitian elite who benefit from crime and corruption.

A little over a century ago, U.S. soldiers landed on Haiti's shores to stabilize a country in upheaval following the assassination of a Haitian President.

With the country now, once again, destabilized following the assassination of another Haitian President, the United States must work with allies and partners to give the Haitian people a voice and to allow for them to take their country back from the gangs and the instability rampant in Haiti today.

This time we must do so with an appreciation for our Nation's sordid history in Haiti, mistakes we have made, and how we can do better by the Haitian people this time. We have a chance to redeem our own history.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank the ranking member, Mr. MEEKS, for keeping our attention focused on Haiti, as it should be, and for bringing this important piece of legislation to the floor, and I urge all of our colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK).

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member

MEEKS for leading this and also Chairman MCCAUL.

Mr. Speaker, as the only Haitian-American Member in Congress, I was proud to help introduce the Haitian Criminal Collusion Transparency Act.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress on the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti. It would also impose the necessary sanctions on parties involved in such criminal activities.

Armed criminal gangs continue to wreak havoc across Haiti, fanning the flames of a worsening humanitarian crisis and leading many to fear for their own safety.

We see numerous accounts of rape against children, infants, and women. The gangs have gained strength for years without any kind of accountability. The assassination of Moise in 2021 added fuel to the fire.

By shining a light on the connection between these violent criminal enterprises and corrupt leaders, along with levying a series of crippling economic sanctions, we can better address the chaos that has engulfed Haiti for years now.

The instability impacts us right here at home. Traveling to Haiti has become extremely unsafe. A few months ago, two of my constituents were kidnapped while visiting Haiti and held for ransom by dangerous gangs. No one should ever have to endure that by visiting Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to support solutions that address the country's political, economic, and health situations, and I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to put an end to the reign of terror in Haiti. Once again, I thank our ranking member, Representative MEEKS, and also Chairman MCCAUL for helping us push this forward.

□ 1615

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE).

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member MEEKS and Chairman MCCAUL for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1684. This timely piece of legislation, which I cosponsored, calls attention to the unprecedented humanitarian and security crisis unfolding just miles from our shores in Haiti.

Despite reports that sexual violence, kidnappings, displacement, and indiscriminate killings have swept the country, the international community has in many ways left Haitians to fend for themselves again, as usual.

The last thing we should do is write off Haiti's struggles as hopeless and insurmountable. The Haitian people have a long history of resilience and grit in the face of relentless man-made and natural disasters. After all, this is a

country born out of the fight for dignity and human rights against colonialism, systemic racism, and slavery.

Haitians are a people who have confronted every unthinkable obstacle that has come their way, and they have persevered against the odds.

We must continue to support the Haitian people with concerted international action and intentional policies like this bill.

I am glad that this bill takes a strong step in holding accountable the economic and political elites who are perpetuating and benefiting from the country's chronic insecurity.

I know there are Members on both sides of the aisle who are deeply invested in Haiti's future and represent Haitian constituents. I worked with some of them to introduce a resolution calling for a redoubling of diplomatic efforts to help achieve a solution to the current impasse.

There is more we can do, and there is more we must do in a strong bipartisan way.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to turn a blind eye to Haiti, not to forget the Haitian people, and to support this important legislation. Haiti is our neighbor. Haiti deserves more.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I introduced and marked up this bill with robust bipartisan support. I thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, Chairman MCCAUL and the chair of the subcommittee, Chairwoman SALAZAR; my colleagues who just spoke, Representative CHERFILUS-McCORMICK and Representative KAMLAGER-DOVE; and others who worked in a bipartisan way to ensure that Congress takes steps to address the crisis created by Haitian gangs.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Haiti deserve to know which organizations and individuals support destabilizing criminal activity, including those who take advantage of desperate people who are already extremely vulnerable, trafficking them throughout the region and making financial gains at every stop along the way.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow these elites, those who are paying the gangs, those who are incentivizing the gangs to create and do horrific things, to just keep walking about with impunity.

We have to stand up and state that we are going to point them out and sanction them to give the people of Haiti an opportunity to feel that their government and their country can move forward.

We can no longer just talk about having elections without having the gangs wiped out and away from Haiti because they would control the elections.

This sends a message to those elites, those who are financing the gangs, those who think that they can continue their criminal activity, that the United States is going to sanction

them and that they won't be able to cross the borders and go back and forth.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities.

I have a lot of Haitians in my district. They want some action. They want some relief from the activities of these criminal gangs.

The message that this bill sends, and what the follow-up with the administration would say, is that the United States House of Representatives, in a very bipartisan fashion and working collectively together, will not allow them to continue their corrupt criminal activities.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, what is going on in the nation of Haiti is a human tragedy. I again thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MEEKS) for leading this bipartisan bill, which, as he eloquently described, would require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti, thereby enabling the Secretary of State to identify and impose sanctions on political and economic elites with links to criminal gangs. Hopefully, that effort would improve the conditions that the people of Haiti are going through right now.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1684, 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.

STOP CHINESE FENTANYL ACT OF 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3203) to impose sanctions with respect to Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors, to hold Chinese officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3203

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 "Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Government of the People's Republic of China should—

(1) work with the United States Government to identify a list of unregulated chemicals used to create precursor chemicals that bear increased scrutiny;

(2) require the proper labeling of chemical and equipment shipments in accordance with international rules;

(3) immediately implement "know-your-customer" procedures for chemical shipments; and

(4) direct all relevant departments and agencies, including the National Narcotics Control Commission, the Ministry of Public Security, the General Administration of Customs, and the National Medical Products Administration of the Government of the People's Republic of China to establish new rules to crack down on precursor trafficking and enforce such rules swiftly.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE FENTANYL SANCTIONS ACT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 7203(5) of the Fentanyl Sanctions Act (21 U.S.C. 2302(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking "The term 'foreign opioid trafficker' means any foreign person" and inserting the following: "The term 'foreign opioid trafficker'—

"(A) means any foreign person";

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) includes—

"(i) any entity of the People's Republic of China that the President determines—

"(I) produces, manufactures, distributes, sells, or knowingly finances or transports any goods described in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (8)(A); and

"(II) fails to take credible steps, including through implementation of appropriate know-your-customer procedures or through cooperation with United States counter-narcotics efforts, to detect or prevent opioid trafficking; and

"(ii) any senior official of the Government of the People's Republic of China or other Chinese political official that—

"(I) has significant regulatory or law enforcement responsibilities with respect to the activities of an entity described in clause (i); and

"(II) aids and abets, including through intentional inaction, opioid trafficking.".

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF FOREIGN OPIOID TRAFFICKERS.—Section 7211 of the Fentanyl Sanctions Act (21 U.S.C. 2311) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by adding at the end before the semicolon the following: ", including whether the heads of the National Narcotics Control Commission, the Ministry of Public Security, the General Administration of Customs, and the National Medical Products Administration of the Government of the People's Republic of China are foreign opioid traffickers"; and

(2) in subsection (c), by striking "5 years" and inserting "10 years".

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY ECONOMIC POWERS ACT AND THE TRADING WITH THE ENEMY ACT.

(a) INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY ECONOMIC POWERS ACT.—

(1) PERIODIC EVALUATION.—Section 203 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(d) PERIODIC EVALUATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—If the authority granted to the President under this section is exercised with respect to a covered national emergency, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees,

not less frequently than annually, a periodic evaluation in writing that—

“(A) assesses the effectiveness of the exercise of such authority in resolving the covered national emergency;

“(B) considers the views of public- and private-sector stakeholders; and

“(C) discusses any potential changes to the exercise of the authority for the purpose of more effectively resolving the covered national emergency.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(i) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives; and

“(ii) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

“(B) the term ‘covered national emergency’ means a national emergency that—

“(i) the President has declared, within the preceding 5-year period, with respect to any national emergency regarding international drug trafficking; and

“(ii) has not terminated.”.

(2) CONSULTATION AND REPORTS.—Section 204 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1703) is amended—

(A) by striking “the Congress” each place it appears and inserting “the appropriate congressional committees”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ has the meaning given that term in section 203(d)(2).”.

(3) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE REGULATIONS.—Section 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1704) is amended—

(A) by striking “The President” and inserting “(a) The President”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) In issuing regulations under subsection (a) pursuant to a covered national emergency (as defined in section 203), the President shall—

“(1) consider the costs and benefits of available statutory and regulatory alternatives;

“(2) evaluate the costs and benefits for the purpose of expeditiously resolving the applicable national emergency;

“(3) establish criteria for the eventual termination of the applicable national emergency; and

“(4) include in the basis and purpose incorporated in the regulations—

“(A) an explanation of how the regulations will resolve the applicable national emergency; and

“(B) a discussion of the costs and benefits.”.

(4) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) CIVIL PENALTY.—An action, suit, or proceeding for the enforcement of any civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture, pecuniary or otherwise, shall not be entertained unless commenced within 10 years from the latest date of the violation upon which the civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture is based.

“(2) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense under this section unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within 10 years from the latest date of the violation

upon which the indictment or information is based.”.

(b) TRADING WITH THE ENEMY ACT.—Section 16 of the Trading with the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. 4315) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—No person shall be prosecuted, tried, or punished for any offense under this section unless the indictment is found or the information is instituted within 10 years from the latest date of the violation upon which the indictment or information is based.

“(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—An action, suit, or proceeding for the enforcement of any civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture, pecuniary or otherwise, shall not be entertained unless commenced within 10 years from the latest date of the violation upon which the civil fine, penalty, or forfeiture is based.”.

SEC. 5. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A requirement to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property pursuant to this Act or any amendment made by this Act shall not include the authority or a requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(b) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, the term “good” means any article, natural or manmade substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment, and excluding technical data.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act, that is currently before the House.

The fentanyl crisis is one that is affecting families and communities across the United States. As of 2021, 70,601 Americans died as a result of synthetic opioid overdoses. As of 2020, 82.3 percent of all opioid-involved overdoses were the result of synthetic opioids. Last year, almost 70 percent of all drug overdose deaths were caused by fentanyl—over 100,000 American lives destroyed because of this.

This has certainly impacted my home State, the Commonwealth of Kentucky. A recent drug overdose report from the Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy reported that there was a 14.5 percent increase in overdose deaths in my home State.

According to cases autopsied by the Kentucky Office of the Medical Examiner and toxicology reports submitted by Kentucky coroners, the rise in the

death toll was driven largely by an increased use of fentanyl, accounting for approximately 70 percent of all overdose deaths in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Unfortunately, this scourge has spread with the help of our greatest strategic threat, the People’s Republic of China and the Chinese Communist Party. We know that China has historically been and remains the primary source of fentanyl in global circulation.

Since the Trump administration tightened controls on the shipment of fentanyl into the United States, the CCP has adjusted their practices and begun producing precursor chemicals and outsourcing final production to cartel laboratories in Mexico to then exploit our porous southern border and poison the American people.

In 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized 4,800 pounds of fentanyl, or enough to kill over a billion people. Just a tiny little bit of this very deadly synthetic opioid is enough to kill.

This figure more than tripled in just 2 years to 14,700 pounds in 2022. In the first 2 months of 2023, Customs and Border Protection seized 12,500 pounds. Much of this is originating from China exploiting the cartels and exploiting our open southern border.

We must attack the production of fentanyl at its source by targeting the source of the precursors in China. My legislation places sanctions on Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors and holds senior government and Chinese political officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl.

Specifically, it amends the Fentanyl Sanctions Act to expand the definition of a foreign opioid trafficker to include any Chinese entity that produces, manufactures, distributes, sells, finances, or transports synthetic opioids or active pharmaceutical ingredients or chemicals used to produce synthetic opioids and fails to take credible steps to detect or prevent opioid trafficking, including know-your-customer procedures or cooperation with U.S. counter-narcotics efforts.

The expanded definition also includes any senior officials of the PRC Government or other Chinese political official who has significant regulatory or law enforcement responsibilities and fails to take credible steps to combat foreign opioid traffickers.

Their culpability, the culpability of the Chinese Communist Party in this epidemic in our country, does not end when the precursor products land in Mexico or illegally cross our southern border. We must look at every step of fentanyl’s deadly supply chain.

This bipartisan legislation passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee by voice vote earlier this year and is a needed step to control this deadly drug.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, February 9, 2023.

Hon. PATRICK MCHENRY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCHENRY: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3203, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 3203 into the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 18, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Financial Services regarding H.R. 3203, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023. I agree that the Committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 3203 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved on this or similar legislation as it moves forward. The Committee also reserves the right to see appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any conference with the Senate involving this or similar legislation, and we request your support for any such request.

Finally, as you mentioned in your letter, I ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this bill be included in your Committee's report to accompany the legislation, as well as in the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration thereof.

Sincerely,

PATRICK MCHENRY,
Chairman,
Committee on Financial Services.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, June 23, 2023.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 3203, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

The Committee takes this action with the understanding that forgoing further consideration of this measure does not in any way

alter the Committee's jurisdiction or waive any future jurisdictional claim over these provisions or their subject matter. We also reserve the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees in the event of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the *Congressional Record* during consideration of H.R. 3203 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, July 24, 2023.

Hon. JIM JORDAN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3203, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on this bill into the *Congressional Record* during floor consideration. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3203, the Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

On both sides of the aisle, we recognize the devastating impact the opioid crisis has had on our families and communities. There has been too much tragic loss of life and too many families torn apart. Challenging problems require our working together to find solutions.

Here at home, we need expanded education programs for students so that they understand the deadly risks associated with fentanyl consumption and better funded rehab programs to help people get clean. We need law enforcement and prosecutors to target major trafficking networks, but we should be careful not to repeat the excesses and inequities that undermined the war on drugs previously.

In the international context, we need to incentivize countries to work with us, but we also need to demonstrate there are consequences for actions that increase the supply of these dangerous drugs with impunity. This bill takes the latter approach. It will beef up sanctions on major Chinese fentanyl traffickers that aid and abet opioid

traffickers. The legislation bolsters reporting requirements on fentanyl trafficking under the national emergency declared by the President and includes reforms to the International Economic Emergency Powers Act.

I want to be clear: We can't sanction our way out of this fentanyl crisis alone. Sanctions are an important tool, but we will also need cooperation, as well.

If we want countries to limit the export of fentanyl precursors and work with us to prevent such substances from entering our country and poisoning our people, we will need the cooperation of law enforcement in other nations like China and Mexico. That is a simple fact.

Tough talk and asset freezes have their role, and I support them, but diplomacy and law enforcement cooperation are also part of the picture we need if we are going to conquer this problem.

I thank Mr. BARR, my friend from Kentucky, and Chairman MCCAUL for their advocacy on this important issue and bringing this legislation forward.

Congress works on behalf of the American people best when we can collaborate, when we can support each other, when we work together. Both sides worked in good faith to get this deal done, and I salute the gentleman from Kentucky for his leadership.

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

□ 1630

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

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

Again, this is a scourge that has cost way too many lives. Educating our young people about its dangers but also cracking down on those who, with abandon, are willing to poison our young people and damage our country is an important step.

I support Mr. BARR's effort. I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

I thank the gentleman from Virginia for his bipartisan support of this important legislation. This is a bipartisan bill for good reason, Mr. Speaker: Because China has blamed the rise in overdose deaths in the United States and illicit fentanyl in the United States on the United States.

The Chinese Communist Party has refused to address its role in this crisis. While Mexico is now the principal source of illicit fentanyl and its analogues, cartels manufacture these drugs in covert laboratories with ingredients, precursor chemicals sourced largely from Communist China.

China is the primary source of chemical precursors used to synthesize fentanyl and other novel synthetic

opioids, and this illicit fentanyl made in Mexican labs is then smuggled into the United States across our open and unenforced southern border, making its way into communities and killing Americans, killing many Americans in my home State of Kentucky.

No, Kentucky is not a border State, but Kentucky is impacted by the fact that these Chinese precursors are making their way into China and then smuggled across our southern border.

This is a huge problem, and we need to hold those individuals, those Chinese Communist Party officials, accountable for this scourge, for poisoning the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to defend the American people, to stop this scourge, and to hold the Chinese Communist Party accountable for their role in this poison that is pouring across our borders.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3203, 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.

TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY ACT

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1176) to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any attempts by the People's Republic of China to resolve Taiwan's status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1176

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 "Taiwan International Solidarity Act".

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION REGARDING UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2758 (XXVI).

Subsection (a) of section 2 of the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 (Public Law 116-135) (relating to diplomatic relations with Taiwan) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(10) United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758 (XXVI) established the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations. The resolution did not address the issue of representation of Taiwan and its

people in the United Nations or any related organizations, nor did the resolution take a position on the relationship between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan or include any statement pertaining to Taiwan's sovereignty.

"(11) The United States opposes any initiative that seeks to change Taiwan's status without the consent of the people."

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES ADVOCACY FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO RESIST THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S EFFORTS TO DISTORT THE "ONE CHINA" POSITION.

Section 4 of the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 (relating to the policy of the United States regarding Taiwan's participation in international organizations) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking "and" after the semicolon at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) to instruct, as appropriate, representatives of the United States Government in all organizations described in paragraph (1) to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to advocate such organizations to resist the People's Republic of China's efforts to distort the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of such organizations regarding Taiwan."

SEC. 4. OPPOSING THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE TAIWAN'S TIES AND PARTNERSHIPS INTERNATIONALLY.

Subsection (a) of section 5 of the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 (relating to strengthening ties with Taiwan) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking "and" after the semicolon at the end;

(2) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) encourage, as appropriate, United States allies and partners to oppose the People's Republic of China's efforts to undermine Taiwan's official diplomatic relationships and its partnerships with countries with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations."

SEC. 5. REPORT ON THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE ITS "ONE CHINA" POSITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 5 of the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 (relating to strengthening ties with Taiwan) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: "as well as information relating to any prior or ongoing attempts by the People's Republic of China to undermine Taiwan's membership or observer status in all organizations described in section (4)(1) and Taiwan's ties and relationships with other countries in accordance with subsection (a) of this section".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply beginning with the first report required under subsection (b) of section 5 of the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019, as amended by subsection (a), that is required after such date.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan, an island of democracy and stability, is a key U.S. partner facing an increasingly aggressive Chinese Communist Party. Chinese military aggression is the most visible type of coercion against Taiwan, but CCP influence is widespread. In almost every international organization, the CCP is taking over leadership positions and pushing Taiwan aside.

For far too long, the CCP has employed an insidious strategic approach to suppress Taiwan's participation in the international community. The Chinese Communist Party has undermined Taiwan and spread propaganda about that democracy's ability to participate in international organizations. We cannot turn a blind eye to this assault on the very institutions we helped build after World War II.

There is no clearer example of the Chinese Communist Party's nefarious tactics than their manipulation of U.N. Resolution 2758. Passed in 1971, that resolution recognized the PRC as the U.N. representative for China.

It said nothing about Taiwan's U.N. representation or sovereignty, yet the CCP propaganda wrongly claims that this resolution asserts PRC representation over Taiwan. Beijing has used it as a weapon to prevent Taiwan from participating in international organizations. This resolution, which was intended to bring nations together, has instead been exploited to isolate Taiwan. We cannot allow this blatant assault on freedom to go unchallenged.

Taiwan is a vibrant and thriving democracy rooted in freedom, pushing the envelope on advanced technology like semiconductors. By supporting Taiwan's participation in international organizations, we bolster our own national security, enhance regional stability, and safeguard the interests of the United States and our allies.

The consequences of Beijing's actions extend far beyond Taiwan's borders. The CCP's suffocating grip prevents Taiwan from sharing its invaluable expertise in areas such as public health, technology, and humanitarian aid.

For example, Taiwan is not a member of the WHO because of the CCP, but it was Taiwan that came forward at the end of 2019 with an early warning of COVID-19. Meanwhile, the CCP robbed the world of critical time needed to counter the pandemic, causing millions to die around the world. This is what happens when the CCP manipulates

international organizations, and this is what happens when Taiwan is excluded from international organizations: Millions die.

By supporting Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, we demonstrate to the CCP that we stand firm in our commitment to promoting freedom, democracy, and human rights.

I thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY), a fellow co-chair of the Taiwan Caucus, for introducing this bipartisan bill, of which I am a proud original cosponsor.

H.R. 1176 will send a clear message to the CCP that we will not tolerate their attempts to suppress, delegitimize, and coerce Taiwan and its people. The Taiwan Relations Act holds that it is United States policy to maintain their capacity "to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion. . . ." That policy must include the stance we are taking today, to resist the Chinese Communist Party's coercive tactics at international organizations.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I echo the gentleman from Kentucky's fervent desire that we merit unanimous support for this piece of legislation.

I rise in support of the Taiwan International Solidarity Act which I authored with the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), my friend, to stand up for Taiwan's participation in international organizations against the backdrop of an ever-belligerent People's Republic of China.

Our bill responds to Beijing's aggression by strengthening the TAIPEI Act of 2019 to clarify that U.N. General Assembly Resolution 2758 does not—does not—preclude the United States from using its vote, voice, and influence to resist the reckless campaign against Taiwan's rightful place on the world stage.

The Taiwan International Solidarity Act amends the TAIPEI Act of 2019, a bill that passed by a unified bipartisan vote of 415-0. It instructs the U.S. to use its voice, vote, and influence to resist Beijing's efforts to distort the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of international organizations regarding Taiwan. It encourages the U.S. to work with allies and partners to oppose the People's Republic of China's efforts to undermine Taiwan's diplomatic relationships and partnerships globally. It expands reporting requirements to include information relating to any prior or ongoing attempts by the People's Republic of China to undermine Taiwan's participation in international organizations as well as its ties and relationships with other countries.

Over the past decade, the People's Republic of China has successfully weaponized a distorted interpretation of United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2758, which recognized the

People's Republic of China as China's representative to that body in 1971.

Since then, it is no secret that the People's Republic of China has leveraged its growing influence in the United Nations and international organizations to make sure that they could exclude Taiwan's meaningful participation in the international arena and preclude its technical and scientific expertise, as we saw in the pandemic, from which the world can benefit.

Delegates from Taiwan attended the World Health Assembly as nonvoting observers from 2009 to 2016, but in 2016, the PRC successfully bullied enough member states to rescind that invitation.

The denial of Taiwan's participation at the International Civil Aviation Organization poses a direct threat to aviation safety, and without member status at INTERPOL, Taiwan is denied access to crucial information that could be used to fight international criminal activity and, I might add, the drug trade we just talked about.

We face unprecedented health and security threats here in the United States and abroad, and Taiwan's distinct capabilities, public health expertise, democratic governance, and advanced technology underscore the need for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the People's Republic of China has made its intentions crystal clear:

They have encroached on the territorial waters and airspace of their neighbors.

They have made ludicrous claims of sovereignty over the entire South China Sea.

They have engaged in, or threatened, kinetic activity on the Indian border, the Vietnamese border, and, of course, across the Taiwan Strait.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to make clear that any decision by the PRC to intimidate, bully, and exclude Taiwan will not be condoned or tolerated by the United States of America and certainly not by this Congress.

The United States, in the spirit of the Taiwan Relations Act, must continue to reject any unilateral aggression against Taiwan, including within international organizations and bodies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to heed the advice of the gentleman from Kentucky and pass this bill unanimously. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), the Republican principal sponsor of this bill and author of the bill. He is a great friend to the people of Taiwan and a member of the Taiwan Caucus.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Taiwan International Solidarity Act, which I co-lead with my good friend from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

This legislation amends the TAIPEI Act, my bill that was signed into law in March of 2020, which countered Chi-

na's poaching of Taiwan's allies and China's efforts to exclude Taiwan from international organizations.

I am proud that my bill has greatly strengthened our relationship with Taiwan. However, since the bill's signing in 2020, China has mounted pressure on international organizations to claim that Taiwan is part of China.

The Taiwan International Solidarity Act expands on the TAIPEI Act to further counter China's attempt to use international organizations to claim that Taiwan is part of China by distorting the language, policies, and procedures of international organizations.

We all witnessed this in an infamous interview at the height of COVID where a reporter asked a representative of the World Health Organization a question about Taiwan. The WHO officer initially refused to answer and then said: "Well, we've already talked about China," implying that Taiwan is part of China.

It is unacceptable for international institutions, funded largely by U.S. taxpayer dollars, to be repeating the CCP narrative.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

□ 1645

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. LIEU).

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative CONNOLLY, for his leadership.

I am a proud coauthor of the Taiwan International Solidarity Act. Taiwan is a critically important partner to the United States, and Taiwan has made significant contributions to the international community.

Unfortunately, the actions of the government of the People's Republic of China have prevented Taiwan from being a part of important international organizations that help not only the United States but also helps their international community and helps the PRC.

For example, the PRC blocks Taiwan from being a part of the International Civil Aviation Organization. That is just really stupid because there are people from the PRC flying into Taiwan and flying out; there are people from the United States flying into Taiwan and flying out.

Why wouldn't you want Taiwan to have safer air travel? You absolutely would. The PRC also, unfortunately, blocked Taiwan from being in the World Health Assembly. Factually, it turns out that Taiwan got it right. Taiwan told the entire world that COVID could be passed through human transmission. The PRC lied to the entire world and said that that was not true.

Taiwan got it right and yet, the WHO excludes Taiwan. The WHO should be ashamed of themselves and should let Taiwan in.

Taiwan is also excluded from INTERPOL. Why wouldn't you want Taiwan to help with fighting crime and

terrorism around the world? You absolutely would.

This bill would require the State Department to report to Congress every year on any efforts by the PRC government to undermine Taiwan's participation in international organizations.

It would also require the State Department to report on any PRC government effort to undermine Taiwan's relationships with other countries. This information we receive will be critical to holding the PRC government accountable for any efforts to undermine Taiwan's contributions to the international community.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the right to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Again, I thank my friend from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for his leadership and cosponsorship, and my partner, Mr. CURTIS, for his enormous effort in trying to bring this bill before our committee for markup and to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, acting on this bill is not a nice thing to do to recognize an allied partner, but it is actually for practical reasons. There are consequences when Taiwan, with independent capability, and enormous scientific and technical expertise, cannot participate in deliberations about world public health during a pandemic.

There are consequences when it cannot participate in INTERPOL and help us in that fentanyl drug trafficking coming from the big country just to its north, China.

There are consequences when we deny Taiwan its legitimate place and voice in international deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, passing this bill, I hope, will have positive and practical consequences. It will remind our friends and allies and our adversaries that this Congress believes Taiwan is entitled to its voice and its seat at the table in important international organizations that are operational and that have consequences, good and bad, for the world's population.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I, once again, commend my colleagues, the gentleman from Virginia and the gentleman from Utah, for their leadership in introducing the Taiwan International Solidarity Act for standing with the people of Taiwan.

Obviously, Taiwan does hold some status in some regional organizations, international organizations, and it holds observer or other status in several other bodies. But Taiwan cannot participate in organizations that are key to transnational issues, such as the World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization, or INTERPOL, as has been pointed out. China continues to advocate for Taiwan's exclusion in these international organizations and blocks Tai-

wan's participation in the United Nations.

This bill would amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative Act, or the TAIPEI Act of 2019, to reiterate that the United States, as a member of any international organization, should oppose attempts by the People's Republic of China to resolve Taiwan's status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures, of international organizations.

This bill encourages U.S. allies and partners to oppose the Chinese Communist efforts to undermine Taiwan's official diplomatic relationships and its partnerships with countries with which it does not maintain diplomatic relations.

The bill adds an additional requirement to report to Congress on the PRC's attempts to promote its One China position in undermining Taiwan's membership or observer status in international organizations and Taiwan's ties and relationships with other countries.

Mr. Speaker, I traveled to Taipei back in September of last year. This was a major topic of discussion, Taiwan's systematic exclusion from international organizations, and the coercive actions of the Chinese Communist Party in working against Taiwan being a participant in the international community. This is wrong.

The United States needs to stand with the Taiwan people and the democracy, that island of democracy and stability. That is why every Member of this body should support this important legislation and stand for Taiwan's inclusion and constructive participation in international organizations.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1176.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

U.S. SUPPLY CHAIN SECURITY REVIEW ACT OF 2023

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3395) to direct the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to evaluate foreign ownership of marine terminals at the 15 largest United States container ports, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3395

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 "U.S. Supply Chain Security Review Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. STUDY ON FOREIGN PORTS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission shall seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to evaluate how foreign ownership of marine terminals at the 15 largest United States container ports affects or could affect United States economic security.

(b) *CONTENTS.*—In carrying out the study under subsection (a), the center selected under such subsection shall—

(1) *consider—*

(A) *changes in ownership of the 15 largest United States container ports over the past 10 years as well as announced ownership changes from 2023 and 2024;*

(B) *instances of ownership in individual marine terminals and cumulative ownership by Chinese or Russian entities or nationals;*

(C) *instances of ownership in individual marine terminals and cumulative ownership by any foreign entity;*

(D) *the amount of—*

(i) *Port Infrastructure Development Grant funds since fiscal year 2018 that have gone to ports and marine terminals that are owned wholly or partially foreign owned; and*

(ii) *Port Security Grant funds since fiscal year 2003 that have gone to ports and marine terminals that are owned wholly or partially foreign owned; and*

(E) *where ownership exists, a detailed description of foreign operational control including both affirmative and negative control; and*

(2) *offer recommendations on—*

(A) *policies by ports and marine terminal operators to prevent excessive foreign ownership that could threaten United States economic security;*

(B) *whether ownership affords the foreign owner access to operational technology and information unique to the United States and otherwise unavailable; and*

(C) *whether foreign ownership has or could affect the supply chain and policies related to the prioritization of certain cargoes.*

(c) *REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year after the initiation of the evaluation under subsection (a), the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives the results of such evaluation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material in the RECORD on H.R. 3395, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

H.R. 3395, as amended, requires a study on the implication of foreign ownership of marine terminals at United States container ports.

Not only will the study examine the nationality of the firms owning marine terminals at 15 of the largest United States ports, but it will also specifically focus on whether ownership is held by entities or nationals of countries adversarial to our Nation, including affiliations with China or Russia.

Further, the study will assess whether Port Infrastructure Development Grant and Port Security Grant funds have been awarded to ports that are wholly or partially foreign-owned.

These findings will help the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure hold the administration accountable for how Federal funds are allocated and inform the committee's work on the efficient movement of goods through the supply chain.

I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS) for introducing this bill.

As a supply chain logistics professional in my prior life, I understand how critical this is to our Nation's infrastructure and to our economic prosperity moving forward in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Today, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 3395, the U.S. Supply Chain Security Review Act. I thank Coast Guard and Maritime Transformation Committee Chair WEBSTER for his support on this legislation.

Securing our maritime supply chain is critically important to American consumers and to our economic resilience. COVID-19, Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, and the increasing economic and security challenges from the Chinese Communist Party emphasize the need for the United States to better understand the influence, incentives, and dependencies at critical nodes in our supply chains, especially our ports.

The U.S. Supply Chain Security Review Act would direct the Federal Maritime Commission to work with an independent academic or federally funded research center to evaluate the ownership of marine terminals at the 15 largest U.S. container ports.

This study will consider the changes in ownership of marine terminals in these ports over the last 10 years, as well as any announced ownership changes anticipated in 2023 or 2024, with a specific focus on ownership by Chinese or Russian entities. These ports are critical to our economic and national security, and it is imperative that we have a real-time understanding of who is in charge.

The study will also examine the amount of Federal grant funds that have gone to ports and marine terminals wholly or partially owned by foreign entities and a detailed analysis on the foreign operational control of these marine terminals.

Lastly, the study will offer recommendations on policies to prevent

malign foreign ownership of ports and terminal operators, whether ownership of the port gives the foreign entity unique access to operational technology and information, or if foreign ownership of the entity could have an impact on our supply chains.

Understanding how our supply chains are and will be impacted by foreign ownership of marine terminals is a key aspect of our economic competition and will help the United States develop supply chains that are resilient against adversaries.

This bipartisan legislation passed unanimously out of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and I thank Chair GRAVES and Ranking Member LARSEN for their leadership and support on this important issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation so we can begin to address this critical issue and ensure the security of our maritime supply chains.

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

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers. I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3395, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The report directed by this bill will help inform the committee's work and protect our ports and supply chains against foreign adversaries.

As we have seen these past few years, disruptions in the supply chain have a widespread impact across our Nation. We should take the necessary steps to understand the potential vulnerabilities in our supply chain and work to address them.

Mr. Speaker, I again, thank the sponsor of this bill for his work, and I urge support. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3395, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. JAMES. 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

SOO LOCKS SECURITY AND ECONOMIC REPORTING ACT OF 2023

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3399) to study the security of the Soo Locks and effects on the supply

chain resulting from a malfunction or failure of the Soo Locks, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3399

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 "Soo Locks Security and Economic Reporting Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. REPORT ON SECURITY AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS ON SUPPLY CHAIN OF SOO LOCKS, MICHIGAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, in coordination with the Commandant of the Coast Guard and the Secretary of Defense, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

(1) highlights any security deficiencies that exist with respect to the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan;

(2) highlights the supply chain, logistical, and economic effects that would result in the event of a malfunction or failure of the Soo Locks and how such effects would impact the region surrounding the Soo Locks and the United States;

(3) highlights any potential domestic or international threats to the integrity of the Soo Locks;

(4) details the current security structure of the Coast Guard and any other relevant Federal, State, or local agency to protect the Soo Locks; and

(5) provides any recommendations, and cost estimates for such recommendations, for—

(A) strengthening the security of the Soo Locks; and

(B) reducing the impacts to the supply chain of the United States that would result in the event of a malfunction or failure of the Soo Locks.

(b) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this Act, the term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(1) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(2) the Committee on Commerce, Transportation, and Science of the Senate; and

(3) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES) and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

□ 1700

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on H.R. 3399.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, first and foremost, I am grateful for the bipartisan support of

my colleagues in Michigan, General BERGMAN, along with Representatives SCHOLTEN and KILDEE, for cosponsoring this very important legislation.

H.R. 3399, the Soo Locks Security and Economic Report Act of 2023, is proof that fortifying our national security and strengthening our economy transcends partisan politics.

The Soo Locks are a feat of human ingenuity and a point of pride for all Michiganders. The Army Corps of Engineers has nicknamed the Soo Locks the “linchpin of the Great Lakes,” and for good reason. The locks connect both Lake Superior and Lake Huron.

They play a vital role in transporting goods and resources not just throughout the Great Lakes, but all around the world. An average of 7,000 vessels pass through the locks every single year, and with it, over 90 percent of the world’s iron ore.

As the hub of America’s vehicle industry and one of the most critical States for our military industry, Michigan relies on the locks to get necessary materials in and out of the State. The Soo Locks aren’t just important for my home State, they are also critical for every State and for our national security.

As stated above, over 90 percent of the world’s iron ore flows through the Soo Locks. Michigan is home to the third largest land border in the country. As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the congressman representing Michigan’s 10th Congressional District, America’s number one manufacturing district, it is my job to safeguard our national defense and vital commerce by finding ways to secure our essential infrastructure. An unexpected closure of the Soo Locks would threaten both.

In 2015, the Department of Homeland Security found that a 6-month shutdown would be disastrous: Recession, closed factories, shuttered mines, a pause in U.S. auto and appliance production for most of the year. Around 11 million jobs could be lost nationwide. That is the entirety of Michigan’s population.

Let’s think of that. Our economy would be critically harmed and might never recover.

A 2018 study concluded that an unexpected outage in the 1,200-foot-long Poe lock would create a bottleneck that would disrupt the supply chain for steel production and wreak havoc in Michigan manufacturing, particularly in the automotive industry.

That is why I introduced the Soo Locks Security and Economic Reporting Act of 2023, and this is why we must together pass this legislation. This is a commonsense measure that simply asks the Secretaries of Transportation and Defense, along with the commandant of the Coast Guard, to study potential security risks of the Soo Locks.

It would examine the economic consequences in the event of operational

failure. Finally, it asks these departments to provide recommendations, as well as the cost of these recommendations to Congress.

This legislation is a commonsense step toward protecting the infrastructure that keeps this country running. Failing to move forward on this bill doesn’t just jeopardize America’s national security, it leaves our country vulnerable to an economic crisis that is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3399, the Soo Lock Security and Economic Reporting Act of 2023, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 3399, which, like my bill that is also under suspension today, will help to ensure a safe and resilient American supply chain.

The Soo Locks, which are located on the St. Mary’s River and connect Lake Superior to the rest of the Great Lakes system, facilitate the passage of 7,000 cargo ships per year. The locks connect the Great Lakes and are directly on the border with Canada, making them an important fixture for our national security. If something were to happen to the Soo Locks, 11 million jobs would be affected nationwide.

This bill directs the Department of Transportation to conduct a study on any domestic or international threats to the Soo Locks, as well as the economic effect of an operational failure.

This bill was reported out of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee unanimously on May 23 of this year because my colleagues understand that economic resilience and national security are intertwined.

A robust and resilient supply chain is the result of deliberate construction, maintenance, and operational security of locks, ports, waterways, roads, railways, and airports.

As proponents of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law understood, maintenance of and investment in our ports and waterways is paramount. That law provided \$17 billion for ports and waterways, which will go a long way to ensuring the viability of infrastructure like the Soo Locks and maritime transportation in the Great Lakes. This bill builds upon the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law by understanding the vulnerabilities from a national security standpoint, and, thus, better protecting our investments.

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

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), a Lake Superior State University graduate.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I spent the last 2 years of my college experience living in dorm rooms that were about 250 yards from the Soo Locks at the beautiful Lake Superior State University.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3399, the Soo Locks Security and Economic Reporting Act, sponsored by my good friend from Michigan, Congressman JOHN JAMES.

Each year, vessels passing through the Soo Locks haul an estimated 70 million tons of cargo to critical industries in the United States and Canada. In total, the infrastructure supports more than 123,000 jobs and has a \$22.6 billion economic activity price tag.

In my first year in Congress, I joined Congressman JACK BERGMAN from Michigan on a tour of the Soo Locks to see the critical infrastructure firsthand.

Nearly all of the iron ore pellets essential for the American steel industry travel through the Great Lakes. A report by the Department of Homeland Security in 2015 found no alternative transportation mode exists for getting iron ore from the Minnesota mines to steel mills on the lower Great Lakes. The Iron Range of Minnesota produces almost 82 percent of the taconite pellets that make up the steel industry in our Nation.

National security experts and economists have warned that sustained closure of any of the locks would cripple our supply chain and plunge our economy into a recession.

It is abundantly clear: The protection and modernization of the Soo Locks is not only a supply chain issue, but a national security issue. The Soo Locks infrastructure needs significant investment, and it needs it now.

H.R. 3399 directs the Secretary of Transportation to study the security risks of the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and the economic ramifications in the event of their operational failure. This will provide us with concrete evidence of the importance of the Soo Locks and demonstrate our need for unwavering support.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to vote “yes.”

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota for his leadership on this matter, as well as his remarks, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3399, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JAMES. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, the Soo Locks are critical to international commerce and to our supply chain, and the report directed by this bill would provide important information to ensure their continued funding and operation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. JAMES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3399.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. JAMES. 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

NTIA POLICY AND CYBERSECURITY COORDINATION ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1345) to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1345

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 “NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act”.

SEC. 2. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.

(a) OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.—Part A of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 106. OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be within the NTIA an office to be known as the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(b) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—The head of the Office shall be an Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity (in this section referred to as the ‘Associate Administrator’), who shall report to the Assistant Secretary.

“(c) DUTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Administrator shall oversee and conduct national communications and information policy analysis and development for the internet and communications technologies.

“(2) PARTICULAR DUTIES.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Associate Administrator shall—

“(A) develop, analyze, and advocate for market-based policies that promote innovation, competition, consumer access, digital inclusion, workforce development, and economic growth in the communications, media, and technology markets;

“(B) conduct studies, as delegated by the Assistant Secretary or required by Congress, on how individuals in the United States access and use the internet, wireline and wireless telephony, mass media, other digital services, and video services;

“(C) coordinate transparent, consensus-based, multistakeholder processes to create guidance for and to support the development and implementation of cybersecurity and privacy policies with respect to the internet and other communications networks;

“(D) promote increased collaboration between security researchers and providers of communications services and software system developers;

“(E) perform such duties as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate relating to the program for preventing future vulnerabilities established under section 8(a) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(a));

“(F) advocate for policies that promote the security and resilience to cybersecurity incidents of communications networks while fostering innovation, including policies that promote secure communications network supply chains;

“(G) at the direction of the Assistant Secretary, present security of the digital economy and infrastructure and cybersecurity policy efforts before the Commission, Congress, and elsewhere;

“(H) provide advice and assistance to the Assistant Secretary in carrying out the policy responsibilities of the NTIA with respect to cybersecurity policy matters, including the evaluation of the impact of cybersecurity matters pending before the Commission, other Federal agencies, and Congress;

“(I) in addition to the duties described in subparagraph (H), perform such other duties regarding the policy responsibilities of the NTIA with respect to cybersecurity policy matters as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate;

“(J) develop policies to accelerate innovation and commercialization with respect to advances in technological understanding of communications technologies;

“(K) identify barriers to trust, security, innovation, and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, including access to capital and other resources, and ways to overcome such barriers;

“(L) provide public access to relevant data, research, and technical assistance on innovation and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, consistent with the protection of classified information;

“(M) strengthen collaboration on and coordination of policies relating to innovation and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, including policies focused on the needs of small businesses and rural communities—

“(i) within the Department of Commerce;

“(ii) between the Department of Commerce and State government agencies, as appropriate; and

“(iii) between the Department of Commerce and the Commission or any other Federal agency the Assistant Secretary determines to be necessary; and

“(N) solicit and consider feedback from small and rural communications service providers, as appropriate.”

(b) TRANSITIONAL RULES.—

(1) REDESIGNATION OF ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR; CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—

(A) REDESIGNATION.—The position of Associate Administrator for Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA is hereby redesignated as the position of Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity.

(B) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—The individual serving as Associate Administrator for Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA on the date of the enactment of this Act shall become, as of such date, the Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity.

(2) NTIA DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “NTIA” means the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1345, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act, led by the gentleman from Utah's Third District and the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania's Seventh District.

As our world becomes more increasingly digitized and interconnected, the importance of robust cybersecurity measures cannot be overstated. Cybersecurity threats, whether originating from State actors, criminal organizations, or malicious hackers, pose significant risks to our national security, economy, and the privacy of our citizens.

The increasing frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks underscore the urgency of addressing this ever-evolving challenge. The NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act bolsters our Nation's cybersecurity posture by strengthening the coordination between the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA, and other relevant Federal agency.

The bill renames the existing NTIA Office of Policy and Analysis and Development to the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity and codifies the existing activities of the office.

H.R. 1345 seeks to promote effective information sharing, collaboration, and response efforts established in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act.

Moreover, the legislation facilitates public-private partnerships to develop and implement cybersecurity policies related to the communication networks.

By encouraging collaboration between government agencies and stakeholders, we can work together to address cyber threats and vulnerabilities more effectively.

This bipartisan legislation passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee by a vote of 44–0, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1345.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1345, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act.

Protecting our Nation's communications networks is of vital importance

to our national security. This is particularly important now when a significant amount of our country's economic and social activity has moved online, and consumers are connecting more devices to these networks. We must build in safeguards to increase the safety of communications networks to protect Americans while also promoting innovation and competition.

H.R. 1345 will help us achieve these goals. This legislation authorizes the existing Office of Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA and renames it as the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity. It also codifies responsibilities of NTIA in administering parts of the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act and requires the office to coordinate and develop policy initiatives to enhance cybersecurity efforts with respect to our communications networks.

The office will also be tasked with developing and analyzing policies that promote innovation, competition, digital inclusion, and workforce development in the communications, media, and technology markets.

I thank Representatives WILD and CURTIS for their bipartisan work on this bill, which will ensure that there is a firm foundation within the Federal Government to oversee the security of our Nation's communications networks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that unanimously advanced out of the Energy and Commerce Committee early this year, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act. This bill would streamline the development of cybersecurity policy at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA, through the establishment of an office of policy development and cybersecurity.

This office would work with industry and stakeholders to recommend the cybersecurity practices and policies of the internet and communications technology sectors. The office of policy development and cybersecurity would also carry out the communications supply chain risk information partnership to facilitate information sharing on cybersecurity risks to small and rural communities.

State and nonstate actors are working overtime to find vulnerabilities in our networks and infrastructure. We must work even harder to ensure Americans are protected from cyberattacks.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative WILD for joining me on this bill in the House and Senator HICKENLOOPER for leading in the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I think this is an important bill, and I urge everyone to support it on both sides of the aisle.

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1345, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act. This bill would promote collaboration between security research and industry development, preventing and mitigating future software vulnerabilities in communications networks.

It is also important to codify NTIA's administering of information sharing established in the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act. The NTIA is assigned with coordinating policy related to the cybersecurity of communications networks.

These attacks on communications networks include those we have all heard about: unauthorized access; distributed denial of service; man-in-the-middle attacks, where communications traffic is intercepted; and code attacks, where malicious code can be passed to a server to make it vulnerable. This is a serious problem.

Like the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act, H.R. 1345 passed with unanimous, bipartisan support out of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

We need to address cyberattacks in a more effective and coordinated fashion to go after the bad actors attacking America's communications networks.

I appreciate the good work of my colleagues, Representatives JOHN CURTIS and SUSAN WILD, and I strongly support this bill.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, as the gentleman just stated, this bill encourages collaboration between government agencies and stakeholders so that we can work together to address cyber threats and vulnerabilities more effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage by the House, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DUNN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1345.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SATELLITE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS STREAMLINING ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1338) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authority for certain licenses, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1338

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 "Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act" or the "SAT Streamlining Act".

SEC. 2. AUTHORITY REGARDING CERTAIN LICENSES.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Part I of title III of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 346. RADIOFREQUENCY LICENSING AUTHORITY REGARDING CERTAIN OPERATIONS.

“(a) RULES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this section, the Commission shall issue rules to amend part 25 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, to establish—

“(A) for any license granted under subsection (b) or grant of market access granted under subsection (c), specific, measurable, and technology-neutral performance objectives for space safety and orbital debris, in accordance with paragraph (2);

“(B) for any license granted under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b), specific modifications (or classes of modifications) to such a license that warrant expedited treatment under subparagraph (A) or (B) (as the case may be) of subsection (g)(2);

“(C) for any license granted under subsection (b), grant of market access granted under subsection (c), authorization granted under subsection (d), or covered authorization, the manner in which the licensee, grantee, or entity shall notify the Commission of a request to submit a modification under subsection (g)(5);

“(D) for any request to modify a covered authorization, the manner in which the entity with the covered authorization shall indicate in the request whether the entity is seeking a modification described in subsection (h)(2)(B)(i)(I) or a modification described in subsection (h)(2)(B)(i)(II);

“(E) for any license granted under subsection (b), grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or covered authorization, in a spectrum band with service rules that require a licensee of such a license, a grantee of such a grant, or an entity with such a covered authorization to share spectrum with another such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization that is authorized to use the same frequencies of such spectrum, specific actions taken by such a licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization, or by any other entity that is authorized to use such frequencies, that constitute a failure to coordinate in good faith, including whether withholding from another such licensee, grantee, entity with a covered authorization, or other entity information necessary to coordinate in good faith that it is technically feasible to make available to such licensee, grantee, entity with a covered authorization, or other entity is such an action;

“(F) for any license granted under subsection (b)(1) or grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1), in a spectrum band with service rules that require a licensee of such a license, a grantee of such a grant, or an entity with a covered authorization to share spectrum (except with respect to the use of a gateway station) with another such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization that is authorized to use the same frequencies of such spectrum, a quantifiable level of protection required under subsection (h)(4);

“(G) rules that—

“(i) clarify, for purposes of subsection (h)(1)(A)(ii), the protection from harmful interference that, during the covered period, an entity with a covered authorization that was approved in a processing round is required to provide to any other entity with a covered authorization that was approved in an earlier processing round; and

“(ii) seek to promote competition, innovation, and efficient use of spectrum by entities with covered authorizations, including by accounting for advancements in technology capable of managing interference concerns to the greatest extent possible consistent with clause (i); and

“(H) for any application or request for modification described in subsection (n), what constitutes reportable foreign ownership for purposes of paragraph (1) of such subsection.

“(2) CONFLICT WITH INTERAGENCY STANDARD PRACTICES.—In the rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), or any successor rule, the Commission may not establish performance objectives that conflict with any standard practice established in the Orbital Debris Mitigation Standard Practices adopted by the United States Government.

“(3) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

“(A) SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SERVICES AND INFORMATION.—Nothing in this subsection, including the rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), shall be construed to grant the Commission authority to carry out the functions provided under section 2274 of title 10, United States Code (relating to the provision of space situational awareness services and information), including any such functions that may be transferred to a civilian agency that are otherwise provided in law.

“(B) SPACE SAFETY AND ORBITAL DEBRIS.—Nothing in this subsection, including the rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), shall be construed to expand the authority of the Commission to establish requirements for or regulate space safety and orbital debris.

“(C) AUTHORITY OF COMMISSION UNDER THIS ACT.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) or (B) shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission with respect to space stations licensed under this Act, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this section.

“(b) APPLICATION FOR LICENSE.—

“(1) NGSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—Except as provided in paragraph (5) and subsection (m), not later than 1 year after the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such application) for a license for covered radiocommunication services using—

“(A) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations;

“(B) a blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations; or

“(C) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations and the blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with the nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations.

“(2) GSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—Except as provided in paragraph (5) and subsection (m), not later than 1 year after the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such applica-

tion) for a license for covered radiocommunication services using—

“(A) a geostationary orbit space station or space stations;

“(B) a blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with a geostationary orbit space station or space stations; or

“(C) a geostationary orbit space station or space stations and the blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with the geostationary orbit space station or space stations.

“(3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—In addition to the application requirements described in section 308(b), an application submitted under paragraph (1) or (2) shall include the following:

“(A) Performance metrics with respect to the frequencies and transmission power to be used.

“(B) A demonstration of compliance by the applicant with the performance objectives established under subsection (a)(1)(A).

“(C) A description of compliance by the applicant with the actions established under subsection (a)(1)(E), if applicable.

“(D) In the case of an application submitted under paragraph (1), a demonstration of compliance by the applicant with the quantifiable level of protection established under subsection (a)(1)(F), if applicable.

“(4) TERM OF INITIAL LICENSE.—The Commission shall grant a license for a term not to exceed 15 years for any application granted under this subsection.

“(5) EXCEPTIONS.—The deadline for the determination required in paragraphs (1), (2), and (6) may be extended by the Commission for an application subject to review under subsection (n).

“(6) TIMELY GRANT OF CERTAIN APPLICATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (5) and subsection (m), not later than 60 days after the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission for a license described in paragraph (1) with respect to which the applicant indicates in the application that the application meets the additional criteria described in subparagraph (B), the Commission shall—

“(i) determine whether such application (including any amendment to such application) meets the additional criteria described in subparagraph (B); and

“(ii) if the determination under clause (i) is affirmative, grant such application (including any amendment to such application).

“(B) CRITERIA DESCRIBED.—The additional criteria described in this subparagraph are as follows:

“(i) A limit on the number of space stations authorized by the license, as determined by the Commission.

“(ii) A limit on the total in-orbit lifetime for any individual space station, as determined by the Commission.

“(iii) For each space station, the following:

“(I) A limit on the orbital altitude at which the space station may operate, as determined by the Commission.

“(II) A requirement that the space station has a maneuverability capability and the ability to make collision avoidance and deorbit maneuvers, as determined by the Commission.

“(III) A requirement that the space station is identifiable by a unique signal-based telemetry marker that meets requirements issued by the Commission.

“(IV) A requirement that the space station releases no operational debris.

“(V) A requirement that the space station can be commanded by command originating from the ground to immediately cease trans-

missions and the applicant has the capability to eliminate harmful interference when required by the Commission.

“(iv) A requirement that the operator has assessed and limited the probability of an accidental explosion, including an explosion that results from the conversion of energy sources on board any space station into energy that fragments the space station.

“(v) A limit on the probability of a collision between each space station and any other large object, as determined by the Commission.

“(vi) A requirement that each space station is disposed of post-mission and the probability of human casualty from disposal meets requirements issued by the Commission.

“(C) CRITERIA NOT MET.—If the determination under subparagraph (A)(i) with respect to an application is negative, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such application) under paragraph (1) by the deadline specified in such paragraph.

“(D) EVASION.—An application does not meet the additional criteria described in subparagraph (B) if the Commission determines that, taken together with any other application or applications submitted by the applicant under subparagraph (A) (including an application that has been approved), such applications are submitted with the purpose of evading a negative determination with respect to such additional criteria.

“(E) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of this section (other than this paragraph), any reference to an application submitted or granted or a license granted under paragraph (1) shall be construed to include an application submitted or granted or a license granted (as the case may be) under subparagraph (A).

“(F) IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this section, the Commission shall—

“(I) issue rules to implement this paragraph; or

“(II) make the finding described in clause (ii).

“(ii) FINDING DESCRIBED.—If the Commission finds that the rules of the Commission, as of the date of the enactment of this section, satisfy the requirements in this paragraph, the Commission shall issue a public notice stating such finding.

“(c) APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF MARKET ACCESS.—

“(1) NGSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—After the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such application) for market access within the United States for covered radiocommunication services using—

“(A) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations;

“(B) a blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations; or

“(C) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations and the blanket-licensed earth station or earth stations that will operate with the nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations.

“(2) GSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—After the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application

(including any amendment to such application) for market access within the United States for covered radiocommunication services using a geostationary orbit space station or space stations.

“(3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—In addition to the application requirements described in section 308(b), an application submitted under paragraph (1) or (2) shall include the following:

“(A) Performance metrics with respect to the frequencies and transmission power to be used.

“(B) A demonstration of compliance by the applicant with the performance objectives established under subsection (a)(1)(A).

“(C) A description of compliance by the applicant with the actions established under subsection (a)(1)(E), if applicable.

“(D) In the case of an application submitted under paragraph (1), a demonstration of compliance by the applicant with the quantifiable level of protection established under subsection (a)(1)(F), if applicable.

“(4) TERM OF INITIAL GRANT OF MARKET ACCESS.—The Commission shall grant a grant of market access for a term not to exceed 15 years for any application granted under this subsection.

“(d) EARTH STATION AUTHORIZATION.—

“(1) DETERMINATION REQUIRED FOR INDIVIDUALLY LICENSED EARTH STATIONS.—Except as provided in paragraph (4) and subsection (m), not later than 1 year after the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such application) for authorization to use an individually licensed earth station.

“(2) DETERMINATION REQUIRED FOR RECEIVE-ONLY EARTH STATIONS.—Except as provided in paragraph (4) and subsection (m), not later than 30 days after the date on which the Commission issues a public notice of the acceptance for filing of a written application submitted to the Commission, the Commission shall make a determination whether to grant such application (including any amendment to such application) for authorization to use an earth station or earth stations to receive a signal from—

“(A) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations operated under a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1); or

“(B) a geostationary orbit space station or space stations operated under a license granted under subsection (b)(2) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(2).

“(3) DEEMED GRANTED.—If the Commission fails to grant or deny a written application (including any amendment to such application) submitted under paragraph (1) or (2) by the deadline for the determination required by such paragraph (including any extension of such deadline under paragraph (4) or subsection (m)), the application (including any amendment to such application) shall be deemed granted on the date on which the Commission receives a written notice by the applicant of the failure.

“(4) EXCEPTION.—The deadline for the determination required by paragraph (1) or (2) may be extended by the Commission for an application subject to review under subsection (n).

“(5) INAPPLICABILITY TO BLANKET-LICENSED EARTH STATIONS.—This subsection does not apply with respect to an earth station or earth stations to the extent that the earth station or earth stations will be blanket-licensed with a space station or space stations

as described in subsection (b)(1)(B), (b)(1)(C), (b)(2)(B), (b)(2)(C), (c)(1)(B), or (c)(1)(C).

“(e) DETERMINATION OF PUBLIC INTEREST, CONVENIENCE, AND NECESSITY.—The Commission may not make a determination to grant an application, renewal, or modification under subsection (b), (c), (d), (f), or (g) (as the case may be) unless—

“(1) except in the case of a modification under subsection (g)(2), the Commission determines that the license, grant, or authorization (as the case may be) serves the public interest, convenience, and necessity; and

“(2) the Commission determines that—

“(A) in the case of a licensee or grantee to which subsection (h)(4) applies—

“(i) in the case of an application, except in accordance with a coordination agreement, the licensee or grantee will not, during the term of the license or grant, exceed the quantifiable level of protection established in subsection (h)(4) in operating under the license or grant;

“(ii) in the case of a renewal, except in accordance with a coordination agreement, the licensee or grantee has not exceeded, during the preceding term of the license or grant, and will not exceed, during the term of the renewal of the license or grant, the quantifiable level of protection established in subsection (h)(4) in operating under the license or grant; and

“(iii) in the case of a modification, except in accordance with a coordination agreement, the licensee or grantee has not exceeded, during the portion of the term of the license or grant preceding the determination, and will not exceed, during the remainder of such term, the quantifiable level of protection established in subsection (h)(4) in operating under the license or grant; and

“(B) in the case of a licensee or grantee that is required to protect radio astronomy observatories by the International Telecommunication Union, the application, request for renewal, or request for modification demonstrates that the licensee or grantee will provide such protection in operating under the license or grant.

“(f) RENEWAL OF LICENSE, GRANT OF MARKET ACCESS, OR AUTHORIZATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in section 309(k)(2), the Commission shall grant a renewal for a license granted under subsection (b), a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or an authorization granted under subsection (d), upon request by the licensee, grantee, or entity with such authorization (as the case may be), for a term not to exceed the length of the initial term beginning the day after the date on which the preceding term of the license, grant of market access, or authorization expires, if the Commission determines the requirements under subsection (e) and section 309(k) have been met.

“(2) DEADLINE FOR DETERMINATION.—Except as provided in subsection (m), not later than 180 days after the date on which the Commission receives a request for renewal of a license granted under subsection (b), a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or an authorization granted under subsection (d), the Commission shall—

“(A) grant such request (including any amendment to such request); or

“(B) make the determination described in section 309(k)(3) and deny such request (including any amendment to such request).

“(g) MODIFICATION OF LICENSE; GRANT OF MARKET ACCESS.—

“(1) MAJOR MODIFICATIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), (5), and (6) and subsection (m), and not later than 1 year after the date on which the Commission receives a request to modify a license granted under subsection (b)(1), the Commission shall grant the request (including any

amendment to such request) if the Commission determines the modification meets the requirements under subsection (e). Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), and (5), the Commission may grant a request (including any amendment to such request) to modify a license granted under subsection (b)(2) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c) if the Commission determines the modification meets the requirements under subsection (e).

“(2) EXPEDITED TREATMENT FOR MINOR MODIFICATIONS.—

“(A) NGSO LICENSE MODIFICATIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (3), (5), and (6) and subsection (m), and not later than 90 days after the date on which the Commission receives a request to modify a license granted under subsection (b)(1), the Commission shall grant the request (including any amendment to such request) if—

“(i) the Commission determines that the modification or modifications meet the requirements (if applicable) under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (e)(2); and

“(ii) the request is limited only to modifications, or a class of modifications, that—

“(I) increase transmission capacity;

“(II) improve spectral efficiency, such as by improving compression technologies; or

“(III) otherwise do not substantially modify the space station (or space stations, considered collectively, if there is more than one such space station) authorized by the license.

“(B) GSO LICENSE MODIFICATIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (3), (5), and (6) and subsection (m), and not later than 90 days after the date on which the Commission receives a request to modify a license granted under subsection (b)(2), the Commission shall grant the request (including any amendment to such request) if—

“(i) the Commission determines that the modification or modifications meet the requirements (if applicable) under subsection (e)(2)(B); and

“(ii) the request is limited only to modifications, or a class of modifications, that—

“(I) increase transmission capacity;

“(II) improve spectral efficiency, such as by improving compression technologies; or

“(III) otherwise do not substantially modify the space station (or space stations, considered collectively, if there is more than one such space station) authorized by the license.

“(C) DEEMED GRANTED.—If the Commission fails to grant a request (including any amendment to such request) made by a licensee under subparagraph (A) or (B) by the deadline specified in such subparagraph (including any extension of such deadline under paragraph (6) or subsection (m)), the request (including any amendment to such request) shall be deemed granted on the date on which the Commission receives a written notice by the licensee of the failure.

“(3) EMERGENCY GRANT, RENEWAL, OR MODIFICATION.—If the Commission finds that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring temporary operations in the public interest and that delay in the institution of such temporary operations would seriously prejudice the public interest, the Commission—

“(A) may grant a license described in subsection (b), a grant of market access described in subsection (c), or an authorization described in subsection (d), a modification of such a license, grant of market access, or authorization, or renewal of such a license, grant of market access, or authorization for a period not to exceed 180 days in a manner and upon the terms the Commission shall by rule prescribe in the case of an emergency found by the Commission involving—

“(i) danger to life or property; or

“(i) an action that is necessary for the national defense or security of the United States;

“(B) shall include with a grant made under this paragraph a statement of the reasons of the Commission for making such grant;

“(C) may extend a grant made under this paragraph for periods not to exceed 180 days; and

“(D) shall give expeditious treatment to any timely filed petition to deny such application and to any petition for rehearing of such grant filed under section 405.

“(4) EXCLUSION.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply to a request to modify a license for—

“(A) the addition of an ancillary terrestrial component; or

“(B) modifying the service offered under the initial license granted under subsection (b) between fixed satellite service and mobile satellite service.

“(5) AUTOMATIC GRANT OF CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS.—Upon notification to the Commission, the Commission may automatically grant a request to modify a license granted under subsection (b), a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), an authorization granted under subsection (d), or a covered authorization, to replace—

“(A) one space station (or component of such space station) with a technically similar space station (or component of such space station) previously approved by the Commission; or

“(B) one earth station (or component of such earth station) with a technically similar earth station (or component of such earth station) previously approved by the Commission.

“(6) EXCEPTIONS.—The deadlines under paragraphs (1) and (2) may be extended by the Commission for a request subject to review under subsection (n).

“(h) SHARED SPECTRUM; PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL INTERFERENCE.—

“(1) GRANDFATHERED TREATMENT AND SUNSET OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For the duration of the covered period—

“(i) a covered authorization shall not be treated as being granted under subsection (b)(1) or subsection (c)(1) (as the case may be); and

“(ii) an entity with a covered authorization shall be afforded, and shall afford to any other entity with a covered authorization, protection from harmful interference that is consistent with the terms of such protection afforded before the date of the enactment of this section.

“(B) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN APPLICATIONS.—The Commission shall dismiss without prejudice any application for a license or grant of market access to operate a system described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(1) or subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (c)(1) that is submitted to the Commission after the date of the enactment of this section and before the date on which the rules issued pursuant to subsection (a) take effect.

“(2) TRANSITIONAL RULES.—

“(A) RENEWAL UNDER THIS SECTION.—An entity with a covered authorization may, at any time before the end of the covered period, seek renewal of the covered authorization under subsection (f) as if the covered authorization were a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1) (as the case may be). If the Commission grants the renewal, the renewal shall be treated as a renewal of a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1) (as the case may be).

“(B) MODIFICATION.—

“(i) INDICATION OF TYPE OF MODIFICATION SOUGHT.—If an entity with a covered author-

ization submits to the Commission a request to modify the covered authorization, the entity shall indicate in the request whether the entity is seeking—

“(I) a modification of the covered authorization under the law and regulations applicable to the covered authorization; or

“(II) a modification of the covered authorization under subsection (g) as if the covered authorization were a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1) (as the case may be).

“(ii) TREATMENT.—If the Commission grants a request to modify a covered authorization—

“(I) in the case of a request for a modification described in clause (i)(I), the covered authorization as modified shall continue to be treated as described in paragraph (1)(A)(i) and the entity with the covered authorization shall, with respect to the covered authorization, continue to be afforded, and to afford to any other entity with a covered authorization, the protection described in paragraph (1)(A)(ii); and

“(II) in the case of a request for a modification described in clause (i)(II), the covered authorization as modified shall be treated as a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1) (as the case may be) with respect to which a request to modify has been granted under subsection (g).

“(3) GOOD FAITH COORDINATION OF SHARED SPECTRUM.—Not later than the date on which the rules issued pursuant to subsection (a) take effect—

“(A) a licensee of a license granted under subsection (b), a grantee of a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or an entity with a covered authorization, in a spectrum band with service rules that require such a licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization to share spectrum with another such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization that is authorized to use the same frequencies of such spectrum, shall make a good faith effort to coordinate the use of such frequencies (including the use of such frequencies by an individually licensed earth station) with any other such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization and any other entity that is authorized to use such frequencies; and

“(B) any other entity that is authorized to use such frequencies shall make a good faith effort to coordinate the use of such frequencies with any such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization.

“(4) PROTECTION FROM HARMFUL INTERFERENCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date on which the rules issued pursuant to subsection (a) take effect, for any spectrum band in which the Commission grants a license under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access under subsection (c)(1) and for which the service rules require such a licensee or grantee or an entity with a covered authorization to share spectrum (except with respect to the use of a gateway station) with another such licensee, grantee, or entity with a covered authorization that is authorized to use the same frequencies of such spectrum, the Commission shall establish a quantifiable level of protection that (except with respect to the use of a gateway station) such a licensee or grantee shall afford to any other entity (including an entity with a covered authorization but not including a licensee of a license granted under subsection (b)(2) or a grantee of a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(2)) that is authorized to use such frequencies.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to—

“(i) the spectrum between the frequencies of 1617.775 megahertz and 1618.725 megahertz, inclusive; or

“(ii) any spectrum band allocated for the earth exploration satellite service.

“(5) CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.—When establishing the quantifiable level of protection described in paragraph (4), the Commission shall, with respect to the entities to which the quantifiable level of protection is required under such paragraph to be afforded—

“(A) consider protection of such entities based on a degraded throughput methodology, requiring that, except in accordance with a coordination agreement, a licensee of a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grantee of a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1) may cause no more than a certain percentage increase in the link unavailability of such an entity and may reduce the throughput of such an entity by no more than a certain percentage;

“(B) consider protection of such entities from interference beyond a permissible interference-to-noise ratio, or whether interference-to-noise alone provides a sufficient level of protection; and

“(C) consider protection of such entities from harmful interference by awarding a greater share of spectrum during in-line events to earlier-filed systems.

“(6) RELATION TO ITU RADIO REGULATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require the Commission to adopt rules regarding the use of spectrum that contravene a requirement of the radio regulations of the International Telecommunication Union.

“(7) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—An entity with a covered authorization shall not be required to submit additional information in order to retain such authorization, nor shall paragraph (1)(A) affect any obligation of such entity under applicable law or regulation until the end of the covered period.

“(i) STATE PREEMPTION OF MARKET ENTRY; RATES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no State or local government shall have any authority to regulate the entry of or the rates charged by an applicant or licensee related to a license granted under subsection (b), an applicant or grantee related to a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or an applicant or entity related to an authorization granted under subsection (d), except that this subsection shall not prohibit a State from regulating the other terms and conditions of such a license, grantee, or entity.

“(j) REGULATORY RESTRAINT.—

“(1) LIMITATION ON INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED.—In performing any act, making any rule or regulation, or issuing any order necessary to carry out this section, the Commission—

“(A) shall limit the information required to be furnished to the Commission;

“(B) shall demonstrate the Commission has taken every reasonable step to limit the information required to be furnished to the Commission;

“(C) may not require, with respect to an application under subsection (b), (c), or (d), a request for renewal under subsection (f), or a request for modification under subsection (g), the filing of any information which previously has been furnished to the Commission or which is not directly material to the considerations that affect the granting or denial of such application or request (but the Commission may require any new or additional facts the Commission deems necessary to make its findings); and

“(D) may not request additional information regarding the performance objectives established under subsection (a)(1)(A) for any case in which an applicant has demonstrated

compliance with such performance objectives.

“(2) DEADLINE FOR PETITION DETERMINATION.—If an applicant for a license or a licensee under subsection (b) files a petition under part 1 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation) relating to information required to be furnished to the Commission under this section, the Commission shall grant or deny the petition within 90 days after the date on which the petition is filed.

“(k) RELATION TO EXPERIMENTAL AND AMATEUR USES.—This section shall not apply to any Commission authorization in—

- “(1) the experimental radio service; or
- “(2) the amateur radio service.

“(l) COMPLETENESS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 20 business days after receiving a written application submitted under subsection (b), (c), or (d), the Commission shall—

“(A) determine whether—

“(i) such application contains—

“(I) in the case of an application submitted under subsection (b), all of the information required to be submitted with the application under subsection (b)(3) and the first sentence of section 308(b);

“(II) in the case of an application submitted under subsection (c), all of the information required to be submitted with the application under subsection (c)(3) and the first sentence of section 308(b); or

“(III) in the case of an application submitted under subsection (d), all of the information required to be submitted with the application under the first sentence of section 308(b); and

“(ii) the applicant has paid the fee (if any) required under section 8 in connection with the application; and

“(B) either—

“(i) if both determinations under subparagraph (A) are in the affirmative, issue a public notice of the acceptance for filing of such application; or

“(ii) if either determination under subparagraph (A) is in the negative, provide notice to the applicant of the negative determination, including what information that was required to be submitted was not submitted or the amount of the application fee due, or both (as the case may be).

“(2) INACTION BY COMMISSION.—If the Commission does not comply with paragraph (1) with respect to an application by the deadline specified in such paragraph, the Commission shall be deemed for purposes of subsection (b), (c), or (d) (as the case may be) to have issued a public notice of the acceptance for filing of such application on the date that is 21 business days after the date on which such application was received.

“(3) LIMITATION.—In making a determination under paragraph (1)(A)(i), the Commission may only consider whether the application contains the information described in subclause (I), (II), or (III) (as the case may be) of such paragraph and may not consider whether the information is sufficient to allow the Commission to grant or deny the application.

“(m) TOLLING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsections (b)(5), (d)(4), and (g)(6), with respect to an application for a license under subsection (b) or an authorization under subsection (d), or a request for renewal under subsection (f) or modification under subsection (g) of a license granted under subsection (b), a grant of market access granted under subsection (c), or an authorization granted under subsection (d), the Commission may extend the deadline under subsection (b), (d), (f), or (g) (as the case may be) for consideration of the application or request only if the Commission—

“(A) finds that there are extraordinary circumstances requiring additional time for consideration of the application or request such that, if the deadline were not extended, the public interest would be seriously prejudiced; and

“(B) issues a public notice of the finding described in subparagraph (A) that states—

“(i) the reasons of the Commission for the extension; and

“(ii) the length of the period of the extension.

“(2) LENGTH.—The Commission may not grant an extension of a deadline under paragraph (1) for a period that exceeds 90 days but may grant 1 or more additional extensions of such deadline under such paragraph, if the Commission makes the finding and issues the public notice required by such paragraph with respect to any such additional extension.

“(n) REVIEW FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT CONCERNS.—

“(1) REVIEW REQUIRED FOR ENTITIES WITH REPORTABLE FOREIGN OWNERSHIP.—In the case of an application under subsection (b), (c), or (d), a request for modification under subsection (g), or a request for modification of a covered authorization that is submitted by an entity that the Commission determines to have reportable foreign ownership, the Commission shall refer such application or request to the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Participation in the United States Telecommunications Services Sector established by Executive Order No. 13913 (85 Fed. Reg. 19643) (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Committee’) for review of national security and law enforcement concerns that may be raised by such application or request.

“(2) REVIEW AT DISCRETION OF COMMISSION.—In addition to the applications and requests that the Commission is required to refer to the Committee under paragraph (1), the Commission may, in the discretion of the Commission, refer any other application under subsection (b), (c), or (d), request for modification under subsection (g), or request for modification of a covered authorization to the Committee for review of national security and law enforcement concerns that may be raised by such application or request.

“(o) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED APPLICATION.—The term ‘covered application’ means an application for a license or grant of market access to operate a system described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(1) or subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (c)(1) that is pending on the date of the enactment of this section.

“(2) COVERED AUTHORIZATION.—The term ‘covered authorization’ means—

“(A) a license or grant of market access granted by the Commission to operate a system described in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (b)(1) or subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (c)(1) that is in effect on the date of the enactment of this section; or

“(B) a license or grant of market access granted by Commission approval of a covered application.

“(3) COVERED PERIOD.—The term ‘covered period’ means, with respect to a covered authorization, the period of time that begins on the date of the enactment of this section and ends on the earliest of—

“(A) the date that is 11 years after such date of enactment;

“(B) the date on which the Commission determines that the licensee or grantee (as the case may be) has not either—

“(i) deployed a level of service commensurate with the terms of the license or grant of market access; or

“(ii) otherwise demonstrated progress and investment consistent with the deployment

obligations under the license or grant of market access;

“(C) the date on which the Commission grants a request to renew the covered authorization; or

“(D) the date on which the Commission grants a request for a modification of the covered authorization described in subsection (h)(2)(B)(i)(II).

“(4) COVERED RADIOCOMMUNICATION SERVICE.—The term ‘covered radiocommunication service’ means a radiocommunication service (as defined in the radio regulations of the International Telecommunication Union that are in force as of the date of the enactment of this section (or any successor to such regulations)), except that such term does not include any radionavigation or safety service specifically identified by the Commission as a safety service for aeronautical or maritime transportation.

“(5) GATEWAY STATION.—The term ‘gateway station’ means an earth station or a group of earth stations that—

“(A) supports the routing and switching functions of a system operated under a license granted under subsection (b) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c);

“(B) may also be used for telemetry, tracking, and command transmissions;

“(C) does not originate or terminate communication traffic; and

“(D) is not for the exclusive use of any customer.

“(6) INDIVIDUALLY LICENSED EARTH STATION.—The term ‘individually licensed earth station’ means—

“(A) an earth station (other than a blanket-licensed earth station) that sends a signal to, and receives a signal from—

“(i) a nongeostationary orbit space station or space stations operated under a license granted under subsection (b)(1) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(1); or

“(ii) a geostationary orbit space station or space stations operated under a license granted under subsection (b)(2) or a grant of market access granted under subsection (c)(2); or

“(B) a gateway station.”

(b) RELATION TO OTHER LAW AMENDMENTS.—The Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 309(j)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

“(C) for licenses, grants of market access, or authorizations granted under section 346; or”; and

(2) in section 309(k)—

(A) in the heading, by striking “BROADCAST STATION RENEWAL PROCEDURES” and inserting “RENEWAL PROCEDURES FOR CERTAIN AUTHORIZATIONS”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting “, the licensee of a license granted under section 346(b), the grantee of a grant of market access granted under section 346(c), or an entity with authorization granted under section 346(d),” after “broadcast station”;

(II) by inserting “, grant, or authorization” after “such license”;

(III) by striking “that station” and inserting “that licensee, grantee, or entity”; and

(IV) by inserting “, grant of market access, or authorization” after “its license”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking “the station” and inserting “in the case of a broadcast station, the station”;

(iii) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively;

(iv) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) in the case of a licensee of a license granted under section 346(b), a grantee of a grant of market access granted under section 346(c), or an entity with authorization granted under section 346(d), the licensee, grantee, or entity has met the requirements of section 346(e);”;

(v) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by inserting “, grantee, or entity” after “licensee”; and

(vi) in subparagraph (D), as so redesignated, by inserting “, grantee, or entity” after “licensee”;

(C) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or the licensee of a license granted under section 346(b), the grantee of a grant of market access granted under section 346(c), or an entity with authorization granted under section 346(d),” after “broadcast station”;

(D) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “of a broadcast station, a licensee of a license granted under section 346(b), a grantee of a grant of market access granted under section 346(c), or an entity with authorization granted under section 346(d)” after “that a licensee”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by inserting “, grantee, or entity” after “licensee”; and

(II) by inserting “or 346” after “section 308”; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “former licensee” and inserting “former licensee of a broadcast station or such applications for a license, grant of market access, or authorization as may be filed under section 346(b), 346(c), or 346(d) specifying the information of the former licensee, grantee, or entity”; and

(E) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, grant of market access, or authorization” after “licensee”.

(c) **APPLICABILITY.**—The requirements in the amendments made by this section apply with respect to any application submitted under subsection (b), (c), or (d) of section 346 of the Communications Act of 1934 and any request for renewal or modification submitted under such section, as added by subsection (a), on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself some time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act, led by the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Over the last several years, the satellite marketplace has changed drastically. Every American now expects

fast, reliable access to the internet no matter where they are, and satellite communications networks play an important role in bridging the digital divide.

Today, new innovations in the satellite marketplace now enable speeds comparable to the other internet service providers. This new and enhanced satellite service is especially important in rural Ohio and other rural areas across America.

For Americans who have never had internet, satellite broadband can enable families to connect with distant relatives, children to complete their homework and receive an education online, and users to access telehealth services.

The new speeds and low latency provided by satellite communications networks are enabled by several advancements in technology.

First, some new satellite communications networks operate in low-Earth orbit, which means their radio signals do not have to travel as far as other satellite communications signals. As a result, communications networks offering low-Earth orbit can provide lower latency services that can deliver a better experience for consumers.

Additionally, some new satellite communications networks have more satellite radio stations in their network than satellite communications networks that were licensed many years ago. In some cases, there are thousands of radios, all of which work together in concert to provide faster, more reliable connectivity service.

Finally, investment and innovation in new satellite communications networks have led to novel proposals to use electromagnetic spectrum in new ways. By their nature, satellite communications networks serve global markets and therefore share the use of electromagnetic spectrum. The complex design and architecture of these satellites, as well as how they utilize spectrum, has led to more advanced satellite service offerings.

However, all of this change has amplified the challenges with the Federal Communications Commission's licensing process. A regulatory process that once contemplated only a handful of applications has seen dozens of applicants seeking new applications, modifications to existing applications, and new uses of spectrum that the old regulatory regime was not designed to address.

To provide needed direction to the FCC and promote competition and innovation, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act is the first legislation in decades to modernize the regulatory framework for licensing commercial satellite communications networks.

H.R. 1338 would bring our licensing framework for satellite communications into the 21st century, especially as we compete against other countries like China that seek to dominate the United States.

The legislation would establish a statutory framework at the FCC that provides a streamlined process for considering new satellite communications licenses, modifying existing ones, and facilitating the deployment of innovative communications technologies.

In addition to bringing next-generation satellite connectivity to Americans and the world, H.R. 1338 would also promote U.S. technological leadership. By creating a regulatory environment that invites investment and rewards innovation, we can turn the United States into the destination of choice for licensing satellite communications systems for providers around the world.

While the use of spectrum must be coordinated internationally, ensuring timely access to predictable, reliable use of shared spectrum in the United States will send a signal that the government wants to be a partner, not a roadblock, to deploying next-generation technologies.

This is key as the United States looks to defend America's technological leadership against China. The Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act will ensure the United States' regulatory process doesn't hold back American innovation. China can act unilaterally to approve changes to their satellite communications system and spectrum usage, which is a far cry from the competitive, market-based spectrum licensing system in the United States.

In order for the government to be a partner and not a roadblock, it must make sure that innovative, new satellite spectrum technologies make it from the lab to orbit in a timely manner. H.R. 1338 will ensure that there is a fair regulatory regime built on an objective, performance-based system that facilitates the investment needed to maintain our technological leadership.

Also, the FCC currently has authority under the Communications Act to attach conditions to licenses for satellite communications systems to ensure licensees are acting in the public interest. This authority has been upheld by the courts.

The Energy and Commerce Committee wants to ensure that the FCC does not become a space traffic cop and try to manage space traffic management functions or provide space situational awareness information. We added rules of construction to clarify that the FCC does not have the authority to be that space traffic cop and to affirm that nothing in H.R. 1338 would expand the existing authority the FCC currently has regarding orbital debris and space safety.

The rules of construction also clarify that nothing in H.R. 1338 grants the FCC the authority to carry out functions provided under 10 U.S.C. 2274 related to the provision of space situational awareness services and information.

The FCC uses its current authority to attach conditions to spectrum licenses relating to orbital debris and

space safety capabilities to prevent harmful interference among satellite systems and avoid granting licenses to potentially unsafe satellite communications systems that would jeopardize space safety and exacerbate orbital debris.

This legislation is good government. It provides statutory direction and boundaries to the FCC rather than allowing it to retrofit old laws for the new marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act, or the SAT Streamlining Act.

Within the last decade, satellite capabilities have jumped leaps and bounds. We have seen significant advancements in satellites providing broadband internet and other services to consumers and the public throughout the country and the world. While this is beneficial to all, it is especially helpful to those living in areas where other types of technologies have not been built out yet due to geographic considerations and other factors.

These technological breakthroughs are a positive step forward for our country, but it is evident that other countries, including our foreign adversaries, are also aggressively trying to dominate this industry. It is imperative that Congress act now to retain our country's leadership position in the satellite marketplace.

H.R. 1338 helps to accomplish this goal. This bill will enhance the competitiveness of our Nation's satellite industry by requiring the FCC to set reasonable rules to prevent harmful interference as satellites utilize spectrum to communicate with one another and with base stations on Earth. It does not expand the FCC's jurisdiction over the space industry. Instead, it sets new rules of the road with respect to the licensing of electromagnetic spectrum, which is needed to operate satellite systems.

For instance, it establishes application requirements for the licensing of the spectrum and sets forth the guidelines for how and when the FCC should consider these applications and the timeframes for doing so.

We must implement these solutions to ensure the United States remains competitive with our counterparts across the globe, including China, in producing cutting-edge consumer innovations and fortifying our public safety and national security capabilities.

The Energy and Commerce Committee, Mr. Speaker, has traditionally worked in a bipartisan fashion on key telecommunications matters, and I commend Chair RODGERS for continuing this tradition with this legislation. Unfortunately, though, another

bipartisan bill that I led with Chair RODGERS that unanimously passed out of the committee would have directly addressed the threat of adversaries deploying their satellite systems for use by U.S. customers. H.R. 675, the Secure Space Act, would extend the framework Congress adopted in the bipartisan Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act to satellite operators. This framework ensures that foreign adversaries cannot use our communications network for espionage and disruption.

□ 1730

The Energy and Commerce Committee, and then the full Congress passed last year then-Minority Whip SCALISE's bipartisan legislation to extend that framework to the FCC's equipment authorization process.

It surprised and disappointed me that some members of the Republican caucus are objecting to the Secure Space Act—again, a bill passed unanimously out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. Unfortunately, it can't go forward without amendments limiting its scope, and therefore its effect, in keeping unquestionably bad actors from infiltrating our networks.

We should be passing this bill today rather than allowing a small extreme minority in the House Republican caucus to have veto power over a policy that is so important to our national security and that a significant majority of this House favors. It is unfortunate that the Republican majority continues to cave to the extreme elements of their party.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1338, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS), the chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act that I am proud to lead with Ranking Member PALLONE.

The SAT Streamlining Act is the first legislation in over two decades to update our laws governing how communications services using satellite technologies are licensed by the FCC.

Satellite communications systems play a pivotal role in closing the digital divide. Yet, the legal framework for licensing new and innovative satellite technologies has not kept pace with the 21st century.

Other adversaries, like China, seek to overtake our lead in developing these next-generation technologies. The SAT Streamlining Act would reform and improve the FCC's process to make the United States the destination of choice for licensing satellite communications systems without expanding the FCC's authority.

Our goal today is to ensure that the FCC does not become a space traffic cop and try to manage space traffic

management functions or provide space situational awareness information. We added rules of construction to clarify the FCC does not have the authority to be the space traffic cop and affirm that nothing in H.R. 1338 would expand the existing authority of the FCC currently regarding orbital debris and space safety.

I will read the Rules of Construction. If you look at the Rules of Construction—this is section 3(A). "Space Situational Awareness Services and Information. Nothing in this subsection, including the rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), shall be construed to grant the Commission authority to carry out the functions provided under section 2274 of title 10, United States Code . . ."

Then you go to section B: "Space Safety and Orbital Debris. Nothing in this subsection, including the rules issued pursuant to paragraph (1)(A), shall be construed to expand the authority of the Commission to establish requirements for or regulate space safety and orbital debris."

Subsection C. "Authority of Commission Under This Act. Nothing in subparagraph (A) or (B) shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission with respect to space stations licensed under this Act."

Those are the Rules of Construction.

This legislation today is to provide certainty to satellite operators by setting out clear performance objectives for satellite communications systems.

These changes will ensure that as satellite operators choose a venue for licensing their global systems, the United States' regulatory process is more appealing than other nations.

The SAT Act would establish an expedited review process for approving minor modifications to satellite communications systems, which will get new technologies into space sooner.

Second, the legislation would promote competition among satellite communications providers.

Spectrum access is a necessary component of global satellite communications networks.

Innovation takes place at a rapid speed, and the FCC should have clear guidance from Congress on how to evaluate whether a proposed satellite communications system can share spectrum with other systems to avoid harmful interference.

The SAT Act sets forth a framework that will ensure spectrum is used efficiently and promotes competition and innovation in the satellite communications marketplace.

China is currently working to launch and operate a national constellation similar to the American satellite communications systems.

Unlike our regulatory process, China can move swiftly to approve new technologies in their quest to dominate America and the world.

In order to ensure U.S. licensed systems stay ahead of our competitors, our regulatory environment must keep

pace with industry while continuing to ensure responsible spectrum use.

We began this effort to develop a new licensing framework for the modern era 2 years ago. We have worked with a wide array of stakeholders from the satellite industry. I am pleased we are moving forward today.

We must lead with more innovation, more competition, and better communications services for American homes and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member PALLONE and all the stakeholders that worked with us over the last few years to create a framework that will promote competition, innovation, and predictability.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote in support of the legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BEYER).

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act. I believe I am joined in this opposition by the chair of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, Mr. LUCAS, and by the chair of the Space and Aeronautics Subcommittee, Mr. BABIN.

Mr. Speaker, with complete respect to the chair and the ranking member on the Energy and Commerce Committee, if this bill were focused solely on regulating electromagnetic spectrum use and improving the spectrum licensing process in the United States, then this would be a very different speech.

Improving the Federal Communications Commission's licensing of spectrum is important. However, H.R. 1338 goes way beyond the FCC's spectrum mission. It would provide unprecedented authority to the FCC to issue rules on "space safety and orbital debris." This is a serious problem and cause for deep concern.

Drafting such rules would only detract and divert attention and resources from the FCC's primary mission of assessing applications for spectrum, actions the bill seeks to strengthen.

The FCC does not have sufficient expertise to issue appropriate rules on space safety or orbital debris.

Further, Federal agencies engage in interagency coordination on orbital debris mitigation based on science and technical research led by NASA.

Rather than follow a cohesive and coordinated approach within the Federal Government, H.R. 1338 would give authority to the FCC to do its own thing and to act unilaterally without participating in the interagency coordination that is necessary to prevent a fragmented government approach toward space activities. On something as important as space safety and orbital debris, this is a troubling thought.

The issue of space safety and orbital debris is a pressing concern. The administration and stakeholders through

two administrations have been coalescing around the Department of Commerce as the lead agency on space safety and related orbital debris activities in coordination with other Federal Government agencies.

Congress has appropriated funding for the Department of Commerce to advance civil space situational awareness and related orbital debris activities. This is a critical time for the U.S. commercial space industry. Clear and predictable roles, responsibilities, and regulatory frameworks from the Federal Government are needed.

Having the FCC regulate space safety and orbital debris mitigation would duplicate efforts and cause confusion, including for our partners, where the U.S. has led internationally. Rather than supporting the continuing growth and leadership of the U.S. in commercial space, and the interagency process within the Department of Commerce, H.R. 1338 risks undermining it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN), from Florida's Second District.

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in the ever-expanding realm of space-based architecture, we have witnessed an unprecedented growth in commercial, academic, and military applications over the past two decades.

As we enter into a new era of space exploration and innovation, it has become imperative for the United States to move at the speed of business, embracing agility and efficiency in our regulatory approach.

The Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act, or SAT Act, represents a transformative step toward ensuring that our regulations keep pace with the dynamic and rapidly evolving satellite communications ecosystem.

This bill directs the FCC to establish new rules for licensing satellite communications systems that describe crucial performance objectives within a defined timeframe of 18 months.

These performance objectives will provide certainty to satellite operators seeking a spectrum license so they understand the requirements they must meet in order to avoid interfering with other space systems.

This bill would also direct the agency to decide on new license applications within 1 year.

The SAT Act provides a streamlined application process for satellite communications providers, and with the goal of promoting U.S. leadership in the satellite communications industry.

During these contentious geopolitical times, the importance of space-based assets for our national security cannot be overstated. Many of these assets are critical to safeguarding our Nation's interests and are extensively utilized for national security applications.

By providing an updated and efficient licensing process, the SAT Act ensures

that these vital space assets remain protected from harmful interference and operation.

With the satellite ecosystem constantly evolving as technologies and innovations come online, it is paramount that regulations governing them are able to keep pace to ensure we remain ahead of our adversaries, especially as the Department of Defense continues to rely on innovations in commercial satellite technology.

We must update Federal regulations so that industry can deliver requirements to the warfighters at the pace that they demand.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my esteemed colleagues to pass the SAT Act, recognizing its potential to drive our Nation's competitiveness in the space domain.

By streamlining regulatory processes, we set the stage for a future where American businesses can contribute to our continued leadership in space.

Let us unite in embracing this transformative legislation, ensuring that the United States remains at the forefront of communications technology and innovation in space.

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

Mr. Speaker, I listened to what Mr. BEYER said, and I know that some of the leadership on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee are opposed to this bill. I will say that despite the Science, Space, and Technology Committee's claims, H.R. 1338, the Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act does not infringe on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee's jurisdiction or grant the FCC new authority with respect to space safety and orbital debris.

Instead, this bill streamlines existing FCC licensing procedures so the commercial satellite operators can more easily obtain the necessary spectrum rights to launch their satellite systems into space.

Because the bill deals directly with access to spectrum and the FCC's management of it, this legislation falls squarely within the jurisdiction of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

To the extent the bill references space safety and orbital debris, it is in the context of ensuring that the FCC acts within the bounds of the rules adopted by the U.S. Government for orbital debris mitigation.

Specifically, the language in the bill simply directs the FCC to align any licensing requirements that it may impose on satellite operators concerning orbital debris and space safety—which it can do today consistent with its existing authority—with the orbital debris and space safety practices established by NASA and others.

Mr. Speaker, mandating such action is good government as it reduces the likelihood of conflicting standards or requirements and ensures that government continues to speak with one voice on these important matters.

□ 1745

Nevertheless, recognizing the Science Committee's concerns, language has now been added to the bill to make it crystal clear that this legislation does not give the FCC any new authority on space safety and orbital debris.

Finally, for those Members suggesting that the Department of Commerce does not support this bill, I want to be clear that this is not true. In reality, the Department of Commerce has not taken a position on this bill.

For all these reasons, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1338 is a worthwhile bill, I urge all my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1338, the Satellite and Telecommunications Streamlining Act. This bill amends the Communications Act to clarify the Federal Communication Commission's statutory role in licensing satellite communications systems.

While the FCC has long exercised the authority to license satellite systems—and while Congress has recognized this authority—this bill provides further direction on the agency when it comes to balancing and considering novel issues throughout its licensing process.

For example, the FCC can use its current authority to regulate satellite communications systems designed to ensure that related aspects of radio stations in space can continue to serve the public interest. This is on top of using its authority when considering the complex use of electromagnetic spectrum by various satellite systems.

This bill would effectively simplify FCC space station licensing rules, impose FCC licensing decision timelines, and add performance standards to mitigate orbital debris to ensure safe operation in space. It also clarifies FCC radio frequency sharing obligations to encourage innovation and investment.

The bill is very clear. It does not expand the FCC's authority.

In terms of innovation, Mr. Speaker, spectrum is limited. Our adversaries are not hindered by regulations. We need to streamline this.

This bill passed with unanimous bipartisan support out of the Energy and Commerce Committee in March. This is not unprecedented authority for the FCC. In response to my Democrat colleague who claimed this allows the FCC to act unilaterally; that is false.

In fact, this legislation constrains the FCC's authority to issue rules around space safety to be aligned with the orbital debris mitigation plan which is approved by the interagency.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill.

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

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

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1338 promotes U.S. leadership in the commercial satellite communications industry by creating a regulatory environment that encourages innovation and investment in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you something. The Energy and Commerce Committee is all about encouraging innovation and investment in the United States.

This bill helps us to beat China. China is actively working to undermine U.S. leadership in the satellite communications marketplace and provide service to other allies so that they can gather intelligence.

This bill streamlines the process for modifications to existing satellite communications systems. The bill would ensure that modifications to existing satellite communications are not held up unnecessarily by new applications that may be more complex.

The bill also creates a regulatory fast lane for minor modifications that do not change the spectrum interference landscape in a meaningful way.

It incentivizes satellite communications systems to be good stewards of spectrum. By establishing a quantifiable level of protection that defines how each satellite communications system licensed by the FCC may use spectrum, the bill ensures a balance between competition and innovation.

It enhances FCC transparency and efficiency of processing NGSO satellite applications, for example, SpaceX.

The bill would provide direction to the FCC on how their satellite communications licensing rules should be designed.

By creating objective, measurable, and technology-neutral performance objectives, satellite operators will have flexibility to design their systems without government overregulation.

Mr. Speaker, we need H.R. 1338.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bill on a bipartisan basis. The committee voted this out, again, on a bipartisan basis. I think it is very important, and I assure my Science Committee colleagues this does not impinge on their jurisdiction.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, we have heard from so many of our speakers this afternoon about how essential H.R. 1338 is to promote effective information sharing, collaboration, and response efforts to establish the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019.

The legislation facilitates the public-private partnerships to develop and im-

plement cybersecurity policies related to the communications networks. By encouraging this collaboration between the government agencies and stakeholders, we can all work together to address the cyber threats and vulnerabilities more effectively.

Again, this piece of legislation passed out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. We worked together on this in a bipartisan manner, and with a vote of 44-0, that bill came out of committee. It is a good piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1338, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote NO on H.R. 1338, the Satellite and Telecommunications Streamlining Act.

This bill seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of FCC's spectrum licensing, a goal I support. However, the bill, as written, would go well beyond FCC's expertise and mission to regulate spectrum by also seeking to regulate space safety and orbital debris. That is deeply concerning and it is the reason I am in opposition to H.R. 1338.

As Ranking Member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, I recognize the importance of maintaining the long-term sustainability of the space environment. U.S. citizens depend on assets in space to support our national security, give us accurate weather forecasts, enable communications services, and so much more. It is essential that we get space safety right.

The space community, including the National Space Council, is coalescing around the Department of Commerce as the lead agency with responsibility for space situational awareness, orbital debris monitoring, and related critical space safety activities.

Setting up a fragmented licensing or certification regime—as I believe this bill, as written, would do—is in no one's interest. It would create confusion and could even harm U.S. economic competitiveness and global leadership in space. For decades, the U.S. has taken a whole-of-government approach to orbital debris, and has actively coordinated on approaches with other nations. This bill would allow the FCC to act on its own in regulating orbital debris mitigation, an approach that would likely confuse and ultimately undermine, rather than strengthen, efforts to reduce and mitigate the risk of orbital debris.

The Chairman of the Science Committee and I are completely aligned in our concerns around this bill. I am committed to continuing the Science Committee's work, on a bipartisan basis, to address the serious threat of orbital debris to the future sustainability of the space environment comprehensively and holistically.

I urge Members to vote NO on H.R. 1338.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUCSHON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1338, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. LUCAS. 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

LAUNCH COMMUNICATIONS ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 682) to facilitate access to electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 682

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 "Launch Communications Act".

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO SPECTRUM FOR COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCHES AND REENTRIES.

(a) SERVICE RULES; ALLOCATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall complete any proceeding in effect as of such date of enactment related to the adoption of service rules for access to the frequencies described in subsection (c) for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries, including technical specifications, eligibility requirements, coordination procedures to preserve the Nation's defense capabilities, and the allocation on a secondary basis of the frequencies described in subsection (c).

(2) COORDINATION WITH NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION.—The coordination procedures adopted under paragraph (1) shall include requirements for persons conducting commercial space launches and commercial space reentries to coordinate with the Assistant Secretary regarding access to the frequencies described in subsection (c) for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries.

(b) STREAMLINING OF PROCESS FOR GRANTING AUTHORIZATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall issue new regulations to streamline the process for granting authorizations for access to the frequencies described in subsection (c) for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries so as to provide for—

(1) authorizations that include access to such frequencies for multiple commercial space launches from one or more Federal space launch sites and multiple commercial space reentries to one or more Federal space launch sites;

(2) authorizations that include access to such frequencies for multiple commercial space launches from one or more private space launch sites and multiple commercial space reentries to one or more private space launch sites;

(3) authorizations that include access to multiple uses of such frequencies for commercial space launch or commercial space reentry;

(4) automation of the processes of the Commission to review applications for authorizations for access to such frequencies for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries; and

(5) improved coordination by the Commission with the Assistant Secretary (who shall coordinate with the heads of such other Fed-

eral agencies as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate) to increase the speed of review of applications for authorizations for access to such frequencies for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries.

(c) FREQUENCIES DESCRIBED.—The frequencies described in this subsection are the frequencies between 2025 and 2110 megahertz, between 2200 and 2290 megahertz, between 2360 and 2395 megahertz, and between 5650 and 5925 megahertz.

(d) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(1) FREQUENCY RANGES.—Each range of frequencies described in this section shall be construed to be inclusive of the upper and lower frequencies in the range.

(2) SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section may be construed to authorize or require elimination or limitation of, or any amendment to, or otherwise to affect, special temporary authority, as provided for by section 1.931 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term "Assistant Secretary" means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information.

(2) COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH.—The term "commercial space launch" means a launch licensed under chapter 509 of title 51, United States Code.

(3) COMMERCIAL SPACE REENTRY.—The term "commercial space reentry" means a reentry licensed under chapter 509 of title 51, United States Code.

(4) COMMISSION.—The term "Commission" means the Federal Communications Commission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous materials in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 682, the Launch Communications Act led by the gentlemen from Florida's Second and Ninth Districts.

Over the last decade, the American commercial space industry has dramatically reduced the cost to enter space, revolutionizing the industry. Investment has increased, and innovation has flourished. The number of commercial space launches has increased dramatically.

Unfortunately, our Federal processes have not kept pace.

To launch satellites into orbit, launch providers need access to certain radio frequencies, known as spectrum, which requires coordination between several Federal agencies.

H.R. 682 will take important steps to streamline the process for commercial

space launch providers to gain access to the frequencies they need when they need them and ensure that a lack of coordination between Federal agencies does not hamper the thriving commercial space economy.

No space launch should be threatened because approval for their spectrum access is caught up in bureaucratic delay.

This legislation would provide more certainty to commercial satellite operators that when they make the investment in satellite technologies, they will be able to launch them into space.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 682, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 682, the Launch Communications Act.

Over the last decade, we have seen the costs of exploring space drop drastically. As a result, space launches in this country have increased dramatically. In 2013, the FAA authorized eight launches, but by 2022, less than a decade later, the number was 79. The number of space launches from the United States is only expected to increase in the years to come. We must foster and support this growth in order to enhance our national security capabilities and cement our Nation as a global leader in space and other cutting-edge technologies.

Transporting satellites to space cannot happen without launch entities having reliable access to electromagnetic spectrum. Right now the FCC only temporarily allocates spectrum for space launches. Nevertheless, this process is becoming increasingly burdensome given rise in the number of space launches occurring in our country. For the United States to continue its leadership in space, it is imperative that the FCC develop an efficient and effective process to license spectrum for commercial space launches, as well as the space reentries that inevitably must follow.

Now, H.R. 682 addresses these challenges. Specifically, this bill requires the FCC to streamline its process for allocating spectrum usage rights to commercial space launch providers. These efforts will better support these providers as they communicate with their launch vehicles during flight and upon reentry. The bill also directs the FCC to complete a rulemaking proceeding to adopt service rules for the spectrum bands identified in the bill for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives SOTO and DUNN for their bipartisan work on this bill. This important bill helps secure America's leadership in the commercial space industry by strengthening our country's position as a prime destination for launching satellites into space.

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

manner, I look forward to its consideration in the Senate, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the Second District of Florida (Mr. DUNN), who is the sponsor of the legislation.

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, it is imperative that the United States continues to lead in satellite communications technology and space exploration to ensure our global competitiveness.

In today's world, indispensable spectrum resources know no borders or boundaries, and they must be used to enhance space and satellite operations, provide broadband access to our fellow Americans, and enhance America's security capability.

As our private-sector partners continue to innovate, the Federal Government can play a collaborative role through the modernization of the launch spectrum licensing process.

This is why I joined my esteemed colleague from Florida (Mr. SOTO) in reintroducing the Launch Communications Act. This updates and simplifies an outdated regulatory process so the U.S. can maintain our competitiveness in space exploration.

Currently, commercial missions launching from the United States to space must use government-owned spectrum to communicate with the rockets during launch and reentry.

Additionally, these private companies must apply to the FCC who must then coordinate with the NTIA to receive special temporary authority to use such spectrum each time they launch.

The Launch Communications Act will lift the burden of obtaining many authorizations and enable the private companies to temporarily use certain spectrum bands for satellite launches when needed.

On multiple occasions this legislation requires the FCC to streamline the launch authorization process for commercial launches, eliminating the special temporary authority process, permitting multilaunch authorizations, and automating the frequency review process.

This is consistent with Space Policy Directive-2 issued by President Trump in May of 2018 to refine Federal spectrum regulations and minimize regulatory burdens.

□ 1800

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO), the Democratic sponsor of this bill and a graduate of Rutgers University.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 682, the Launch Communications Act.

In central Florida, the busiest spaceport in the world is right in our backyard in Cape Canaveral. We had a record year of 57 launches from the cape in 2022, and we are expecting a

total of 87 launches or more this year, so quite often we see 2 or more in a single week.

When we see bad weather, as you can imagine, some of these launches start to stack up, which is why having a lengthy FCC license process for each launch can be cumbersome and costly.

That is why I introduced this bill with my colleague and fellow Floridian, Dr. DUNN, to streamline the process and ensure our spaceports continue to be the most efficient in the world.

The Launch Communications Act allocates certain spectrum for commercial launches and reentries. It streamlines the process for authorization to said spectrum while also keeping it available to other users and ensuring coordination to prevent any interference with government systems.

As we continue to break launch records year after year, we need to streamline these processes to continue to ensure that America remains the world leader in space. This bill does exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, Chair LATTA, Chair MCMORRIS RODGERS, Ranking Member PALLONE, Ranking Member MATSUI, and, of course, my fellow Floridian, Dr. DUNN, for passing this bill out of committee unanimously.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Launch Communications Act.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan bill coming out of the Energy and Commerce Committee. I urge support for this very important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, this legislation would provide more certainty to our commercial satellite operators so that when they make the investment in satellite technologies, they will be able to launch them into space.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 682, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FULCHER). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 682, 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.

SECURING THE U.S. ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK ACT

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2544) to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2544

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 "Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act".

SEC. 2. ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK.

Section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking "The Secretary shall by contract" and inserting "IN GENERAL—The Secretary shall";

(B) by striking "establishment and" and inserting "continued"; and

(C) by striking the second and third sentences and inserting "The Secretary may award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, as the Secretary determines appropriate, for purposes of carrying out this section."; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "(b)(1) The Organ Procurement" and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(b) COMPOSITION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network shall—

"(A) be operated through awards to public or private entities made by the Secretary that are distinct from the awards made to support the organization tasked with supporting the board of directors described in subparagraph (B); and"

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended—

(1) in section 371(b)(1)(H)(i)(III) (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)(H)(i)(III)), by striking "histocompatibility" and inserting "histocompatibility";

(2) in section 374(c)(2) (42 U.S.C. 274b(c)(2)), by striking "section 371 or 373" each place it appears and inserting "section 371, 372, or 373";

(3) in section 375 (42 U.S.C. 274c)—

(A) by striking the comma at the end of each of paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking "transplants, and" and inserting "transplants; and"; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(4) in section 376 (42 U.S.C. 274d)—

(A) by striking "February 10 of 1991 and of each second year thereafter" and inserting "2 years after the date of enactment of the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act and every second year thereafter"; and

(B) by striking "Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate." and inserting "Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate."

SEC. 4. GAO REVIEW.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) to the extent data are available, conduct a review of the historical financing of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network described in section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274), including the utilization of registration fees among entities that have previously been awarded contracts under such section 372; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the

Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the review under paragraph (1), including related recommendations, as applicable.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 2544, the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act, introduced in partnership with Representative KELLY of Illinois.

This critical legislation would improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network by allowing the Health Resources and Services Administration to make the OPTN contracting process competitive.

The same entity has operated the OPTN contract since it was established nearly 40 years ago. Recent reports and bipartisan congressional investigations have shed light on logistical and technological flaws within the OPTN that may have jeopardized patient safety and may have led to lifesaving organs not being transplanted.

We must pass H.R. 2544 to increase competition and make sure the best organization is selected to operate the OPTN. This will hopefully lead to more organs being transplanted and saving lives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2544, the Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act, seeks to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, or OPTN.

This network, which is operated by the Health Resources and Service Administration, or HRSA, is responsible for maintaining a national registry for organ matching, and it is operated by a private organization under Federal contract.

A number of investigations in the past few years have found that the OPTN struggles to obtain and distribute organs in a timely and efficient manner. In fact, more than 6,000 Americans die each year while waiting for organ transplants. This problem is even more pronounced for people of color and rural residents.

More than 100,000 Americans are currently on the transplant waiting list,

and 17 Americans die each day awaiting transplants. This is entirely unacceptable, and we need to do better for the many patients who rely on the OPTN. The OPTN needs to be improved and modernized in a number of ways.

HRSA has undertaken a number of efforts to modernize the OPTN, and this bill, H.R. 2544, complements those efforts. It would ensure that HRSA has the authority to award multiple contracts to carry out the many functions of the OPTN. It would also make the OPTN contracts more competitive in order to increase oversight and transparency and to enhance the performance of the program.

The organ transplantation network is a lifesaving system that is in desperate need of repair. This bill will go a long way to improve it, and it is a huge win for some of the most vulnerable patients in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives BUCSHON and KELLY for their bipartisan leadership on this bill. I am pleased that it is before us today, and I encourage all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2544 allows HRSA to improve the OPTN program. It clarifies that HRSA does not have to implement a single contract for all aspects of the program and encourages a competitive process to choose the best contractors for each OPTN function. Nothing in this legislation precludes HRSA from awarding UNOS a contract for each function.

As a physician in Congress, my focus with this legislation is on ensuring that HRSA has the authority that it needs to act on behalf of patients and that the best innovators are able to compete and play their part in saving lives.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2544.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECURING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS ACT OF 2023

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (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, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 752

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 "Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. SELECTUSA DEFINED.

In this Act, the term "SelectUSA" means the SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce established by Executive Order 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35,715).

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Semiconductors underpin the United States and global economies, including manufacturing sectors. Semiconductors are also essential to the national security of the United States.

(2) A shortage of semiconductors, brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and other complex factors impacting the overall supply chain, has threatened the economic recovery of the United States and industries that employ millions of United States citizens.

(3) Addressing current challenges and building resilience against future risks requires ensuring a secure and stable supply chain for semiconductors that will support the economic and national security needs of the United States and its allies.

(4) The supply chain for semiconductors is complex and global. While the United States plays a leading role in certain segments of the semiconductor industry, securing the supply chain requires onshoring, reshoring, or diversifying vulnerable segments, such as for—

(A) fabrication;

(B) advanced packaging; and

(C) materials and equipment used to manufacture semiconductor products.

(5) The Federal Government can leverage foreign direct investment and private dollars to grow the domestic manufacturing and production capacity of the United States for vulnerable segments of the semiconductor supply chain.

(6) The SelectUSA program of the Department of Commerce, in coordination with other Federal agencies and State-level economic development organizations, is positioned to boost foreign direct investment in domestic manufacturing and to help secure the semiconductor supply chain of the United States.

SEC. 4. COORDINATION WITH STATE-LEVEL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA shall solicit comments from State-level economic development organizations—

(1) to review—

(A) what efforts the Federal Government can take to support increased foreign direct investment in any segment of semiconductor-related production;

(B) what barriers to such investment may exist and how to amplify State efforts to attract such investment;

(C) public opportunities those organizations have identified to attract foreign direct investment to help increase investment described in subparagraph (A);

(D) resource gaps or other challenges that prevent those organizations from increasing such investment; and

(2) to develop recommendations for—

(A) how SelectUSA can increase such investment independently or through partnership with those organizations; and

(B) working with countries that are allies or partners of the United States to ensure

that foreign adversaries (as defined in section 8(c)(2) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(c)(2))) do not benefit from United States efforts to increase such investment.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON INCREASING FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN SEMICONDUCTOR-RELATED MANUFACTURING AND PRODUCTION.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Executive Director of SelectUSA, in coordination with the Federal Interagency Investment Working Group established by Executive Order 13577 (76 Fed. Reg. 35,715; relating to establishment of the SelectUSA Initiative), shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) a review of the comments SelectUSA received from State-level economic development organizations under section 4;

(2) a description of activities SelectUSA is engaged in to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production; and

(3) an assessment of strategies SelectUSA may implement to achieve an increase in such investment and to help secure the United States supply chain for semiconductors, including by—

(A) working with other relevant Federal agencies; and

(B) working with State-level economic development organizations and implementing any strategies or recommendations SelectUSA received from those organizations.

SEC. 6. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 752, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023, sponsored by Ms. ESHOO of California and Mr. PENCE of Indiana.

I am pleased that we can look at ways to attract investment into our country as opposed to shifting more demands onto our taxpayers.

This legislation requires SelectUSA to find ways that we can bolster foreign direct investment in U.S. semiconductor supply chains.

Semiconductor technology powers much of our modern economy, including payment cards, automobiles, cell phones, and the list goes on.

While we have led in chip design over the years, we have seen chip manufac-

turing and its surrounding supply chains shift overseas.

Among the many lessons we learned from COVID-19 and the pandemic is that the United States must lead in both the design and production of semiconductor chips to ensure we do not fall behind China.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 752, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act.

Semiconductors are necessary for the production of everything from consumer electronics to automobiles to our national defense weapons systems.

The United States was once a global powerhouse in semiconductor fabrication, but over the years, it has become dangerously reliant on other countries for the production of these chips, which are vital to both our national economic and security interests.

That is why I was proud to lead the effort last Congress when Democrats were in the majority here in the House to pass and enact the CHIPS and Science Act. This law was transformational. It will strengthen our manufacturing base to grow our economy for the future, help create good-paying jobs for American workers, unleash more innovation, and lower costs for consumers. It does this by investing more than \$52 billion into domestic semiconductor research, development, and production so that more of these semiconductors are built here in the United States by American workers.

When you travel to the industrial heartland, spend time in our industrial communities, and talk to hardworking, middle-class Americans whose manufacturing jobs have been sent offshore, it is clear that we still have to do more. H.R. 752 will provide valuable information about how we can increase foreign direct investment to further advance our efforts to strengthen the semiconductor supply chains, create more jobs, and continue to revitalize American manufacturing.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representatives ESHOO and PENCE for their bipartisan leadership on this issue.

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE), one of the primary sponsors of the bill.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON), the chairman and my esteemed friend, for yielding time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 752, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act, which I co-led with Congresswoman ESHOO, who I thank for her leadership.

This bipartisan bill seeks to uncover barriers to expanding foreign direct in-

vestment into domestic manufacturing for semiconductor chips.

Over the past few years, Hoosiers in southern Indiana felt the ripples in our economy caused by the shortages of semiconductor chips. Auto manufacturers like Honda in Greensburg and Cummins engine company in Columbus, Indiana, told me firsthand the potential impacts on day-to-day operations because of this shortage.

We learned the hard way that our economy cannot rely solely on adversarial nations like China to secure chips for our economy.

My greatest priority in Congress has been fighting for policies that have the opportunity to create good-paying jobs for our Hoosiers and for all Americans, and I urge support for this bill.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO), the Democratic sponsor of this bill and the ranking member of our Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Health.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding time to me, and I thank him for support of my bill, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023.

My congressional district was named for the materials that semiconductors are made of—Silicon Valley.

Mr. Speaker, 30 years ago, the United States manufactured nearly 40 percent of all semiconductors. Today, we produce only 12 percent. This lack of domestic semiconductor manufacturing poses a significant risk to our economy and national security.

The semiconductor supply chain is fragile, and it can be disrupted easily, with serious consequences to our daily lives.

□ 1815

To bolster domestic semiconductor production and reduce reliance on foreign suppliers, my legislation directs the Department of Commerce's SelectUSA program to develop strategies to attract investment in U.S. semiconductor manufacturers and supply chains.

It will leverage the considerable downpayment Congress made in the CHIPS and Science Act and expand opportunities for the private sector to invest in American manufacturing.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation, along with the investments made in the CHIPS and Science Act, will bring the U.S. back to being number one in the world in semiconductor manufacturing and maintain leadership in technological innovation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congressman PENCE for his partnership on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it. This is a very good bill, and it is going to build on what we need to bring this manufacturing back to the United States and make us number one in the world.

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

I urge support for this bipartisan bill, which continues our efforts to deal with chips, basically a follow-up on the CHIPS and Science Act, which was so important in bringing back American manufacturing and American innovation.

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

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for H.R. 752, the Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 752, 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.

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PROTECTING AND SECURING
CHEMICAL FACILITIES FROM
TERRORIST ATTACKS ACT OF
2023

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4470) to extend the authorization of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4470

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 “Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION OF CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

Section 5 of the Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–254; 6 U.S.C. 621 note) is amended by striking “2023” and inserting “2025”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. 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 H.R. 4470.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4470, the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program, also known as CFATS, which is the only Federal program that focuses on security at facilities with chemicals of interest. The authority for this program expires in just 2 days.

While Congress continues to look at improvements and changes with feedback from industry, it is imperative that we reauthorize the program to remain in place to continue to provide stability to the chemical facility industry.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE) for her work leading this initiative. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4470, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards, or CFATS, program is a vital national security program whereby DHS works with the Nation’s highest risk chemical facilities to make sure they are secure against an attack by a terrorist or other bad actor.

Since 2007, CFATS has helped thousands of facilities strengthen their security posture and reduce on-site risks, sometimes lowering their risk profile so much that they are no longer subject to regulation.

This program has been so effective that in the 15 years since it was established, the number of high-risk facilities has dropped by half, from more than 7,000 to fewer than 3,500.

Once more, CFATS-regulated facilities are some of the program’s most avid supporters. That is because the regulations are flexible, nonprescriptive, and focused on outcomes rather than micromanaging security decisions or imposing one-size-fits-all requirements.

Still, the CFATS statutory authority will lapse a few days from now if Congress does not act. We cannot let that happen. CFATS is far from perfect. The program suffers from longstanding, well-documented issues that need to be fixed in legislation. However, H.R. 4470 makes no effort to address them.

In committee, I joined with my Democratic colleagues to offer 10 modest, targeted amendments that sought to improve information sharing with first responders, training for inspectors, and our understanding of potential weaknesses in the program.

We had hoped that our Republican colleagues might have adopted at least a few of these modest measures. Unfortunately, they did not, but not because they disagreed with the substance. They did so, they said, out of fear that any change might complicate reauthorization in the Senate.

It is a shame that it took so long for the committee to act on a reauthorization, especially since it is just a date-change bill.

When Democrats took the gavel in 2019, CFATS was just a few weeks away from sunset. We had a short-term extension bill on the floor within a few days and immediately got to work on legislation to improve the program, not just extend it.

I was, however, heartened to hear many of my Republican colleagues acknowledge the longstanding issues with the program and express support for many of the amendments that we offered. We also appreciate that at the markup the chairman committed to standing up a bipartisan working group within the committee to get these changes enacted into law.

I hope that once we get this date-change bill done, our committee will get to work on making the program better in short order.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the great State of Florida (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am proud to lead on H.R. 4470, Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2023.

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards, or CFATS, program identifies and regulates high-risk chemical facilities to ensure they are protected from terrorist attacks. This program must be reauthorized by July 27 to ensure these standards of protection against cyber and physical risks remain in place.

On July 20, the Committee on Homeland Security voted unanimously on a bipartisan basis to reauthorize CFATS. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

CFATS is a regulatory program that is broadly supported by industry. This 2-year extension will ensure continuity and security while enabling the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee to work with regulated entities to identify any needed enhancements and changes.

I thank Chairman GREEN for moving this bill expeditiously through committee, and I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this legislation.

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, in 2006, Congress authorized the Department of Homeland Security to regulate security practices at chemical facilities to reduce the risk of terrorists triggering an intentional release or stealing chemicals for use in an attack elsewhere.

CFATS, as it is known, requires certain facilities, whose possession of chemicals above certain levels present high levels of security risk, to assess their vulnerabilities and implement security measures to minimize terrorism risks posed by these vulnerabilities.

On July 27, this Thursday, the statutory authority for the CFATS program

is scheduled to sunset. As I said previously at a Homeland Security mark-up of this legislation, I will support this legislation to cleanly extend the program for an additional 2 years, but I am disappointed that it is such a short authorization period.

Companies of all sizes invest millions of dollars into CFATS compliance, and they deserve the certainty of knowing what the long-term standards for compliance will be as they look to reinvest money into technologies and infrastructure.

It is important to note that these facilities fall under a variety of sectors critical to our communities, including energy and utilities, food production, healthcare and pharmaceuticals, laboratories, and more.

I will support this legislation today to cleanly extend the program, but I hope that this body can work towards a long-term reauthorization in the future. It is clear that the threats that gave rise to CFATS persist today, and we must take these threats seriously.

In addition, it is also important to note that industry is asking for this authorization, which is unlike some of the other regulatory overreach that we see from the administration today. What we are talking about is industry asking to work with government.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 4470.

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from the great State of Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 4470, and I urge all Members to support this important legislation.

Keeping our American homeland secure has been a part of my life for over four decades. Though the threats to our Nation have changed since I first entered the United States Air Force in 1973, I am reminded of our former Commander in Chief Ronald Reagan, who once said: “Yet peace does not exist of its own will.”

“We must always remember that peace is a fragile thing that needs constant vigilance.”

This is an important admonition we should keep in mind because on July 27, 2023, this week, the legal authority for the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program, or CFATS for short, will sunset.

This means that everything about it—right down to its fundamental legal structure—disappears, including Federal outreach and networking to prevent terrorism against these facilities.

Now to be clear, from our perspective on the Energy and Commerce Committee, we should be authorizing this program for longer, but time is of the essence, and today it is vitally important to pass this clean, 26-month CFATS extension.

□ 1830

American businesses have invested billions of dollars in security, expect-

ing a strong return for their efforts. We should not nullify investments that would send a bad message to those who wish to do our Nation harm, a message that Congress doesn't take security at our chemical facilities seriously.

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Act is an important anti-terrorism-focused program. It is not a perfect tool, but CFATS is an important, unique program based upon collaboration between the Federal Government and the private sector.

Unlike other programs at the EPA or the Department of Labor, CFATS is focused and it serves as an important bulwark against the threat of terrorism here in the United States. It doesn't mandate the answer or the specific technology but, rather, asks facilities to identify their own vulnerabilities and meet risk-based performance standards in a way that makes sense for them.

I am aware that there are those who, because CFATS is a compulsory program for some, might question the value of the current program.

CFATS does not need to be stripped or have its mission overhauled. Though no Federal program is without need of improvement in some area, but the immediate answer should not lie in trying to destabilize or dismantle it all together.

Rather, the question should be whether Congress has thoroughly overseen the program to understand the program's statutory authority; how its operation lines up with congressional direction; whether it is effective and efficient; and if it has the will and statutory authority to correct deficits or if the law needs to be changed.

Because of that ongoing oversight work and the seemingly improved history of the program, I am comfortable voting to continue it.

To those colleagues who are still skeptical of the CFATS program—

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. While this extension gives time for not only more assessment and for CFATS to demonstrate its progress, I would urge you to see past this as a time to take this program hostage or distract from its security-related, terrorism prevention focus.

I urge all Members to vote for the passage of H.R. 4470, and I urge the Senate to not delay in its passing, as well.

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I have no more speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, while H.R. 4470 is not the CFATS reauthorization bill I had hoped for, it is absolutely necessary that we pass it for one simple reason: It will prevent CFATS' statutory authority from lapsing and will

allow the program to keep working to protect chemical facilities from terrorist attacks.

I am pleased that, in the course of debate in committee, the chairman has committed to work with the committee Democrats on a more fulsome reauthorization bill. I look forward to starting that work in short order.

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

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

I, once again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4407 and to quickly move this legislation to the Senate.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill to extend the authority for the Department of Homeland Security's Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program for another two years. The CFATS program provides critical national security protections for chemical facilities and for the people who work and live near these facilities. We should all be alarmed that it is on the verge of lapsing.

Unfortunately, we have come down to the wire again to reauthorize this program. Without passage of this bill, the CFATS program will expire in two days. The program is not perfect, but it should be continued. This two-year extension will give the committees of jurisdiction time to consider important improvements to the program without fear that the program will lapse. To that end, Homeland Security Committee Chairman GREEN has begun the process of creating a CFATS reauthorization working group and Energy and Commerce Committee Democrats plan to be vocal members. We are prepared to push for our jurisdictional priorities in those conversations, specifically advocating for environmental justice communities, first responders, and worker safety.

Chemical facility safety is not only important to the Energy and Commerce Committee, but also to my home state of New Jersey, where the high concentration of industrial chemical facilities coupled with densely populated cities makes safety and security of these facilities of the utmost importance. Programs like CFATS and the EPA's Risk Management Plan program are critical to maintaining the health and safety of the people who live and work near these facilities, so the consequences of this program expiring are as personal to me as they are dire to the safety of our country.

The last few weeks have brought record heat waves, Canadian wildfires, and catastrophic flooding, all markers of what is to come. And yet, House Republicans continue to turn a blind eye to the devastating impacts of the climate crisis. Instead, they work to roll-back our historic investments in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act and make drastic cuts to critical programs across the board. It would be dangerous of Congress to believe that these same extreme weather events don't have the potential to undermine and threaten our nation's chemical facilities.

We must work in a bipartisan fashion to ensure the safety and security of the workers, first responders, and communities living near our nation's chemical facilities. That means extending this program while taking serious

steps to improve it for the future. So, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle of the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Homeland Security Committee for working to ensure the continuity of this program. I urge my colleagues to support passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4470, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GUEST. 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.

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. 1338 and H.R. 4470, 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.

SATELLITE AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS STREAMLINING 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. 1338) to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authority for certain licenses, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 250, nays 163, answered "present" 1, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 365]

YEAS—250

Aguilar	Beatty	Burgess
Alford	Bentz	Cammack
Allen	Bergman	Cárdenas
Allred	Bilirakis	Carl
Amodei	Bishop (GA)	Carter (GA)
Armstrong	Blunt Rochester	Carter (LA)
Arrington	Boebert	Carter (TX)
Bacon	Bost	Castor (FL)
Balderson	Boyle (PA)	Chavez-DeRemer
Banks	Brown	Cherfilus-
Barr	Buchanan	McCormick
Barragán	Bucshon	Ciscomani
Bean (FL)	Burchett	Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)	Jeffries	Pence	Jayapal	Moore (WI)	Schiff
Cleaver	Johnson (GA)	Perez	Kamlager-Dove	Morelle	Scholten
Cline	Johnson (LA)	Peters	Kaptur	Moskowitz	Scott (VA)
Cloud	Johnson (OH)	Pettersen	Kiggans (VA)	Moulton	Self
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Pfluger	Kildee	Mrvan	Sherman
Craig	Jordan	Phillips	Kilmer	Mullin	Smith (WA)
Crenshaw	Joyce (OH)	Porter	Krishnamoorthi	Nadler	Sorensen
Crockett	Joyce (PA)	Raskin	Lamborn	Napolitano	Spartz
Cuellar	Kean (NJ)	Reschenthaler	Larsen (WA)	Norcross	Stevens
Curtis	Kelly (IL)	Rodgers (WA)	Larson (CT)	Norman	Strickland
D'Esposito	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (KY)	Lee (CA)	Ocasio-Cortez	Strong
Dauids (KS)	Kelly (PA)	Rouzer	Lee (NV)	Ogles	Sykes
Davidson	Khanna	Ruiz	Lee (PA)	Omar	Takano
Davis (NC)	Kiley	Rutherford	Leger Fernandez	Pelosi	Thompson (PA)
De La Cruz	Kim (CA)	Ryan	Levin	Perry	Tlaib
DeGette	Kim (NJ)	Salazar	Lieu	Pingree	Tokuda
Deluzio	Kuster	Santos	Lofgren	Pocan	Torres (CA)
DeSaulnier	Kustoff	Sarbanes	Lucas	Posey	Torres (NY)
DesJarlais	LaHood	Scalise	Luttrell	Pressley	Turner
Diaz-Balart	LaLota	Scanlon	Lynch	Quigley	Van Drew
Dingell	LaMalfa	Schakowsky	Magaziner	Ramirez	Vargas
Duarte	Landsman	Schneider	Massie	Rogers (AL)	Vasquez
Duncan	Langworthy	Schrier	McCormick	Rose	Velázquez
Dunn (FL)	Latta	Schweikert	McGovern	Rosendale	Wasserman
Edwards	LaTurner	Scott, Austin	Meeks	Ross	Schultz
Ellzey	Lawler	Scott, David	Meng	Roy	Webster (FL)
Emmer	Lee (FL)	Sessions	Mfume	Ruppersberger	Wexton
Eshoo	Lesko	Sherrill	Miller (OH)	Salinas	Wild
Estes	Letlow	Simpson	Mills	Sánchez	Williams (GA)
Ezell	Loudermilk	Slotkin			
Fallon	Luetkemeyer	Smith (MO)			
Ferguson	Luna	Smith (NE)			
Finstad	Mace	Smith (NJ)			
Fischbach	Malliotakis	Smucker			
Fitzgerald	Mann	Soto			
Fitzpatrick	Manning	Spanberger			
Fleischmann	Mast	Stanton			
Flood	Matsui	Stauber			
Frankel, Lois	McBath	Stefanik			
Fry	McCaul	Steil			
Fulcher	McClain	Steube			
Gallagher	McClellan	Swalwell			
Gimenez	McCollum	Tenney			
Golden (ME)	McGarvey	Thanedar			
Gonzales, Tony	McHenry	Thompson (CA)			
Gooden (TX)	Menendez	Tiffany			
Gottheimer	Meuser	Timmons			
Granger	Miller (IL)	Titus			
Graves (LA)	Miller (WV)	Tonko			
Green, Al (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Trahan			
Greene (GA)	Molinaro	Underwood			
Griffith	Moolenaar	Valadao			
Grothman	Mooney	Van Doyne			
Guest	Moore (AL)	Van Orden			
Guthrie	Moran	Veasey			
Harder (CA)	Murphy	Wagner			
Harris	Neal	Walberg			
Harshbarger	Neguse	Waltz			
Higgins (NY)	Nehls	Walters			
Hill	Newhouse	Watson Coleman			
Himes	Nickel	Weber (TX)			
Hinson	Numm (IA)	Wenstrup			
Houchin	Obermoite	Owens			
Houlihan	Pallone	Williams (NY)			
Hoyer	Palmer	Williams (TX)			
Hudson	Panetta	Wilson (SC)			
Huizenga	Pappas	Wittman			
Issa	Pascrell	Womack			
Ivey	Payne	Yakym			
Jackson (TX)	Peltola				
James					

NAYS—163

Adams	Case	Foster
Aderholt	Casten	Foushee
Auchincloss	Castro (TX)	Foxx
Babin	Chu	Franklin, C.
Baird	Clyburn	Scott
Balint	Clyde	Frost
Bera	Cohen	Gaetz
Beyer	Cole	Garamendi
Bice	Collins	Garbarino
Biggs	Connolly	Garcia (IL)
Bishop (NC)	Correa	Garcia (TX)
Blumenauer	Costa	Garcia, Mike
Bonamici	Courtney	Garcia, Robert
Bowman	Crane	Gomez
Brecheen	Crawford	Good (VA)
Brownley	Crow	Gosar
Buck	Davis (IL)	Green (TN)
Budzinski	Dean (PA)	Grijalva
Burlison	DeLauro	Hageman
Bush	DelBene	Hayes
Calvert	Doggett	Hern
Caraveo	Donalds	Horsford
Carbajal	Escobar	Hoyle (OR)
Carson	Espallat	Jackson (IL)
Ciscomani	Evans	Jackson (NC)
Cartwright	Feenstra	Jacobs
Casar		

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Zinke

NOT VOTING—19

Carey	Higgins (LA)	Sewell
Fletcher	Huffman	Stansbury
Gallego	Hunt	Stewart
Goldman (NY)	Jackson Lee	Thompson (MS)
Gonzalez,	Keating	Trone
Vicente	McClintock	Wilson (FL)
Graves (MO)	Moore (UT)	

□ 1858

Mses. ESCOBAR, WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Messrs. MRVAN, LAMBORN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. CLYDE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Messrs. BLUMENAUER, DOGGETT, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Messrs. MILLS, MCCORMICK, VAN DREW, and Ms. KAPTUR changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. WOMACK, SANTOS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. VEASEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Messrs. RYAN, GRAVES of Louisiana, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Messrs. PALMER, RASKIN, FERGUSON, PASCRELL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1900

TRIBUTE TO JOYCE HAMLETT

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable woman and public servant who works in this Chamber every single day: Ms. Joyce Hamlett.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Joyce, with that support, I should have had you run my Speaker's race.

This is Joyce's last week on the House floor. After 35 years of working in Congress, she is about to begin a well-earned retirement where she will spend time with her loved ones.

This is truly the end of an era. Joyce is the first African-American woman to be appointed as the Keeper of the Mace.

Now, we all know Joyce, and she knows each and every one of us. She has gotten to know some of you even better than others.

For those at home, Joyce is the keeper of the rules. Just so you know that she is fair to all, it was just last month that I thought, being Speaker, I could have my own rules, and I brought somebody onto the floor. I asked the people outside, "Hey, can I bring somebody onto the floor?" I thought we were out of session. They said: "You are the Speaker. Go ahead."

I walked in those doors, but somebody stopped me. It was Joyce.

If it was not just me sneaking someone onto the floor but you without a tie or proper attire, you would have received a polite reminder from Joyce about the rules of decorum.

I would watch at times at the great height where we were not getting along with one another, when the tensions were high and I was afraid to talk to some of my own Members, but when Joyce walked up with that unbelievable smile and she would tell them they were doing something wrong, it was just like she was the teacher and they were in the first grade. "Yes, Ms. Joyce," and they sat right back down.

Joyce has devoted her entire career to this institution, the people's House. In the early 1980s, she started working as a cook in the Capitol cafeteria alongside her mother, Betty. Then she served as an elevator operator in the Capitol before taking a position with Chamber security.

In total, as I said earlier, Joyce has given more than 35 years of her life to the House of Representatives.

That is why she cares so deeply about this Chamber and works to ensure that everyone who walks through these doors treats this institution with the respect it deserves.

In fact, Joyce has had one of the most important responsibilities in the House. When the people think of Congress, they think of the Capitol Building, of the dome, the symbol of American democracy. When people think of the House, we have our own symbol: the mace of the House of Representatives.

The day begins when the mace is raised, and the day ends when the mace is lifted. It has become the symbol of responsibility and duty for this institution in which we are honored to serve. Since 2007, Joyce has been charged with protecting and keeping the mace.

I don't know if you have looked at her brooch. When I became Speaker, Ann Hand came to see me. She makes a lot of different jewelry. She sells it, and I look to buy. She brought me this one piece of jewelry. She said the only person that has it is the Speaker before, Speaker PELOSI. I had watched Speaker PELOSI wear that brooch of that mace. She provided it to me for a family member.

The thing I enjoy the most about this job is when I get to put the floor into session. I got to know Joyce. We spend time behind there. She is holding the mace. I thought, wouldn't that be a great gift for retirement? In the back of my mind, she had told me that she was leaving, so I said: We are going to have a party for you.

I thought we could present this to her then, but then I thought, no, I need to present it to her now—the look on her face. The brooch on her lapel, she wears that every day, proudly. She wears it because she has earned it as the Keeper of the Mace.

I have told her time and again it is going to be sad to see her go, and I know Joyce is looking very much forward to spending more time with her family in North Carolina, with her two sons, David, Jr., and Donald, and all of her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Joyce, on behalf of the House, a really grateful thank-you. Thank you for your service. Thank you for your friendship. Personally, thank you for your commitment to the people's House.

We are a better institution because of Joyce. We are better Members in some of our darkest times because of a warning from Joyce.

You will always be welcome back into this House.

May you enjoy all the happiness in this world that this well-earned retirement brings. I thank you for the work, the commitment, and the friendship.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend a faithful public servant of this great institution on the occasion of her retirement.

For decades, our very own Joyce Hamlett has worked in this Chamber, dutifully upholding and protecting our traditions.

On behalf of House Democrats, it is a distinct privilege to publicly honor her incredible career of service to the United States House of Representatives, 35 years of poise, professionalism, and particularity.

In the early 1990s, after spending some time in the prior decade as a cafeteria worker, elevator operator, and doorkeeper, Joyce secured a position in Chamber security with the Sergeant at Arms, where she began to firmly enforce the rules of decorum on the House floor, emphasis on the word "firmly."

Upon arriving in Congress as a new Member, I quickly came to a conclusion: Don't mess with Joyce. As House Democratic leader, I came to the same conclusion: Don't mess with Joyce.

In connection with her exemplary service with Chamber security, Joyce was elevated in 2007 to the position of Keeper of the Mace, as has been mentioned, the first Black woman to hold that role in the 234-year history of this great institution.

Joyce's career in the House has spanned seven different Presidents, in-

cluding Ronald Reagan and Barack Obama, as well as eight different Speakers, beginning with Jim Wright, including Speaker Emerita NANCY PELOSI, and concluding with Speaker KEVIN MCCARTHY.

Throughout the years, Joyce has served in the Chamber with legendary Members, from John Lewis, the iconic civil rights hero and conscience of the Congress, to Don Young, the longest serving Republican Member of the House and an authentic frontier spirit who always told us what was on his mind.

The American public may not have the opportunity to intimately get to know officers of the Capitol, like Joyce, who serve here each and every day, but thankfully we do. We know our work would be impossible without the diligence, dedication, and devotion of public servants like Joyce.

Her deep-rooted faith in God and her sense of duty were instilled during her childhood while growing up in rural North Carolina, having been raised in a God-fearing church community by her loving grandfather. Joyce learned at an early age the importance of service and faithfulness.

That faith has served the Members of this institution well throughout the years, including on September 11, when she helped Members evacuate in the midst of a terrorist attack heading our way, or on January 6, when a violent mob attacked the Capitol and tried to breach the Chamber. Joyce faithfully executed her role with the utmost care, helping to secure the House Chamber and ensuring the safety and protection of the Members and the congressional mace. When we reconvened on the House floor that night, it was Joyce, with the mace, who brought us back into session.

As I close, we are grateful today that throughout the years, as the Scripture says, Joyce has been faithful over a few things: faithful to the Chamber, faithful to the Congress, faithful to the country, and faithful to the Constitution. She has been faithful over a few things.

As Joyce prepares to go back home to North Carolina, I think we can confidently express the sentiment found in Matthew 25:23: Well done, thy good and faithful servant. Well done.

Congratulations on your retirement.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, Joyce is still going to be here with us for the rest of the week.

Tomorrow, at 11 o'clock, in the Rayburn Room, Leader JEFFRIES and I are going to host a reception for her retirement, and you can all come by.

Let's not make the week go longer just for Joyce. Let's end on a positive note for Joyce.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

□ 1915

PROTECTING AND SECURING
CHEMICAL FACILITIES FROM
TERRORIST ATTACKS ACT OF
2023

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. 4470) to extend the authorization of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

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. 366]

YEAS—409

Adams Chavez-DeRemer Fitzpatrick
Aderholt Cheriflus-Fleischmann
Aguilar McCormick Flood
Alford Chu Foster
Allen Ciscomani Foushee
Allred Clark (MA) Foxx
Amodעי Clarke (NY) Frankel, Lois
Armstrong Cleaver Franklin, C.
Arrington Cline Scott
Auchincloss Cloud Frost
Babin Clyburn Fry
Bacon Clyde Fulcher
Baird Cohen Gallagher
Balderson Cole Garamendi
Balint Collins Garbarino
Banks Comer Garcia (IL)
Barr Connolly Garcia (TX)
Barragán Correa Garcia, Mike
Bean (FL) Costa Gimenez
Beatty Courtney Golden (ME)
Bentz Craig Goldman (NY)
Bera Crane Gomez
Bergman Crawford Gonzales, Tony
Beyer Crenshaw Good (VA)
Bice Crockett Gooden (TX)
Biggs Crow Gosar
Bilirakis Cuellar Gottheimer
Bishop (GA) Curtis Granger
Bishop (NC) D'Esposito Graves (LA)
Blumenauer Davids (KS) Green (TN)
Blunt Rochester Davidson Green, Al (TX)
Boebert Davis (IL) Greene (GA)
Bonamici Davis (NC) Griffith
Bost De La Cruz Grothman
Bowman Dean (PA) Guest
Boyle (PA) DeGette Guthrie
Brecheen DeLauro Hageman
Brown DelBene Harder (CA)
Brownley Deluzio Harris
Buchanan DeSaulnier Harshbarger
Buck DesJarlais Hayes
Bucshon Diaz-Balart Hern
Budzinski Dingell Higgins (NY)
Burchett Doggett Hill
Burgess Donalds Himes
Burlison Duarte Hinson
Bush Duncan Horsford
Calvert Dunn (FL) Houchin
Cammack Edwards Houlihan
Caraveo Ellzey Hoyer
Carbajal Emmer Hoyle (OR)
Cárdenas Escobar Hudson
Carl Eshoo Huizenga
Carson Espallat Issa
Carter (GA) Estes Ivey
Carter (LA) Evans Jackson (IL)
Carter (TX) Ezell Jackson (NC)
Cartwright Fallon Jackson (TX)
Casar Feenstra Jacobs
Case Ferguson James
Casten Finstad Jayapal
Castor (FL) Fischbach Jeffries
Castro (TX) Fitzgerald Johnson (GA)

Johnson (LA) Mooney
Johnson (OH) Moore (AL)
Johnson (SD) Moore (WI)
Jordan Moran
Joyce (OH) Morelle
Joyce (PA) Moskowitz
Kamlager-Dove Moulton
Kaptur Mrvan
Kean (NJ) Mullin
Kelly (IL) Murphy
Kelly (MS) Nadler
Kelly (PA) Napolitano
Khanna Neal
Kiggans (VA) Neguse
Kildee Nehls
Kiley Newhouse
Kilmer Nickel
Kim (CA) Norcross
Kim (NJ) Norman
Krishnamoorthi Nunn (IA)
Kuster Obernolte
Kustoff Ocasio-Cortez
LaHood Ogles
LaLota Omar
LaMalfa Owens
Lamborn Pallone
Landsman Palmer
Langworthy Panetta
Larsen (WA) Pappas
Larson (CT) Pascrell
Latta Payne
LaTurner Pelosi
Lawler Peltola
Lee (CA) Pence
Lee (FL) Perez
Lee (PA) Perry
Leger Fernandez Peters
Lesko Pettersen
Letlow Pfluger
Levin Phillips
Lieu Pingree
Lofgren Pocan
Loudermilk Porter
Lucas Posey
Luetkemeyer Pressley
Luna Quigley
Luttrell Ramirez
Lynch Raskin
Mace Reschenthaler
Magaziner Rodgers (WA)
Malliotakis Rogers (AL)
Mann Rogers (KY)
Mast Rose
Matsui Rosendale
McBath Ross
McCaul Rouzer
McClain Roy
McClellan Ruiz
McCollum Ruppersberger
McCormick Rutherford
McGarvey Ryan
McGovern Salazar
McHenry Salinas
Meeks Sánchez
Menendez Santos
Meng Sarbanes
Meuser Scalise
Mfume Scanlon
Miller (IL) Schakowsky
Miller (OH) Schiff
Miller (WV) Schneider
Guest Scholten
Mills Schrier
Molinaro Schweikert
Moolenaar Scott (VA)

NAYS—1

Massie
NOT VOTING—23

Carey Grijalva McClintock
Fletcher Higgins (LA) Moore (UT)
Gaetz Huffman Sewell
Gallego Galleo Stansbury
Garcia, Robert Jackson Lee Stewart
Gonzalez, Keating Thompson (MS)
Vicente Lee (NV) Trone
Graves (MO) Manning Wilson (FL)

□ 1915

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. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I was not recorded on rollcall No. 366. Had I been recorded, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 366.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 365 and “yea” on rollcall No. 366.

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.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY
OF OFFICER JACOB J. CHESTNUT
AND DETECTIVE JOHN M. GIBSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in memory of Officer Jacob J. Chestnut and Detective John M. Gibson of the United States Capitol Police who were killed in the line of duty defending the Capitol on July 24, 1998.

UNMANNED AERIAL SECURITY
ACT

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1501) to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from operating or procuring certain foreign-made unmanned aircraft systems, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1501

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 “Unmanned Aerial Security Act” or the “UAS Act”.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON OPERATION OR PROCUREMENT OF CERTAIN FOREIGN-MADE UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.

(a) PROHIBITION ON AGENCY OPERATION OR PROCUREMENT.—Except as provided in subsection (b) and subsection (c)(3), the Secretary of Homeland Security may not operate, provide financial assistance for, or enter into or renew a contract for the procurement of—

(1) an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) that—

(A) is manufactured in a covered foreign country or by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country;

(B) uses flight controllers, radios, data transmission devices, cameras, or gimbals manufactured in a covered foreign country or by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country;

(C) uses a ground control system or operating software developed in a covered foreign

country or by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country; or

(D) uses network connectivity or data storage located in a covered foreign country or administered by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country;

(2) a software operating system associated with a UAS that uses network connectivity or data storage located in a covered foreign country or administered by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country; or

(3) a system for the detection or identification of a UAS, which system is manufactured in a covered foreign country or by a business entity domiciled in a covered foreign country.

(b) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to waive the prohibition under subsection (a) if the Secretary certifies in writing to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate that a UAS, a software operating system associated with a UAS, or a system for the detection or identification of a UAS described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of such subsection that is the subject of such a waiver is required—

(A) in the national interest of the United States;

(B) for counter-DAS surrogate research, testing, development, evaluation, or training; or

(C) for intelligence, electronic warfare, or information warfare operations, testing, analysis, and or training.

(2) NOTICE.—The certification described in paragraph (1) shall be submitted to the Committees specified in such paragraph by not later than the date that is 14 days after the date on which a waiver is issued under such paragraph.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—This Act shall take effect on the date that is 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) WAIVER PROCESS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish a process by which the head of an office or component of the Department of Homeland Security may request a waiver under subsection (b).

(3) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding the prohibition under subsection (a), the head of an office or component of the Department of Homeland Security may continue to operate a UAS, a software operating system associated with a UAS, or a system for the detection or identification of a UAS described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of such subsection that was in the inventory of such office or component on the day before the effective date of this Act until—

(A) such time as the Secretary of Homeland Security has—

(i) granted a waiver relating thereto under subsection (b); or

(ii) declined to grant such a waiver; or

(B) one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever is later.

(d) DRONE ORIGIN SECURITY REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a terrorism threat assessment and report that contains information relating to the following:

(1) The extent to which the Department of Homeland Security has previously analyzed the threat that a UAS, a software operating system associated with a UAS, or a system for the detection or identification of a UAS

described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a) operating in the United States poses, and the results of such analysis.

(2) The number of UAS, software operating systems associated with a UAS, or systems for the detection or identification of a UAS described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a) in operation by the Department, including an identification of the component or office of the Department at issue, as of such date.

(3) The extent to which information gathered by a UAS, a software operating system associated with a UAS, or a system for the detection or identification of a UAS described in any of paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a) could be employed to harm the national or economic security of the United States.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BUSINESS ENTITY.—The term “business entity” has the meaning given such term in section 334 of the Graham-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. 6764).

(2) COVERED FOREIGN COUNTRY.—The term “covered foreign country” means a country that—

(A) the intelligence community has identified as a foreign adversary in its most recent Annual Threat Assessment; or

(B) the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence, has identified as a foreign adversary that is not included in such Annual Threat Assessment.

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM; UAS.—The terms “unmanned aircraft system” and “UAS” have the meaning given the term “unmanned aircraft system” in section 44801 of title 49, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1501.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1501. It is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security is equipped to protect the Nation against all threats. This protection includes ensuring that the unmanned aircraft systems, or drones, that DHS uses and buys are not made in foreign countries that do not align with our interests, countries like China.

DHS requires the dominant, air domain capabilities that drones provide to accomplish many of its land and maritime missions. DHS uses drones for everything from surveilling the border to the Coast Guard National Security Cutter's operational need for a persistent airborne surveillance capability. Utilizing drones is a cost-effective

way to cover large areas of the homeland.

However, many of the commercial drones used in the United States are manufactured in China, which dominates the United States' market. Of the top 10 drone manufacturers that supply the United States market, a single Chinese manufacturer towers over the others with nearly 77 percent of market share.

Because of this threat, several other Departments, such as Commerce and Interior, have taken actions to ground their drone fleets until the threat to U.S. Government data can be determined.

DHS has also issued warnings in recent years about Chinese-made drones, specifically citing concerns that they may be sending sensitive data to their manufacturers in China where it can then be assessed by the Chinese Government.

Our colleagues in the Senate share our concerns. In fact, Senator RICK SCOTT and MARK WARNER have introduced similar legislation to ban the purchase and use of these drones across the Federal Government, not just at DHS.

Given the role drones have in protecting homeland security, it is more important than ever to require DHS to assess its drone fleets. Once DHS has identified the extent of the problem, we can then work with the Department to find a suitable solution.

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This bill would require DHS to provide a threat assessment report to Congress on whether the agency has analyzed the threat of its drones that are manufactured in covered countries. It would also require that they report the number of these drones the department has in operation and the extent to which the information gathered by these drones may be a threat to the homeland or economic security of the United States.

Second, the bill would prohibit DHS from buying or using drones made in a covered foreign country going forward.

I am proud to say that this bill was passed out of the House Homeland Security Committee in a bipartisan fashion.

I thank my friend and colleague, Chairman GREEN, for being an original cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation and Congressman CUELLAR for being a cosponsor of this bill. I am grateful that this body passed this measure in a bipartisan fashion last Congress, and I am optimistic that we will be able to do so again today.

Madam Speaker, with China looming as a growing threat on the horizon, maintaining our homeland security is of the utmost importance. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1501, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, to help carry out its many missions, the Department of

Homeland Security has increasingly come to rely on unmanned aircraft systems, or drones.

DHS utilizes these eyes in the sky to make timely assessments about the extent of damage caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, and other natural disasters in instances where the Federal Emergency Management Agency cannot easily deploy personnel to affected areas.

The Coast Guard uses drones to enhance its ability to collect and disseminate information on maritime hazards and threats. In remote parts of the land border, DHS uses them to detect and prevent illicit smuggling activities.

Many unmanned aircraft systems in the marketplace today are manufactured in nations considered foreign adversaries. As such, there are legitimate security concerns about the integrity of the data drones collect.

Recent reports suggest that Chinese-manufactured drones might be compromised and used to send sensitive information to the Chinese Government.

In response to security concerns, the Departments of the Interior and Defense have taken steps to limit their use of foreign-made drones.

H.R. 1501, the Unmanned Aerial Security Act, would direct the Department of Homeland Security to take similar protective measures.

It would prohibit DHS from purchasing or using drone systems manufactured in a foreign country that is deemed to be an adversary by either the intelligence community's annual threat assessment or the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Importantly, H.R. 1501 allows the Secretary of Homeland Security to waive the prohibition in certain circumstances, such as the national interest of the United States or for research or intelligence purposes.

Finally, the bill requires DHS to report to Congress on information related to drones, including the results of any threat assessments conducted.

H.R. 1501 has bipartisan support and was reported out of the Homeland Security Committee by voice vote.

Madam Speaker, I commend my colleague from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) for introducing this bill that seeks to ensure the integrity and security of the drone systems that the Department of Homeland Security operates.

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I, again, urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1501, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. LUNA). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1501, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

FIRST RESPONDER ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3254) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3254

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 "First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act".

SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609) is amended—

(1) in subsection (f)—

(A) by striking "If an applicant" and inserting the following:

"(1) APPLICATION REQUIREMENT.—If an applicant"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(2) REVIEW PROCESS.—The Administrator shall implement a uniform process for reviewing applications that, in accordance with paragraph (1), contain explanations to use grants provided under section 2003 or 2004 to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards developed under section 647 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 747).

"(3) FACTORS.—In carrying out the review process under paragraph (2), the Administrator shall consider the following:

"(A) Current or past use of proposed equipment or systems by Federal agencies or the Armed Forces.

"(B) The absence of a national voluntary consensus standard for such equipment or systems.

"(C) The existence of an international consensus standard for such equipment or systems, and whether such equipment or systems meets such standard.

"(D) The nature of the capability gap identified by the applicant and how such equipment or systems will address such gap.

"(E) The degree to which such equipment or systems will serve the needs of the applicant better than equipment or systems that meet or exceed existing consensus standards.

"(F) Any other factor determined appropriate by the Administrator."; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(g) REVIEW PROCESS.—The Administrator shall implement a uniform process for reviewing applications to use grants provided under section 2003 or 2004 to purchase equip-

ment or systems not included on the Authorized Equipment List maintained by the Administrator."

(b) INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report assessing the implementation of the review process established under paragraph (2) of subsection (f) of section 2008 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by subsection (a) of this section), including information on the following:

(1) The number of requests to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable consensus standard evaluated under such review process.

(2) The capability gaps identified by applicants and the number of such requests granted or denied.

(3) The processing time for the review of such requests.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 3254.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3254, the First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act. It is a great piece of commonsense legislation that will put in place a better process for our first responders to access FEMA grants to purchase new equipment.

I commend my colleague across the aisle, Mr. PAYNE, for his work on this legislation and supporting first responders. H.R. 3254 passed unanimously out of committee in May, and I urge my colleagues to support its final passage on the floor today.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, our communities look to our first responders to keep us safe. They are our hometown heroes, and it is a local and national tragedy whenever a first responder loses their life in the line of duty.

Earlier this month, two brave Newark firefighters, Augusto Acabou and Wayne Brooks, Jr., lost their lives fighting a shipboard fire in the Port of Newark.

That blaze also injured five of their courageous colleagues.

I believe it is critical for first responders to be prepared by having the

tools and equipment necessary to execute their mission safely and efficiently.

Congress supports first responders through DHS homeland security grant programs. However, communities cannot use such funding to purchase novel, state-of-the-art equipment because it is not on FEMA's authorized equipment list.

This equipment is rendered ineligible not because it is inferior. It is ineligible because it is so innovative that it does not meet or exceed the consensus standards that FEMA relies upon.

I first introduced this bill in the 114th Congress to require FEMA to establish an accessible and transparent process for such equipment to be evaluated. The House approved this legislation three times already. Each time it stalled in the Senate. Nevertheless, today I feel very confident that the fourth time is the charm. With the support of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, I am hopeful that this bill will get action in the Senate.

With that, Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in sending a strong message to the Senate with a decisive "yea" vote on this bill.

Our first responders are always there to help us. Now it is time to help them with the most modern equipment available to do their jobs.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3254, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

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

Madam Speaker, in closing, we owe it to our hometown heroes to give them access to the necessary tools to carry out their missions safely and effectively.

H.R. 3254 would allow communities to use DHS grant funding to purchase advanced lifesaving technology such as systems to track firefighters in burning buildings or wildland fires.

It was cosponsored by the gentleman from Alabama, Representative STRONG, and endorsed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs. The House approved the First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act in the 114th, 115th, and 116th Congresses. It is time for us to come together to get this bill enacted.

Madam Speaker, this is very timely legislation. I am sure that people saw the tragedy that we had in Newark, New Jersey, in my district where we lost two firefighters fighting a fire on a ship in the Port of Newark. They needed this type of equipment.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in both the House and the Senate to support this legislation, H.R. 3254, which would support our first responders, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3254.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam 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 pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS PRIMARY SPONSOR OF H.R. 2752.

Mr. MAGAZINER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the primary sponsor of H.R. 2752, 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 Rhode Island?

There was no objection.

NATIONAL HIRE A VETERAN DAY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor today as National Hire a Veteran Day.

This day is crucial to the spirit and health of both America's veterans and our communities. Set aside to raise awareness to the unique skills and useful abilities of servicemembers after military service, we must use this day to recognize the sacrifice and the strength of our veterans.

In America's private and public sectors, qualities like dedication, determination, and tenacity are highly valuable. These are features fostered during military service and can be even more useful in nonmilitary employment. As 200,000 military members retire and become veterans each year, more and more qualified potential employees are eligible to join the greater American workforce.

Madam Speaker, as employers look to hire, they must value the talent present amongst our American troops. Each and every servicemember deserves the opportunities to create unique and positive impact after they have made sacrifices to defend our great Nation.

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CELEBRATING TREVOR BAPTISTE

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

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Trevor Baptiste, an all-star, two-time world champion lacrosse player.

Trevor is a professional lacrosse player for the Philadelphia Wings of the National Lacrosse League and the Atlas Lacrosse Club of the Premier Lacrosse League.

He was born and grew up in Newark, New Jersey, before becoming a lacrosse star at the University of Denver.

In his 4 years there, Trevor was a four-time, first-team all-American and a national champion. After college, Trevor won two world championships with the United States men's national team, and he has been an all-star every year as a professional.

His specialty is winning face-offs. In college, he owns the national record for face-offs won and the highest winning percentage. For Team USA, he has the highest face-off winning percentage in team history.

Trevor Baptiste is an exceptional lacrosse player, and I am proud to highlight him on the House floor today.

BRING NAVY LIEUTENANT RIDGE ALKONIS HOME

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

Mr. LALOTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of United States Navy Lieutenant Ridge Alkonis, who, for the last 365 days, has been unjustly jailed by the Japanese Government.

The State Department and the Department of Defense need to demonstrate strength and exercise leverage and bring Ridge home and bring him home now.

America needs to bring Ridge home for justice's sake. America needs to bring Ridge home to send a message to the 50,000 troops we have stationed in Japan that the brass, bureaucrats, and politicians have their backs.

America needs to bring Ridge home to demonstrate to the Japanese that we are the United States of America, the world superpower, and our commitment to their defense against China and North Korea comes with a few conditions, and one of them is to treat our troops fairly.

Madam Speaker, our government has negotiated for the release of other Americans who have done far less for our great Nation than an Active-Duty naval officer. America needs to bring Ridge home. A year in prison is far too long.

HONORING JOYCE HAMLETT

(Ms. TLAIB asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I still remember the first few months here almost 5 years ago. One of the people I looked for was a young woman sitting to the left of the House Chamber. I would lock eyes with her, and when she smiled at me, it was always with a warm welcome.

Joyce Hamlett will be sorely missed as she retires as the Keeper of the Mace and Assistant Sergeant at Arms.

She took her role very seriously. I know because I was one of the Members she reminded every so often of the rules of the House.

Ms. Joyce would even take out one of the laminated black and white articles in plastic. Check it out in the drawer right in front of her.

Ms. Joyce worked so hard for the last 35 years here in this Capitol. Her story is inspiring, Madam Speaker. She is not only the first Black woman to hold this post, but she also was so proud of growing up in the tobacco fields of Broadway, North Carolina, and to come here to make history in Congress. She never forgot her roots and the strong character that her grandparents instilled in her.

In a place that can sometimes be harsh, Madam Speaker, she always remained kind and fair to all. I will dearly miss Mother Joyce and never forget her hugs on some of the toughest days in this Chamber. She may be considered the Keeper of the Mace for many here in the House Chamber, but she will always be my khalto.

WE DESERVE A WATER BREAK

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

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the hard-working labor force across this country.

Today, on this hot and muggy Washington, D.C., day, a thirst strike and vigil was held on our House steps. I was proud to join my colleague from Texas, Congressman GREG CASAR, and the men and women highlighting the dangerous new policy in Texas as they held their thirst strike on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

Madam Speaker, as a Representative for Nevada and the Las Vegas area, I can tell you that I know how dangerous the summer heat can be.

The Texas Governor's dangerous new policy eliminates water break protections while Texas, Nevada, and many other areas of our country are experiencing record-breaking heat.

Meanwhile, the brave men and women working in outdoor jobs like construction workers, mail carriers, and so many others continue working in the heat.

Madam Speaker, we need Federal action to protect these workers who are simply trying to provide for their families and to keep a roof over their heads.

I urge OSHA and the Biden administration to take action and protect our workers. We deserve a water break.

FUNDING PROJECTS IN NORTHWEST INDIANA

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my deep appreciation for the inclusion of the community project funding request for Indiana's First Congressional District in the fiscal year 2024 appropriations measure.

I am grateful that a transparent process was established for all Members to include projects in these measures, and I believe that this process is an essential component to our ability to advocate for our districts.

Notably, I am proud that the funding is included to attract new jobs and economic activity in northwest Indiana through improvements to the Gary/Chicago International Airport, road construction for Central Avenue in Portage, and water infrastructure in the City of La Porte.

I also appreciate the action to support public safety and members of our law enforcement, including specific funds for the police departments of Gary, Hammond, Munster, and Michigan City.

I look forward to working with like-minded colleagues to move these measures forward and to complete this constitutional responsibility as soon as possible.

IMPACT OF GUN VIOLENCE IN AMERICA

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

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the honorable gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. 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 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.

Ms. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor the 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 gun violence prevention and public safety,

an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, constituents, and all Americans.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. HORSFORD).

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman SHEILA CHERFILUS-McCORMICK for her tremendous leadership and also Congressman JONATHAN JACKSON. The two have been great co-chairs for our Special Order hour, a time when the Congressional Black Caucus comes to the floor to discuss important issues affecting all of America.

Today, my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus are here to recognize the impact that gun violence has on Black communities and communities all around our country.

In recent years, our Nation has bore witness to horrific acts of gun violence in our communities, from the racist murder of nine parishioners at the Mother Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, to the attack at a grocery store in Buffalo, New York, to police-involved shootings of unarmed Black men, women, and children.

Time and again, when these tragic events happen, we hear politicians in Washington offer their thoughts and prayers, but we know that thoughts and prayers are simply not enough. They are not enough to end the violence that traumatizes entire communities and rips family members and friends away from their loved ones. They are not enough to end the cycles of violence created by the systemic and structural disadvantages of generations of racism and disinvestment in our communities. We must do more than offer thoughts and prayers alone.

In order to solve this crisis, we must first understand the problem before us. Data shows that Black Americans are disproportionately impacted by gun violence in our country. Specifically, Black Americans experience 12 times the gun homicides, 18 times the gun assault injuries, and nearly 3 times the fatal police shootings of White Americans.

On top of this, we know that these guns are not manufactured in our communities, which is why we believe gun manufacturers should be held accountable, and those who allow access to guns should be held accountable.

Alarming, despite the fact that Black boys and men account for just 6 percent of the total population, they comprise more than half of all gun homicide victims in our Nation.

Madam Speaker, and to the chairs, I know personally the effects of losing a loved one to gun violence. My father was shot and killed when I was 19 years old, a freshman in college.

I remember getting the call that so many loved ones fear getting, and, in serving the district, the call that so many of my constituents tell me that they experience, the call that says that you don't get to say good-bye, that you

don't get to tell your loved one once again that you love them, that they don't have the opportunity to see you, as my father didn't have with me, to finish my education, to raise three children, to serve my community, and to be here on the floor of the House of Representatives speaking about the issue of gun safety, not just in my community but in communities all across the country.

These are problems that can be attributed to a number of factors, including the combination of weak gun laws as well as systemic racial inequities, including unequal access to safe housing, inadequate educational and employment opportunities, and a history of disinvestment in public infrastructure and services in communities of color.

To remedy the ongoing issue of gun violence, we must continue to advance policies aimed at saving lives and making our communities safer.

In the last Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus was instrumental in the House, passing the most significant piece of gun reform legislation in nearly 30 years with the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, which was signed into law by President Biden.

The Bipartisan Safer Communities Act took meaningful steps to protect our children, keep our schools safe, and reduce the overall threat of gun violence around our country by extending background checks for firearm purchases, clarifying licensing requirements, funding red flag laws and crisis intervention programs, and weakening the boyfriend loophole.

This landmark piece of legislation was a positive step toward curbing gun violence in our communities, but we need to take more action to reimagine public safety, including holding law enforcement officers more accountable, using public health resources to address mental health crises, and ensuring all communities are well resourced with access to job opportunities, affordable childcare, and social services that improve quality of life.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues on the Congressional Black Caucus, as well as the partners of nonprofit organizations like Giffords, Brady, and Everytown, for their tireless work to advance safer communities and to save lives.

To the people who have made this Congress act last Congress and who will demand that we act now, we know that public safety is not a red or blue issue. It is an American issue.

There is no reason that in the most powerful country in the world, we can't do more to save lives, reduce crime, and break the cycle of violence. Our thoughts and prayers are simply not enough. We need action.

Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman CHERFILUS-McCORMICK for her leadership on these issues and Congressman JACKSON. They experience these tragedies every day in the communities that they both serve.

Madam Speaker, you have the commitment of the Congressional Black Caucus and its members that we will continue to advance safety for all of our communities.

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Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK).

Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a voice for Floridians whose lives have been tragically cut short by the gun violence epidemic that is ravaging our communities.

In 2020, an alarming statistic emerged. Guns became the leading cause of death among children and teenagers in the United States, claiming more lives than car accidents, cancer, or drug overdoses.

This year alone, the United States has experienced over 400 mass shootings. My home State of Florida accounts for at least 20 of these. South Florida is no stranger to gun violence. Over what should have been a peaceful Memorial Day weekend this year, a total of nine people were shot on the Hollywood boardwalk. Four of them were kids.

Yet, in the face of these incidents, we have witnessed a persistent denial among Republicans. In Florida, the extreme GOP State legislature is making it easier, not harder, for individuals to purchase guns.

It is maddening to watch as lives are needlessly taken and families are torn apart. How have we let this become our new normal? How have we not curbed this epidemic? How have we not acted?

We have a collective responsibility to build upon the landmark Bipartisan Safer Communities Act and implement commonsense measures to keep weapons out of the hands of those who pose a danger to others. The bipartisan law is essential in curbing the gun violence epidemic and safeguarding our loved ones, but we cannot stop there.

Now is the time for us to unite across party lines and work collectively to find real solutions. We must prioritize the safety of our communities by implementing responsible gun control measures, providing mental health resources, and dismantling the cycle of violence.

Let us seize the opportunity to create a safe America where all families can thrive without the looming shadow of gun violence. I ask all members of this caucus and all Members of the Florida delegation to stand with us to make sure that we can end this gun violence epidemic.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for the opportunity to speak tonight on an issue that paralyzes this Nation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss and address our country's gun vio-

lence epidemic and promote the commonsense solutions from House Democrats that would save lives nationwide.

This year, our country has suffered more than 400 mass shootings and mass murders—400—and gun violence has killed or injured more than 40,000 Americans. This number includes more than 3,500 children or teens. In America, gun violence happens in grocery stores, elementary schools, college campuses, and private homes. That is a national tragedy that demands immediate action.

My bill, the Safer Neighborhoods Gun Buyback Act, would use Federal grants to get guns out of the hands of criminals. It would reduce gun violence and make communities safer, and it is one solution of many in Congress that we have offered to date.

House Democrats have introduced or will introduce at least 54 bills to reduce gun violence across the country. If passed, they would make gun owners and dealers accountable for their weapons. They would keep weapons out of the hands of criminals, and they would help law enforcement officials catch criminals who use guns to commit crimes.

For example, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2023 would require that every sale of a firearm include a background check. It is supported by 90 percent of Democrats and Republicans in Congress.

The Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2023 would provide the time necessary to conduct an effective background check on gun owners.

The Assault Weapons Ban of 2023 would stop the sale, manufacture, transfer, or possession of assault weapons. These are weapons of war and need to be removed from our streets.

The Closing the Bump Stock Loophole Act of 2023 would ban bump stocks in the same manner as assault weapons. Bump stocks are designed to increase the firing rate of guns. It makes dangerous guns more lethal. They have no place in a civil society, Madam Speaker.

Ethan's Law is a bill that would set Federal standards for safe gun storage. It would decrease the chance of a family member dying from the use of an unsecured firearm.

The Pause for Gun Safety Act would require a 7-day waiting period before gun purchasers can possess their weapons.

The Stop Online Ammunition Sales Act of 2023 would require photo identification before the purchase of gun ammunition online.

The Office of Gun Violence Prevention Act of 2023 would establish an Office of Gun Violence Prevention in the Department of Justice's Office of Legal Policy. This bill would allow the country to finally create a national gun violence prevention strategy.

The Equal Access to Justice for Victims of Gun Violence Act would remove the dubious legal protections for gun manufacturers and possibly make

them liable for the harms and damage they inflict on communities across this country.

The Ammunition Identification Act would require ammunition to have serial numbers. Then law enforcement officials could use those numbers to catch possible criminals based on gun ownership.

The Untraceable Firearms Act of 2023 would regulate the production and sale of ghost guns. These guns are made in secret and cannot be traced, and they are a threat to every community in America.

These bills represent commonsense solutions that Americans want to protect their families and loved ones from gun violence. We need to act on my bill and the others like it to create a safer country. The longer we wait, the more lives we lose, and one day it could come to your door.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Mrs. MCBATH).

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, I thank Representatives Jackson and Cherfilus-McCormick and the Congressional Black Caucus for convening this Special Order hour this evening to speak, in particular, about gun safety.

This past weekend, the United States surpassed 400 mass shootings in just this year alone. We have seen nearly double the number of tragedies than the amount of days that we have lived this year. It is an unmistakable reality that this grave challenge has only grown. Until we are fully dealing with this very dangerous gun culture that we are living in, it will continue to grow.

No amount of condolences will ever rectify the grief of loved ones. Week after week after week, I talk to survivors like myself who are crying out to this body. When will we act?

If faith without work is dead, then we must know that when thoughts and prayers end, meaningful action must begin.

My Federal red flag law bill mirrors a commonsense measure that is already in place in many States around the country, actually Republican States. It has allowed for loved ones to work with law enforcement to get guns out of the hands of those loved ones or people that they deem in crisis, and it will truly help those who see the first signs of tragedy, and they can help to prevent it.

These are effective laws that stop gun violence. We know that. Studies have proven that. Statistics have shown that in both Republican and Democratic States around the country. The American people are just calling on us to act. They are tired of waiting for us to act. They are calling on us to save lives.

Last year, President Biden did sign into law, last summer, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. It is the most comprehensive gun safety legislation that this body has enacted in decades. We have been investing in State red

flag laws, funding for States that want to enact these lifesaving measures.

Community violence intervention funding, I think everyone can agree we have got to get to the root causes of the violence. You pull out the root. You deal with the foundational problems that are causing the violence which causes gun violence.

We were able through the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act to define who is a bona fide gun seller. We were able to make it a Federal crime for gun trafficking and straw purchases. We were able to secure funding for mental health for our public schools but also for law enforcement. It expanded background checks for gun sales.

I have been doing this work in gun safety for the last 10 years since I lost my own son unnecessarily. Statistics have shown us again and again and again, and surveys have shown us again and again, that 97 percent of the American public—and this is including law-abiding gun owners—know that we have a public health crisis with the gun culture in this country, and they believe that we must place some commonsense measures on our existing gun laws.

Victims such as myself, survivors, live in daily angst just waiting for this body to act, waiting for us to do more. We are living in a violent culture. There are no safe spaces in America anymore. Survivors continue to live with the pain of having lost their loved ones unnecessarily and knowing that they, too, at some point in time may also be a victim of gun violence.

More guns in America do not make us safer. That is a misnomer. That is not the truth. Commonsense gun safety measures with respect to putting public safety over profit by our gun manufacturers and gun sellers, that is what the American people are crying out for.

In this country, a major industrialized nation, you are 25 times more likely to die here in the United States than anywhere else in the world. I pray every single day that this body will put their oath to protect and serve over the profit of this extremist gun culture that we are living in.

□ 2015

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congresswoman MCBATH from the great State of Georgia for her comments.

It is now my privilege to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my esteemed colleague from Illinois, Representative JACKSON, for his incredible leadership in governing this Special Order hour.

This June, we had the anniversary of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. I proudly voted for this bill because the gun violence epidemic affects all of us daily in our country. There is still so much work to be done—365 days later—as we have seen an extreme increase in mass shootings this summer.

Our friends, our neighbors, and loved ones are living in fear every day as they go to shopping malls, movies theaters, schools, grocery stores, concerts, and yes, even places of worship.

I can go on and on but as of today, the Gun Violence Archive reports that the United States has experienced some 400 shootings already. That is just this year alone. Countless lives lost, communities devastated and families that will never be the same.

Where does it stop? We all have to take a deep, deep inventory of ourselves and ask the question: Where does it stop?

To be clear, none of the actions that we suggest, promote or introduce are efforts to diminish the value of your constitutional rights.

To challenge the Second Amendment is not our effort. We recognize and support the importance of the Second Amendment. But we also recognize the importance of making sure that we have safe communities; communities that are safe for all people, not just Democrats, safe for Republicans, Democrats, Independents and others, for people of all races, backgrounds, creeds, religions, beliefs, for everyone.

This is an American issue. This is an issue that affects our communities and, I dare say, and I dare pray, that if this has not touched your community yet, that it doesn't. Unfortunately, if statistics bear true, it is a matter of time before it reaches, yes, your community, your neighborhood, your church, your school, your child.

We have the power to change that. Collectively, Republican and Democrat, we have the power to change that. We have the power to say no more. We have the power to stand against the profits from the National Rifle Association and say: Continue to manufacture legal weapons, but make sure that we have sensible gun measures.

Continue to profit from the paraphernalia that comes with it, but let's make sure that we have sensible gun measures to protect our communities.

Yes, we have the power. It is within us. Let us not wait until we find ourselves leaning over a coffin crying because we have lost someone. Let the lives that have already been lost be the last, so there are no more mothers like my dear friend, LUCY MCBATH; so there are no more sons like my dear friend, STEVEN HORSFORD; like the so many others that are out there, parents, loved ones, siblings, friends, fathers, mothers that have lost their loved ones to senseless gun violence.

Let us, together, demonstrate to the American people that we are bigger, we are better, we are smarter, and we are stronger, and we will make a difference. We should not have to live like this.

I implore my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to come to the table, come to the table, putting aside our partisan politics. Come to the table with the understanding that we care.

Come to the table with the understanding that we can, that we can make a difference for all of us.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I thank the Honorable Congressman CARTER from the great State of Louisiana for those remarks.

Madam Speaker, today I stand in solidarity with my colleagues in this Chamber and with citizens across this Nation in condemning the pervasive violence that has taken root in America.

The scourge of violence has become an epidemic. Regrettably, the depth of its impact and its implications for our society's fabric remain inadequately grasped.

We must recognize that violence is not solely defined as the act of wielding a gun. The violence that engulfs our Nation goes beyond the confines of weaponry.

By the time hands are raised in aggression, the cultural and judicial strains have already transformed fellow citizens into adversaries. The staggering reality of 400 million guns in a Nation with 300 million citizens underscores a deep-seated issue.

It is hardly shocking then, in such an environment, that individuals increasingly view one another as foes rather than fellow countrymen. The prevailing political and cultural mood of our Nation is manipulated by the insidious use of fear.

Some of the most profound acts of violence in this country have been executed not just by those with firearms but by those exploiting fear to amplify their privilege and magnify their influence.

Is it not an act of violence to belittle 400 years of African-American resilience? A battle we should never have had to fight, a battle no one should be forced to endure.

Yet, in a single afternoon, the Supreme Court chose to undercut what took 400 years for the Black community to establish, comprehensive policies that recognize and affirm our place against practices that they aimed to dismiss. Isn't this violence too?

How can it not be considered violence when Harvard University is told it cannot use race as a criterion for admission, but it sees no restriction placed on legacy or wealth?

The Supreme Court seems to suggest that being Black doesn't inherently carry merit, but being affluent certainly does.

Perhaps a fellow Member here can enlighten me. When have the wealthy ever been disadvantaged in this Nation, that they needed further benefits because of their wealth? Can anyone refer me to such a time in history?

The Supreme Court seemed to believe that in a mere 50 years, we have surpassed the need to factor in race, yet overlooked the fact that privilege has played a larger role in Ivy League admissions than race ever has.

Where in the majority decision did the Court address the inherent advantages of unearned privilege?

Where is the dedication to meritocracy in such a stance?

Yet, it is revealing that many champion the cause of equality if it does not level the playing field much in favor of true equality.

In this Nation, uniquely certain demographics perceive true equality as an affront to their status.

For countless Black and Brown individuals witnessing the impact of this flawed ruling, the past fortnight has felt like a period of systemic aggression.

When discussing violence in America, our focus shouldn't solely be on the acts committed by those who misuse firearms. Florida's Governor didn't need a firearm to ban books and dismiss the educational value of African-American history.

The Florida Board of Education didn't wield a gun when they sidelined African-American studies in their advanced placement curriculum. Recently, we were dismayed to learn that Florida's newly approved middle school syllabus had the audacity to suggest that slavery was somehow advantageous for Black individuals.

In 2023, it is disheartening to note that in Florida, an educational curriculum was sanctioned by those brazen enough to insinuate that slavery could be deemed beneficial in any manner. There has been silence by so many in this body. This silence is tantamount to violence.

Those who sanctioned this content attempted to defend their stance, asserting that slavery taught Black individuals skills like agriculture, painting, carpentry, blacksmithing, tailoring, and transportation.

This emphasizes the importance of lawmakers fully understanding the laws they create. Had they read some of the very literature they hastily sought to ban, they would have recognized the sheer absurdity of such claims.

Black civilizations were the architects behind the pyramids. The Fertile Crescent of the Nile Valley stands testament to their prowess in civil engineering and agricultural innovation.

Timbuktu houses one of the world's earliest and most renowned universities.

A full two millennia before Hippocrates, Imhotep was already pioneering medical practices and documenting them.

African civilizations were the crucible for philosophy, science, poetry, and monotheistic religions.

How could a cadre of ill-informed, unenlightened, narrow-minded, and archaic policymakers in Florida presume to suggest that Black individuals required the shackles of slavery to grasp shoemaking?

How deeply misguided must one be to suggest that absent slavery, Black artistry would be nonexistent, when Picasso drew inspiration from modernist art from African masks?

To audaciously claim that Black individuals learned about transportation

through slavery, ignoring the fact that they navigated the Congo's waters well before Europeans even embarked on their maiden voyages, is pure folly.

Slavery served to starkly remind Black individuals how America often fell short of its proclaimed values. It underscored the bitter truth that one could be despised without the slightest effort to understand their history or heritage.

To anyone who cannot see the inherent harm in teaching young Black students that slavery was somehow a boon, you are sorely mistaken about the essence of institutional and educational violence. What Governor DeSantis did was educational violence.

To shed light on some historical facts, according to records, Governor Ron DeSantis' great-grandmother landed on American shores in February 1917. She arrived in New York, eager to embrace her new identity as an Italian American, and she was fully entitled to.

Regardless of her great-grandson's current disposition, she undoubtedly contributed to this Nation, and her contribution was as pivotal as anyone else's.

But let me also remind you that the first Africans came to America in 1619, landing in Jamestown, Virginia—298 years separate 1619 from 1917, 298 years.

Yet, we have a Governor in Florida, a descendent of those who arrived nearly 3 centuries after my ancestors, presuming to dictate my understanding of the African-American experience in this country.

How dare you, Governor DeSantis. You are absolutely a disgrace. No Ron-DeSantis-come-lately will tell Black people the value of our contributions to America.

That is why all of us on this side of the aisle are elated to see Madam Vice President of the United States take the fight for Black history directly to Florida.

Thank you, Madam Vice President KAMALA HARRIS for speaking out against ridiculous claims being made by the Florida Board of Education.

Across this Nation, individuals with a sense of justice commend Vice President HARRIS for her unwavering stand for truth and righteousness.

Yet, this is adversity we face. Firearms merely represent the latest form of hostility directed at Black and Brown communities. Over 400 mass shootings have occurred in 2023, and this year isn't over yet.

Discussing the glaring imbalance of having 100 million more firearms than we have citizens, while not addressing 25 million American school-age children who can't read is an incomplete picture. The link is apparent. Children lacking literacy skills may become adults more prone to resort to crime, potentially involving guns.

If we are going to have a serious debate about violence in America, then we must be willing to talk about this issue at every level.

When the Supreme Court said it was legal for a website designer to deny LGBTQ people services, what kind of violence did that do to the LGBTQ community? What kind of psychological, emotional, if not spiritual violence did that decision bring to bear in the lives of Black and Brown people?

□ 2030

I firmly stand with those who say that we need a national solution to solve a national problem of gun violence, but I challenge all of us not to view this issue so narrowly.

Gun violence stands at the intersection of race, poverty, and class, and needs to be understood in this way.

We cannot become so enamored with the effects of the bullet that we forget the economics of the gun. The root of the violence isn't merely in the act of pulling the trigger, but in the lived experiences of those who resort to such extremes.

The Biden-Harris administration's success in enacting the first substantial gun laws in nearly three decades is commendable. With executive orders, President Biden has significantly addressed the gun crisis.

Yet, even in a scenario where guns are scarce, the ramifications of America's inherent violence will persist as it stems from prejudice and intolerance. This kind of violence, Madam Speaker, of which I speak, is the progeny of fear. It is the direct and lamentable offspring of what happens when people use revenge to play games with the resentment of White, working-class people. This kind of violence cannot be arrested and merely thrown in jail.

Regrettably, it cannot be legislated out of the hearts and minds of people who use it to make a name for themselves. Once you allow your politics to become sufficiently murderous, the kind of social evil it produces can never be truly contained.

What is today a conversation about the inequities associated with race will tomorrow become the first line of a sad eulogy written about the American Dream. This is what we have tried to get America to see.

The willingness to mistreat Black history means that there are people living among us who are more than willing to mishandle American history as a whole.

So let us ultimately deal with every form of violence in America. Systemic cruelty, like the violence in the streets, destroys the lives and tears families apart.

Judicial roughness is no less a threat to Black children than the specter of gang violence and all illegal guns being used to destroy Black bodies without justification or remorse.

Donald Trump openly taught us what political brutality can do to the moral fiber of a Nation that has slowly begun to forget its constitutional ideals. While it is altogether fitting to talk about gang violence in Chicago, murders in Memphis, and mass shootings in

Texas, don't forget to talk about the kind of economic violence being visited upon Black families this country sees every day. The members of the Congressional Black Caucus will always mention it.

We will always talk about it because our country's future depends upon an honest assessment of who we are and what it is that we owe to one another. To truly end violence in our Nation, it is not enough to just regulate guns; we must also address and rectify America's deep-rooted issues with privilege, power, and hatred.

Addressing one issue without the other is tackling an issue that will not be secure. We must render our efforts as effective so that we will be a blessed Nation.

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I rise today because every year, on average, 36,000 Americans are killed by guns, which is equivalent to the population of many Ohio cities. We must do more to close the loopholes and advance sensible gun reform legislation to end this epidemic in America.

And speaking of Ohio, where I am from and represent, according to the Giffords Law Center's annual gun scorecard grades Ohio at an 'F'. As the Congresswoman representing Ohio's Third Congressional District, this is something I am not proud of.

Currently at the state level, Ohio has no universal background checks, no assault weapons restrictions, no ban on large capacity magazines, no waiting periods, no child access prevention laws, no gun owner licensing or registration requirements, no extreme risk protection orders, no limit on the number of guns that can be bought at once, and also lacks most domestic violence gun laws.

Easy gun access encourages the increased prevalence of firearms in our communities. As someone who deeply values the families and communities I serve, one of my top priorities is keeping them safe.

I stand proud to be a part of that push for necessary reform as a cosponsor of the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, which would establish checks on the transfer of firearms between private parties and prohibits the transfer of a firearm if a preliminary background check has not been conducted. I am also a cosponsor of the Assault Weapons Ban Act and a number of other sensible gun violence prevention measures.

However, we must push further and look to reform historical systemic disparities by investing in community-based violence intervention policies that rectify injustices in our policing, education, and residential segregation and racial bias.

More than one in four fatal police shootings involves a Black victim, even though Black people make up nearly 14 percent of the United States population.

The time for action is now. As members of Congress, we have an obligation to protect the citizens we represent and be proactive in preventing harm to all Americans.

I urge my colleagues on the other side to come together and set aside partisan differences before it's too late. We owe it to the victims of gun violence; we owe it to our constituents. My fellow CBC members have al-

ready started answering this call as we have introduced over 17 sensible gun reform and community safety bills in the 118th Congress alone.

OUR NATIONAL DEBT CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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. Madam Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY).

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4368, the agricultural appropriations bill, which includes funding to combat the spotted lanternfly invasion in the Northeastern United States of America.

This provision invests \$19 million to protect our farmers, safeguard our crops, and preserve the future of our agricultural communities from the devastating effects of this pest. The spotted lanternfly, native of Asia, has proven to be an aggressive and destructive pest that threatens our specialty crops, including grapes and apples, in areas like western New York and the Southern Tier of New York that I represent.

This invasive species also puts thousands of agricultural jobs at risk. We owe it to our farmers to ensure that their hard work, their dedication, their blood, their sweat, their tears is not in vain due to a destructive pest.

By investing in research and development of creative solutions, we can find effective strategies to combat the spotted lanternfly and save our agricultural economy from a potential disaster.

I am proud to join my colleagues on both sides of the aisle in addressing this pest, and encourage the rest of my colleagues to support the fiscal year 2023 agricultural appropriations bill to help protect our farms, our crops, and our agricultural heritage.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, tonight. We are actually going to continue on a theme. I am going to try to dial back sounding like a jerk tonight, but I have been trying to make a point on the scale of the debt, the level we are at, the misunderstanding on its growth, and some potential solutions.

We are also going to spend a little bit of time tonight—and this is what I was sort of pre-apologizing for—I am going to show that some of my brothers' and sisters' ideas from the left on raise this tax, do this, do that, don't even count as rounding errors.

Let's actually start with some of the boards here.

I have shown this a half dozen times, and I keep showing it because this is what I have bad dreams about. If you live in a world of math—and I know

this is, functionally, a math-free zone—but when we finished the debt ceiling deal, we basically got some applause by economists saying you basically moved yourself from maybe 120 to maybe 115 percent of debt-to-GDP at the end of the 9 years.

That was the CBO number, but then some of the outside economists came in. Moody's Analytics said there are other things going on—the higher interest rates, the dramatic increase in spending in Medicare. Remember, the first 7 months of this year, we spent 16 percent more on Medicare. Next year's interest will functionally be three-quarters of a trillion dollars. We weren't supposed to hit numbers like that for years, but the one that took my breath away was when the Bloomberg economists—and these aren't slouches, they have a really good data system—said their model was coming back with higher interest rates, higher healthcare costs, lower labor force participation, and some of the other things we don't talk about because it doesn't really fit our scenario.

I am going to hyper-simplify this, and I have done this a handful of times, but I am trying to get the concept through. As part of the deal 6 weeks ago, this \$700 billion that is in the non-defense discretionary, we are going to cut a hundred billion of that. Bloomberg economists basically say that the removal of that \$100 billion is necessary, but it also slows down the economy by about a half a percent of GDP.

We don't seem to understand when we do policies like this, which we need to do, you also have to be adopting policies that backfill the growth. This place can barely walk and chew gum, and that is why this number here was so terrifying when the Bloomberg economists were saying, functionally, that 9-year window 10 years from now—and the reason we say 9 years is because we are already working on next year's budget and appropriations and spending—it is 130 percent of debt-to-GDP, \$51 trillion of borrowing. If interest rates even go back to a somewhat more normal number, that is almost \$2 trillion a year in interest.

That is functionally 9 years from now, and we are going to do what? We are not going to talk about it. We are going to be just giddy, and say, look at the hard work we did. We removed a hundred billion dollars out of discretionary.

I know my math is different than the Congressional Budget Office and at the end of September, we will find out which one of us had a better calculator; however, I have been right more times this year than they have. I know that is boastful, but I can prove it. Go back and look at some of my floor speeches and we have got the quarterly reports from Treasury.

I have us this fiscal year coming in around \$1.84 trillion of borrowing. Why is that important? The 2023-fiscal year

discretionary, Defense and nondefense discretionary included, was supposed to be a total spend of \$1.836 billion; meaning, every dime of what you think of as government is on borrowed money this year.

When we go home and talk to our constituents, do we say, Do you know all of Defense, all of the Supreme Court, all of the State Department, all of everything you think of as government is on borrowed money? Is that what we do? How many times do we go home and we get someone that says we just got rid of foreign aid, and then I show them my chart that foreign aid is 12 days of borrowing. They just look at you with daggers, then say it is waste and fraud. But the Democrats do something that drives me insane when they say, just tax rich people more.

I am going to show you some boards here that basically show that is theater. It is not real math. Let's actually walk through some of the things going on right now, and I am going to go back and forth on some of these boards. There is going to be a reason why I am doing it this way. I spent the last 2 weeks, when I came to this microphone talking about obesity and diabetes—and that is a really dangerous thing sometimes to come and talk about, but diabetes is 33 percent of all U.S. healthcare. It is 31 percent of all Medicare spending. We need to talk about it. Our brothers and sisters in this country are dying, and we are afraid to talk about it.

I am going to spend the first part here sounding like an economist on steroids and I am going to try to explain what the cost is, then I am going to talk a little bit about just the simple morality of not doing anything.

Let's actually play a game here. Estimated deficit reduction for 2023, if you actually were just to take on obesity-related illnesses this fiscal year using current math, \$283 billion.

Remember, the Democrats' tax proposal, the President's tax proposal was, we are going to go from 37 percent to 39 percent for top earners. That is a stagnant number. None of these are dynamically scored on the effects on the economy because if you made people healthier on this side, the economy would grow.

When you raise peoples' taxes, the economy shrinks, but the stagnant number is \$30 billion. Just obesity-related spending will be \$283 billion this fiscal year to the taxpayers and the Democrats, the President's tax hike produces 30 billion.

Does anyone see the insanity here? We basically did the math for everyone, saying Democrats would have to increase the top tax rate to 62 percent to raise the same amount of money as getting rid of obesity for people on government programs.

That is uncomfortable to talk about, but think about that. You basically have to raise the top tax rate to 62 percent just to produce the revenues of receipts for this population here. I am

struggling, trying to find a creative way to get people to think about the path of having a healthier America is both moral and it is great economics.

Let's try it another way: Estimated deficit reduction for fiscal year 2024 to 2033, functionally, that is 9 fiscal years. We expect Federal spending on severe obesity, not the mainstream, to be \$1.724 trillion. If anyone wants to see this report once it is officially voted on, this will be on the Republican side of the Joint Economic Committee, chapter 3. Read it. It is brilliant. \$1.724 trillion over, functionally, that 10-year cycle, just for severely obese populations. These are for Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Services, veterans, taking care of our brothers and sisters, because of the illnesses that come with this.

□ 2045

You would have to increase the top tax rate to 49 percent to raise the same amount of money as getting rid of severe obesity. We are not talking obesity, just the severe obesity. Remember, last week, I brought the charts on how it is rated.

We are told, of the 4,000 human conditions, illnesses, misery, half of them are related to obesity. Are we willing to talk about it as we do the farm legislation? Are we willing to talk about it with some of the new technologies? I am going to touch on those that are available to us. Are we willing to talk about just what is happening with how many prime-age working males are not in the labor force? The number one thing we are seeing isn't substance abuse. It is close, but it is actually health related to obesity.

Let's try another one here. Let's see if I can make myself a complete pariah around here from telling the truth on the math.

Estimated deficit reduction for 2023, projected Federal spending on severe obesity, just that very top threshold, this budget year will be \$115 billion. This is, once again, just in Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Services, and veterans. Democrats would have to raise the top tax rate to 47 percent to raise the amount of money just this population costs.

Am I at least making a point here that the discussions say, "Just raise taxes. That takes care of it"?

Remember, what do we borrow per second over the last 12 months? \$63,000 every second is what we have borrowed over the last 12 months.

One more of these. This is estimated deficit reduction between '24 and '33, the estimated deficit reduction, projected Federal spending on all obesity-related illnesses. Remember, this is a static number. There is also, we estimate, about another trillion-and-a-half that you would gain in productivity because these populations can actually come back and participate in society. Over that time, it is over \$4 trillion that our government will spend.

Now, add in another \$1.5 trillion on the economic vitality you gain, and

you would actually have to have a marginal tax rate of the top earners in this country of 65 percent to come close to covering that cost. That is for one illness.

It is the illness that is the most expensive in our society because it is related to diabetes, kidney failure, heart attacks, and everything else. Am I sort of making the point? We are seeing over \$4 trillion just in the disease, and the Biden tax proposal produces \$375 billion over the 10 years.

For those of you who are not really good at math, \$375 billion is a hell of a lot less than \$4 trillion. This is the lunacy here, where the theater is so much more important than the reality and the math.

Let's actually walk through this. Joint Economic Committee Republicans estimate the cost of obesity over the 10 years—the 10 years we are about to start the budget cycle on—is \$5.6 trillion. If you want to start to stabilize debt to GDP, can we at least have a conversation about this?

You start to see the mortality statistics in this country, the number of working-age people, people who should be actually living their lives, who are dying and are dying early.

I am going to show you a chart in a little bit of our young people and what is going on there.

The game of avoiding this discussion needs to come to an end because the economics and the morality of it are here. Let's pull our heads out and have time to actually have that difficult conversation.

Let's do the next one. This one is really interesting. The estimated economic cost is actually \$2.6 trillion of growth in the GDP. This isn't spending. I just showed you a few trillion dollars of spending. This would be actual growth in the size of the economy and participation because our brothers and sisters actually are not sick. Their ability to come back and be a part of society, \$2.6 trillion over that 10 years.

We worked hard on this math. We spent months vetting it. I will argue that it is incredibly conservative math.

Let's have a little more fun here. Maybe you just don't care. Maybe you are one of these people that, you know, sends in things to my office, and all you care about is you want more money for something. Fine. Do you at least care about your kids and your grandkids? I have two young kids. When I look around, I am terrified of what I see. We are actually looking at the growth of obesity amongst our kids. Do you understand what happens to their life, their life expectancy, their ability to participate in their society when you start to see numbers growing like this?

We are actually starting to see a world where, at the end of this decade, 12 percent of our children will be morbidly obese. It is uncomfortable to say, but that is the math.

In 10 years, half of our kids are technically—is this moral? Should we not

talk about it? It is going on. This is the math. Understand what it does to the society. An unhealthy society doesn't grow, doesn't have economic vitality. Then, you start to wonder why all day long our hallways are full of people saying: "I need you to spend more money on this. Because we can't find workers, we can't do this." Yet, we come back and show data that basically says there are 3.5 million prime-age working males that aren't in the economy. Then, the economists come back and do the stats. The demographer comes in and sits there and rattles off the numbers, and we start to realize the number one cause wasn't substance abuse. It was obesity. Am I starting to make a point here?

This is life expectancy for 18 years old and older by their BMI class. Do you understand functionally, in the last 4 years, life expectancy in the United States has fallen? Is that moral? Does anyone care? Even when you adjust for COVID, our lifespans are falling in this country.

It turns out, in digging and digging, the primary reason is this. We have this stratified by different ethnicities, different genders, but you start to actually see what we are seeing here in the numbers. You start seeing in some of our populations that the life expectancy is 66 years.

A little while ago, the Congressional Black Caucus took the first hour, and they talked about the morality of their issues. I would argue this is their issue. This is all of our issue, but no one else will talk about it.

Yes, there is some happy stuff coming.

Part of the point I have been trying to make over and over is let's just talk about diabetes. Thirty-one percent of all Medicare spending is just diabetes. One in four TRICARE dollars in the United States is just diabetes. Thirty-three percent of Medicare benefits are spent for folks with diabetes. Sixty-seven percent of the \$327 billion spent on diabetes is by government insurance, and that is from way back in 2017. Today, it is dramatically higher, but that is the last year we could actually get the number.

Five of the top 10 part D drugs—this one drives me crazy. Remember, we are having all of this debate about all this money: You are spending too much money on pharmaceuticals. These part D drugs are driving so much of the debt and deficit. Half of those top 10 drugs, half of them, are drugs for diabetes.

Does anyone see sort of the trend here? Am I making sort of a flow of a concept? Is consciousness coming with us?

The Joint Economic Committee Republicans: Medicare spending will double, functionally being \$22 trillion over the next 10 years.

I have come here for the last couple of years and brought the chart that basically shows, over the next 30 years, 100 percent of the \$130 trillion of borrowing, all of borrowing growth, 75 per-

cent is the shortfall on Medicare and 25 percent is the shortfall on Social Security if we choose to backfill it.

Remember, we are functionally 9 years away from the Social Security trust fund being gone, and in that same 10 years, the transportation trust fund is gone, and the Medicare part A trust fund is gone.

We dink around with stupid stuff around here, not taking seriously that the wheels are coming off. It turns out there are some things that are absolutely moral we could be doing if anyone here actually gave a damn.

A couple more of these concepts, and then we are going to do some of the positive side, some of the plan.

JEC, Joint Economic Committee, Republicans, project annual healthcare costs attributed to severe obesity. This is interesting. This is for the sick person. This is for the person with obesity—severe obesity, not regular. They spend another over \$14,000 per year on top of their other healthcare costs. The problem is a huge portion of this population is also on government-paid-for healthcare.

Here is the one that I expect I will get the nastygrams on tomorrow, so let's have at it.

Joint Economic Committee Republicans annual increase of Medicare expenses caused by obesity-related health: \$3,500 a year per taxpayer. \$3,500 a year per taxpayer is functionally what obesity costs. That is me sounding like the accountant on steroids, but the math always wins. I am sorry if it is uncomfortable. Bless you, but the math always wins.

Let's actually come back and say I have actually convinced someone out there that maybe we should make America healthier and actually have an honest discussion about what is going on because these numbers have just gone skyrocketing over the last 10 years.

Let's talk about a couple of things here. This is just another example. I have brought a handful of these. This is a blood glucose monitor you can have on your body. It is fairly cheap and incredibly effective on stabilizing someone with a prediabetic condition.

We are about to have a pill for obesity. It is the next generation of these GLP-1s. It is coming. It is almost through the process. There is a whole series of other categories of weight-loss drugs that are coming that are remarkably effective.

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Studies actually are sort of breaking down. It turns out that one of the most moral things we could do is use the technology we have.

If I came to you tomorrow and said: Let's make a plan. Maybe we should make some changes in the farm legislation—that is really hard to do. The lobbyists marching up and down the hallways won't be happy with it, but we have to do it.

Number two, go back to access for people to be able to manage their blood glucose.

Number three, maybe we should start to look at the accessibility for those who are on Medicare, Medicaid, Indian Health Service, and veterans who actually really, really, really, really have comorbidities, lots of diseases, substantially because of their weight or because of diabetes. Maybe the moral thing is to make these drugs available to them.

Here is part of the holy grail. I have come back and talked about it multiple times, and I have been mocked—sorry, I don't mean to be personalizing it. I do mean to be personalizing it.

FDA approves the first cellular therapy to treat patients with type 1 diabetes. Yes, there is finally one of them. There are a half a dozen of these that are in FDA-approval stages or tests, but the first one is fully approved now. That therapy can get the body to start producing—excuse me, accepts a replenishment of islet cells. Do you see the flow?

If we actually said we need a healthier society—oh, by the way, it is amazing for what it does in bending the debt curve. Oh, by the way, it is moral. Oh, by the way, it would mean extra populations can come back into society and we might get productivity gains. We have a way to help people manage their prediabetes with some technology. We have some ways to help people get their weight down.

Oh, by the way, those people that do get their weight down, the 30 percent or so, and their body is so damaged that they can't produce insulin anymore, it turns out we can replace the islet cells in their body now. It is here. It is moral. It is optimistic. It is joyful.

When was the last time you had an idiot like myself standing here and sounding like an accountant on steroids, and saying, I actually have a solution. It doesn't solve the whole problem; it only solves a portion of it.

This would do more than all the jaw-moving around here that you have heard so far this year, and it is doable. Is this Republican or Democrat?

I will just argue it is the right thing to do.

Is this place capable, Madam Speaker, of actually doing the right thing?

Is it capable of doing something that is great math, it is morally wonderful, and actually would be really good for everyone?

Dear God, I hope so.

Madam Speaker, thank you for tolerating my tantrum, and I yield back the balance of my time.

PUBLICATION OF BUDGETARY MATERIAL

ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET, Washington, DC, July 25, 2023.

MR. SPEAKER, section 112 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act, Public Law 118-5, requires the Chairman of the House Budget Committee to submit for printing in the Congress-

sional Record a list of discretionary accounts identified for advance appropriations in fiscal year 2024 appropriations legislation.

This filing is made for technical purposes as required by section 112 of the Fiscal Responsibility Act and for the purposes of enforcing titles III and IV of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and other budgetary enforcement provisions. If there are any questions, please contact Brad Watson or Mary Popadiuk of the Budget Committee staff.

JODEY C. ARRINGTON,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget.

ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCED APPROPRIATIONS—FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 (SUBJECT TO A GENERAL LIMIT OF \$28,852,000,000)

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies:

Employment and Training Administration; Education for the Disadvantaged School Improvement Programs; Career, Technical, and Adult Education; Special Education.

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies:

Tenant-based Rental Assistance, Project-based Rental Assistance.

VETERANS ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS—FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies:

Medical Services, Medical Support and Compliance, Medical Facilities, Medical Community Care.

INDIAN HEALTH ACCOUNTS IDENTIFIED FOR ADVANCE APPROPRIATIONS—FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies:

Indian Health Services, Indian Health Facilities.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Kevin F. McCumber, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly an enrolled bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 1096. An act 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.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 26, 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-1456. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard [GN Docket No.: 16-142] received July 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1457. A letter from the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 15.255 of the Commission's Rules [ET Docket No.: 21-264] received July 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1458. A letter from the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of the Commission's Rules Regarding Implementation of the Final Acts of the World Radiocommunication Conference (Sharm el-Sheikh, 2019) (WRC-19), Other Allocation Issues, and Related Rule Updates [ET Docket No.: 23-121] and others received July 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-1459. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-1460. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 25-176, "Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Act of 2023", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-1461. A letter from the Biologist, Branch of Domestic Living, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Species Status With Section 4(d) Rule for Western Fanshell and "Ouachita" Fanshell and Designation of Critical Habitat [Docket No.: FWS-R3-ES-2021-0061; FF09E21000 FXES111090FEDR 234] (RIN: 1018-BE79) received July 17, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-1462. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Very High Frequency (VHF) Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal Airway V-376; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1120; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AEA-09] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1463. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airways; Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0939; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AEA-25] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1464. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Greenville, Spartanburg, and Greer, SC [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1161; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-18] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1465. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Revocation of VOR Federal Airways; Northeast United States [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0902; Airspace Docket No.: 21-ANE-6] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1466. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment and Establishment of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes in the Vicinity of Devils Lake, ND [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1558; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AGL-11] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1467. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Albemarle, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0824; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASO-14] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-1468. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Marion IA [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1672; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ACE-22] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received July 18, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 682. A bill to facilitate access to electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries; with an amendment (Rept. 118-156). 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. 1338. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authority for certain licenses, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-157). 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 Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 4841. A bill to prohibit Federal agencies from restricting the use of convertible virtual currency by a person to purchase goods or services for the person's own use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 4842. A bill to authorize efforts to counter the influence of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 4843. A bill to provide for limitations on the Optional Practical Training Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 4844. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to clarify the availability and appropriateness of training for local food service personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Mr. CASAR, Ms. NORTON, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. TITUS, Mr. FROST, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. MCGARVEY, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. OMAR, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BROWN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. NORCROSS, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4845. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to ensure that striking workers and their households do not become ineligible for benefits under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 4846. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for oversight of pharmacy benefit manager services; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, 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. BAIRD (for himself, Mr. MCCAUL, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 4847. A bill to provide for limitations on general license authorities under the Syria Sanctions Regulations; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Oversight and Accountability, 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. BISHOP of North Carolina (for himself, Ms. HAGEMAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. GAETZ, and Mr. JORDAN):

H.R. 4848. A bill to provide for a right of action against Federal employees for violations of First Amendment rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 4849. A bill to allow for hemp-derived cannabidiol and hemp-derived cannabidiol containing substances in dietary supplements and food; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 4850. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a retroactive effective date of law regarding charge to entitlement to Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance for individuals who do not transfer credits from certain closed or disapproved programs of education; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARDENAS (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER,

Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BEYER, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TONKO, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. BARRAGAN, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. TRONE, Ms. BALINT, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. CRAIG, and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 4851. A bill to provide for improvements in the implementation of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs, and 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. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. BUSH, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. CHU, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 4852. A bill to require the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration to produce and make available at no cost to certain individuals in the United States an identification for the purpose of allowing such individuals to meet certain identification requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 4853. A bill to amend PROMESA to authorize the legislature and require the Oversight Board to take into consideration reports prepared by the relevant Budget Office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Ms. SANCHEZ):

H.R. 4854. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to award grants for providing legal resources for petitioners seeking extreme risk protection orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 4855. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the effects of the post-incarceration ban under section 115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 on participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program by drug felons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. CRAWFORD (for himself and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 4856. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 with respect to the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and the sustainability of such program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 4857. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to modify the transportation finance infrastructure and innovation program with respect to community development financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 4858. A bill to update the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FALLON (for himself and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 4859. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to direct the Secretary of Energy to submit to Congress a report containing an assessment of any physical or cybersecurity incidents to a storage

facility or a related facility of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FEENSTRA (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BACON, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. STEUBE, Ms. MACE, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. CLOUD, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. MANN, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, and Mr. ROSE):

H.R. 4860. A bill to ensure that residents of covered federally assisted rental housing may lawfully possess firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 4861. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to authorize grants for eligible institutions to carry out agriculture workforce training programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. FLOOD (for himself and Ms. BUDZINSKI):

H.R. 4862. A bill to identify the standards required to meet the definition of sustainable aviation fuel at the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. PHILLIPS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. MENG, Mr. CROW, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY):

H.R. 4863. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require reporting of certain expenditures for political activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GAETZ (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. SANTOS, and Mr. BIGGS):

H.R. 4864. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the application of birthright citizenship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. GALLEG0, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. WALTZ, and Mr. VEASEY):

H.R. 4865. A bill to increase transparency regarding the activities, and reduce the malign influence of, the People's Republic of China in the Inter-American Development Bank, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California (for himself, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mrs. KIM of California):

H.R. 4866. A bill to direct the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish a program to improve fire weather and fire environment forecasting, detection, and local collaboration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4867. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to exclude extensions of credit made to veterans from the definition of a member business loan; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4868. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to provide more loan flexibility to credit unions, to amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to expand homeownership access, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself and Mr. GOODEN of Texas):

H.R. 4869. A bill to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to establish additional requirements related to ensuring safe placements for unaccompanied alien children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HOYLE of Oregon (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CARSON, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. TOKUDA, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 4870. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on certain trading transactions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. JACOBS (for herself, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 4871. A bill to modify and expand the annual report required under the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018 and require additional review of United States assistance provided to certain countries identified as being at risk of atrocities by such report, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. MOYLAN, and Mr. LAMBORN):

H.R. 4872. A bill to amend the Wilderness Act to authorize U.S. Customs and Border Protection to conduct certain activities to secure the international land borders of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. KHANNA (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Ohio, Ms. BROWN, and Mr. MOLINARO):

H.R. 4873. A bill to increase the capacity of the food supply chain in the United States, and create a more resilient, diverse, and secure United States food supply chain, by codifying and expanding the Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 4874. A bill to provide for technical assistance under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LAWLER (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CISCOMAN, Mr. BUCSHON, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. LALOTA, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H.R. 4875. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase the number of physicians who may be provided Conrad 30 waivers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania (for herself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 4876. A bill to direct the Law Revision Counsel of the House of Representatives to replace masculine pronouns and nouns in the United States Code with gender-neutral language, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania (for herself, Mrs. BICE, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. STEVENS):

H.R. 4877. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out a research, development, and demonstration program with respect to abandoned wells, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 4878. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate supervision requirements for outpatient physical therapy and outpatient occupational therapy; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER (for himself and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 4879. A bill to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to specify that the trading prohibition for certain Chinese issuers that retain public accounting firms that have not been subject to inspection by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall apply after 1 year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 4880. A bill to waive sovereign immunity in certain circumstances where jurisdictions prohibit monetary bail; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS (for herself and Mr. WENSTRUP):

H.R. 4881. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to limit cost sharing for drugs under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 4882. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to promote laboratory price transparency under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MURPHY:

H.R. 4883. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the disclosure of certain ownership information relating to health care provider and pharmacy ownership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. CHU, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. SOTO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GALLEG0, Mr. COSTA, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 4884. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 4885. A bill to improve training requirements for health profession opportunity grant programs and exclude assistance provided by those programs from income tax,

and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PFLUGER (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. BACON, Mr. KILMER, Mr. BERGMAN, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. ALLRED, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 4886. A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active duty aircrew in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 4887. A bill to clarify that a violation of certain terms of service and related materials is an unfair or deceptive act or practice and subject to enforcement by the Federal Trade Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. DOGGETT):

H.R. 4888. A bill to require certain insurance companies to disclose investments and underwriting that relate to coal mining and oil and gas extraction and fossil fuel extraction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. CASAR, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DELUZIO, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. OMAR, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SCANLON, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CLYBURN, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. ROSS, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. MFUME, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SHAKOWSKY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BALINT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. EVANS, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CROW, Mr. FROST, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIMES, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. POSTER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KEATING, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. TONKO, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PALLONE, Ms.

UNDERWOOD, Mr. LIEU, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. JACKSON of North Carolina, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. HOYER, Mr. IVEY, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BROWN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. MCCLELLAN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. CHU, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. CARSON, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. CROCKETT, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. JACOBS, Ms. BUSH, Ms. MENG, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mrs. SYKES, and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 4889. A bill to provide for increases in the Federal minimum wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4890. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain the Urban Waters Federal Partnership Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Appropriations, 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. TIMMONS (for himself, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. LANGWORTHY, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 4891. A bill to advance Federal Government innovation through the implementation and use of multi-cloud computing software technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 4892. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a higher Federal matching rate for increased expenditures under Medicaid for behavioral health services (including those related to mental health and substance use), and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4893. A bill to amend the America COMPETES Act to establish certain scientific integrity policies for Federal agencies that fund, conduct, or oversee scientific research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. VAN ORDEN:

H.R. 4894. A bill to amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to reauthorize the dairy business innovation initiatives; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. BALINT:

H. Res. 610. A resolution censuring Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene; to the Committee on Ethics.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H. Res. 611. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 660) to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to require the safe storage of firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H. Res. 612. A resolution acknowledging the service, sacrifice, and courage of veterans and ensuring that Congress imposes no additional fee or cost for benefits earned through service; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PHILLIPS (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H. Res. 613. A resolution recognizing Tunisia's leadership in the Arab Spring and expressing support for upholding its democratic principles and norms; 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 Mr. DAVIDSON:

H.R. 4841.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

The single subject of this legislation is:

The single subject of this bill is preventing federal agencies from limiting self-custody of digital assets

By Mr. LAHOOD:

H.R. 4842.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution—Congress has the power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill authorizes reporting and a new Office of Multilateral Strategy to counter the influence of the People's Republic of China at the United Nations.

By Mr. SANTOS:

H.R. 4843.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

US Constitution, Article 1 Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for limitations on the Optional Practical Training Program.

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 4844.

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:

worker training

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 4845.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

to repeal the exclusion of striking workers from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

By Mr. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 4846.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the US Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Requires Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM) to report information to Employers annually regarding the net price of prescription medications.

By Mr. BAIRD:

H.R. 4847.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

"Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States 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 provide for limitations on general license authorities under the Syria Sanctions Regulations.

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina:

H.R. 4848.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Holding government employees accountable for violating Americans First Amendment rights.

By Mr. BLUMENAUER:

H.R. 4849.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

Consumer safety regulations for hemp.

By Mr. BUCHANAN:

H.R. 4850.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1, Sec. 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a retroactive effective date of law regarding charge to entitlement to Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance for individuals who do not transfer credits from certain closed or disapproved programs of education

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 4851.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 1.

All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improving the mental health crisis care continuum

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 4852.

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:

The creation of a free, federal, and optional ID

By Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER:

H.R. 4853.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV Section 3 Clause 2 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend PROMESA to authorize the legislature and require the Oversight Board to take into consideration reports prepared by the relevant Budget Office, and for other purposes.

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 4854.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Fair Legal Access Grant (FLAG) Act would support the implementation of ERPOs and provide legal representation for eligible petitioners. Specifically, this bill would establish a grant funding to states and local governments for the purposes of providing access to counsel for eligible petitioners along with other legal resources and training.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 4855.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to evaluate the effects of the post incarceration ban under section 115 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 on participation in the supplemental nutrition assistance program by drug felons and for other purposes.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 4856.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 with respect to the Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program and the sustainability of such program, and for other purposes.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 4857.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

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 title 23, United States Code, to modify the transportation finance infrastructure and innovation program with respect to community development financial institutions

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 4858.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Enhancing communications, video and technology accessibility for individuals with disabilities.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 4859.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Energy

By Mr. FEENSTRA:

H.R. 4860.

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:

The legislation ensures that residents of covered federally assisted rental housing may lawfully possess firearms.

By Mr. FINSTAD:

H.R. 4861.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Agriculture workforce training programs

By Mr. FLOOD:

H.R. 4862.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill identifies the standard required to meet the definition of sustainable aviation fuel at the Federal Aviation Administration.

By Mr. FOSTER:

H.R. 4863.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is transparency

By Mr. GAETZ:

H.R. 4864.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 4865.

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:

The bill requires Treasury to submit a report on a wide range of PRC influence at the IDB and requires the use of the US voice, vote, and influence at the IDB to counter PRC influence.

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California:

H.R. 4866.

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:

To improve the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's ability to improve wildfire forecasting and detection.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas:

H.R. 4867.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To exclude from credit union aggregate loan limitations member business loans made to veterans.

By Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas:

H.R. 4868.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To revise requirements related to the terms and lending limits of certain credit union loans.

Specifically, the bill (1) allows the National Credit Union Administration Board to lengthen the maturity term of certain loans made by a credit union, and (2) raises the credit limit for credit union member businesses under which such loans are excluded from overall credit union lending limits.

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 4869.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

ORR Sponsor Vetting

By Ms. HOYLE of Oregon:

H.R. 4870.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill imposes a 0.1% excise tax on certain purchases of stocks, bonds, and derivatives.

By Ms. JACOBS:

H.R. 4871.

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:
To modify and expand the annual report required under the Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act of 2018 and require additional review of United States assistance provided to certain countries identified as being at risk of atrocities by such report.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana:

H.R. 4872.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize Customs and Border Protection officers to conduct activities on federal wilderness land in order to secure our borders.

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 4873.

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:
Agriculture.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 4874.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill would provide for technical assistance under the health profession opportunity grant program.

By Mr. LAWLER:

H.R. 4875.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase the number of physicians who may be provided Conrad 30 waivers.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4876.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 5

The single subject of this legislation is:

To promote gender equality and inclusivity, this bill would replace masculine pronouns with gender-neutral language throughout the U.S. Code.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4877.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 5

The single subject of this legislation is:

Environmental research of well emissions

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 4878.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Physical and occupational therapy services covered by Medicare.

By Mr. LUETKEMEYER:

H.R. 4879.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1; Section 8: Powers of Congress: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to specify that the trading prohibition for certain Chinese issuers that retain public accounting firms that have not been subject to inspection by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board shall apply after 1 year, and for other purposes

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 4880.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clause 1; and Article 1, section 8,

The single subject of this legislation is:

To waive sovereign immunity in certain circumstances where jurisdictions prohibit monetary bail

By Ms. MALLIOTAKIS:

H.R. 4881.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I

The single subject of this legislation is:
prohibit prescription drug plans and Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM) in Medicare Part D or Medicare Advantage from charging patients more in drug cost-sharing than the net price of a drug from the previous year.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 4882.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Health care

By Mr. MURPHY:

H.R. 4883.

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 title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the disclosure of certain ownership information relating to health care provider and pharmacy ownership, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 4884.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Mental Health

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 4885.

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:

Health care workforce training

By Mr. PFLUGER:

H.R. 4886.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

The ACES Act directs the Secretary of the VA to work with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to study the prevalence and mortality of cancer among individuals who served as active-duty aircrew in the Armed Forces.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 4887.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power . . . To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Makes violations of certain terms of service and policies by social media platforms and online marketplaces unfair or deceptive acts or practices subject to enforcement by the Federal Trade Commission and not protected by Section 230.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 4888.

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:

Financial Services

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 4889.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Minimum Wage

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 4890.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the Urban Waters Partnership Program.

By Mr. TIMMONS:

H.R. 4891.

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:

A bill to identify use cases and steps for implementation of Multi-Cloud technology in Federal civilian agencies.

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4892.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

healthcare

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 4893.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 e of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This bill standardizes scientific integrity policies and principles across federal agencies.

By Mr. VAN ORDEN:

H.R. 4894.

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:

To amend the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to reauthorize the dairy business innovation initiatives.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. VAN DREW.

H.R. 11: Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SCHOLTEN, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 167: Mr. DUNN of Florida.

H.R. 190: Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 203: Mr. BABIN.

H.R. 394: Mr. PANETTA.

H.R. 537: Mr. LALOTA, Mr. NEAL, and Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 619: Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. VAN DREW, and Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 621: Mr. CAREY, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 705: Mr. ROY and Mrs. CAMMACK.

H.R. 757: Mr. CLYDE.

H.R. 807: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. CLINE, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. CARSON, Mr. BENTZ, and Mr. MCCORMICK.

H.R. 830: Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. THANEDAR, and Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 882: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 895: Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 898: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 913: Mr. ALLRED and Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.

- H.R. 936: Mr. ADERHOLT and Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 977: Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 987: Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 1074: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 1078: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 1101: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 1122: Mr. MILLS and Ms. LETLOW.
H.R. 1128: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.
H.R. 1255: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 1277: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 1403: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 1453: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1468: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1477: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1488: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1495: Mr. STEIL and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1499: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1555: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 1582: Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. AGUILAR, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 1586: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 1597: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 1610: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 1624: Ms. BALINT and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 1634: Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 1684: Ms. PLASKETT and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 1698: Ms. SLOTKIN and Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 1699: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 1770: Mr. YAKYM.
H.R. 1776: Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 1777: Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 1788: Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TRONE, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 1794: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1805: Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1823: Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 2377: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 2389: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mrs. BEATTY, and Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 2403: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 2407: Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COLE, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Mr. SANTOS.
H.R. 2410: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 2441: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 2480: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 2481: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 2547: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 2548: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 2601: Ms. JACKSON LEE.
H.R. 2602: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 2620: Ms. DE LA CRUZ.
H.R. 2630: Ms. KELLY of Illinois and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 2673: Ms. MACE, Mr. CROW, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. VASQUEZ, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 2706: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 2717: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2726: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 2748: Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. KUSTOFF, and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 2775: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY and Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 2783: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PANETTA, and Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 2808: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 2823: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 2825: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2929: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2940: Mr. BURGESS and Ms. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 2982: Mr. KIM of New Jersey and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 2983: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 3005: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 3029: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 3031: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 3036: Ms. CRAIG, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 3039: Mr. BOST.
H.R. 3042: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 3112: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 3113: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 3139: Mr. COSTA, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. LATURNER.
H.R. 3152: Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. MANNING, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mrs. WAGNER.
H.R. 3170: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3176: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 3183: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 3184: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 3199: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 3226: Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 3238: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. GUTHRIE.
H.R. 3244: Ms. PETERSEN.
H.R. 3352: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 3362: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 3366: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3380: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3381: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas.
H.R. 3392: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 3402: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 3413: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 3419: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 3425: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 3430: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 3432: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 3434: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3442: Mr. MCCORMICK and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 3449: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 3481: Ms. BROWN.
H.R. 3497: Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 3519: Mr. KEATING and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 3537: Mrs. HINSON, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 3545: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 3547: Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 3548: Mrs. MCCLELLAN.
H.R. 3561: Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mrs. FLETCHER, and Mr. DELUZZIO.
H.R. 3581: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 3589: Mrs. MCCLELLAN.
H.R. 3600: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 3601: Mr. ALLRED, Mr. VASQUEZ, and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 3608: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 3630: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 3635: Mr. WESTERMAN and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia.
H.R. 3639: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3702: Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H.R. 3773: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 3774: Mr. OGLE, Mrs. LESKO, Ms. FOX, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. RYAN.
H.R. 3792: Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 3808: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 3810: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 3838: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 3843: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 3847: Ms. CHU and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 3865: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3871: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 3873: Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 3876: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 3879: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 3882: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HOULAHAN, and Mr. GALLEGU.
H.R. 3885: Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. COLLINS.
H.R. 3887: Mr. SANTOS, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 3916: Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, and Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 3920: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 3925: Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 3934: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 3940: Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3946: Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.
H.R. 3947: Mr. GAETZ.
H.R. 3975: Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 3989: Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 4015: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ALLRED, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN.
H.R. 4021: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. VALADAO, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 4034: Mrs. TRAHAN.
H.R. 4059: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 4070: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4074: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 4081: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 4092: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 4127: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 4132: Mr. SANTOS, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 4144: Mr. MILLS.
H.R. 4155: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 4167: Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. LAWLER, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4172: Mr. CASE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 4183: Mr. MFUME.
H.R. 4212: Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 4241: Ms. SCHOLTEN and Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4249: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4279: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 4289: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 4295: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. NEGUSE, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 4314: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 4323: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 4328: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 4335: Mr. CARTER of Texas.
H.R. 4360: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.R. 4389: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 4413: Mr. NUNN of Iowa.
H.R. 4417: Mrs. BICE and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 4478: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 4483: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 4485: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 4517: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 4519: Mr. KEATING, Mr. PAPPAS, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 4531: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BARR, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 4547: Mr. CARL.
H.R. 4550: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 4557: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4561: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. LEVIN.
H.R. 4565: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 4584: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 4598: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 4605: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4619: Mr. LAWLER, Mr. BAIRD, and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 4621: Mr. NEHLS.
H.R. 4624: Ms. SCANLON and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4647: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 4661: Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 4672: Mr. MANN and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 4690: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.R. 4691: Mr. MILLS and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 4705: Mr. DUNCAN, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. LAMBORN, and Mr. BURLISON.
H.R. 4707: Mr. BURLISON.
H.R. 4708: Mr. TRONE and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 4709: Mr. CISCOMANI and Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 4710: Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 4716: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. MCCORMICK.
H.R. 4721: Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. CLINE, Mr. ROSE, and Mr. BOST.
H.R. 4724: Mr. MOYLAN.
H.R. 4727: Mr. JACKSON of Texas.
H.R. 4728: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4733: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 4772: Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia.
H.R. 4782: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 4783: Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. CHU, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BEYER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 4785: Ms. MENG and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4795: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H.R. 4796: Ms. STEVENS, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, and Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 4811: Ms. MENG and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4817: Mrs. HAYES, Mr. COHEN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. PORTER, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 4825: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 4829: Mr. WITTMAN and Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4831: Mr. NEWHOUSE and Mr. KILEY.
H.J. Res. 25: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MRVAN, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, and Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.
H.J. Res. 54: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H. Con. Res. 54: Ms. CHU.
H. Con. Res. 56: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H. Res. 65: Mr. ALLRED.
H. Res. 345: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H. Res. 464: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H. Res. 481: Ms. PINGREE.
H. Res. 499: Mr. LAWLER.
H. Res. 526: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H. Res. 561: Mr. THANEDAR.
H. Res. 578: Ms. NORTON, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. TRONE, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. BERA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MULLIN, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. MCCAUL, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. HILL.
H. Res. 579: Mr. CALVERT.
H. Res. 588: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H. Res. 596: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H. Res. 600: Mr. LAWLER, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. MANNING.
H. Res. 605: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H. Res. 609: Mr. VAN DREW and Mr. LAWLER.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2023

No. 128

Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God our refuge and strength, whose compassion encompasses humanity and whose mercy never fails, empower our Senators to be partners with You in Your redeeming purposes for this Earth. Remind them that the only greatness they will ever know is linked to Your transforming might.

Lord, as they strive to please You, make them seekers after peace, justice, and freedom. Transform this storied Chamber of our legislative branch into a place of vision, a lighthouse of hope, and a source of solace for those battered by life's raging storms. May the Members of this body become architects of a new order of peace and justice for our Nation and world.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 25, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2226, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A 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.

Pending:

Schumer (for Reed-Wicker) amendment No. 935, in the nature of a substitute.

Schumer amendment No. 936 (to amendment No. 935), to add an effective date.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

S. 2226

Mr. SCHUMER. First, I want to thank my colleagues for all of the good

work so far on the NDAA, the National Defense Authorization Act. We were very productive last week, and I hope this week can be equally so.

Today, we will begin our work by holding two floor votes, one on Senators CORNYN and CASEY's outbound investment screen amendment and then a vote on the Round-Tester farmlands amendment. Both of these amendments have been in the works for months, and I intend to vote in their favor. I urge my colleagues to do so as well.

I know there are concerns on both sides of the aisle with some of the text in both amendments. Senators CORNYN, CASEY, ROUNDS, TESTER, and I are all committed to working through these concerns in the conference process.

Tomorrow, we will vote on the Warnock-Budd amendment designed to halt debt collector harassment of our servicemembers. Again, I appreciate the cooperation of Senators on both sides as we worked to lock in these votes.

And today and tomorrow, Leader MCCONNELL, Chair REED, Ranking Member WICKER, and I will also work on assembling a second managers' package of amendments.

I hope this effort is successful. It will require everyone to work together, and we cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

Concurrently, we will also keep working on additional floor votes that we might need to finish the NDAA this week. We have a chance to show the American people that the Senate can work productively on our national defense, in stark contrast to the partisan race to the bottom that we saw over in the House.

But the work isn't finished yet. We are going to keep negotiating a path forward, and the Senate will continue working on the NDAA until the job is done. I thank both sides for their efforts.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. President, now on other Senate business, as we move forward with the

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



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S3503

NDAA here on the floor, appropriators also continue working in committee. Last week, the Appropriations Committee marked up and approved three more bills, and, this week, they will hold another markup on Thursday. Just like the NDAA, I am proud to say the appropriations process has been largely bipartisan, precisely as it should be.

And, finally, with so much going on this week, I want to remind my colleagues that we will be holding our third all-Senators briefing on AI, following up on our classified briefing earlier this month. I thank all of my colleagues for making the time to attend these AI briefings.

Today, I also wish to recognize the efforts of the Judiciary Committee, which this afternoon is holding its own hearing on AI regulation. They join the work of many other committees that have moved quickly this year to begin focusing on AI in a very serious way.

The Senate will continue ramping up our focus on AI policy when we begin hosting our Insight Forums later this fall.

So, once again, thank you to my colleagues for their good work on this pressing matter.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

Mr. President, now on the IRA and its 1-year anniversary. We are approaching the 1-year anniversary of the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act. The Inflation Reduction Act, known as the IRA, was one of the most consequential pieces of legislation passed in decades, and in just one year it is already paying huge dividends for the American people, for our economy, and for our environment.

Since we passed the Inflation Reduction Act, costs are down for families. For the first time ever, we made it possible for Medicare to negotiate the price of prescription drugs. Vaccines are free for Medicare beneficiaries. A cap on out-of-pocket drug spending for seniors is just a few months away. No one will pay more than \$2,000 a year for expensive drugs that they need to save their lives.

And, of course, after a lot of hard work, we also capped the price of insulin for seniors on Medicare to \$35—only \$35—a month. Since then, Ely Lilly and Novo Nordisk have also lowered insulin costs for everybody.

And we hope to build on all of this work with additional legislation later this year. Every American deserves to have affordable insulin, not just those on Medicare. Let's not forget that the patent for insulin expired a long time ago. It was invented in 1921 or 1922—I believe it was—by a Canadian inventor who sold the patent for only a dollar. So there is no need to have insulin at the exorbitant high price that it is for those not on Medicare.

The Inflation Reduction Act has also helped countless Americans manage their energy costs. The tax credits and rebates on energy efficiency are helping Americans keep their homes warm-

er in the winter and cooler in the summer, all at a more affordable price, while at the same time reducing our carbon emissions.

And a few weeks ago, we saw that inflation slowed down to just 3 percent, the lowest it has been in over 2 years. In fact, since we passed the Inflation Reduction Act, inflation has been cut by more than half on an annual basis, and wage growth is still continuing to grow. It is now significantly above inflation, meaning workers are taking home more while spending less. That is the emblem of an economy that America needs.

And, of course, the IRA is also paving the way for millions—millions—of new good-paying green jobs. The IRA produced a boom in clean energy investment with nearly 80 new clean energy manufacturing facilities announced across the country.

So when you put it all together, the Inflation Reduction Act is a shining example of the Democratic agenda in action: lower costs for families, higher wages for workers, and millions—millions—of new good-paying jobs for years to come.

Democrats are proud of the progress we have made in implementing our agenda and will keep working until every American feels the benefits.

HONORING OFFICER JACOB J. CHESTNUT AND DETECTIVE JOHN M. GIBSON

Mr. President, finally, on a sad anniversary, yesterday marked 25 years since Detective John Gibson and Officer Jacob Chestnut of the Capitol Police were killed in the line of duty while defending the Capitol Building.

It was a dark day in the history of the Capitol, and it would have been even darker if not for the heroics of Detective Gibson and Officer Chestnut. In the face of grave danger, they acted with extreme valor and courage, undoubtedly saving the lives of many others in the building that day.

We are grateful for their sacrifice 25 years ago and grateful for the work the Capitol Police do every day to keep the Capitol Complex and those who work here safe.

And we pray that their families have some degree of peace, even though they have huge holes in their heart with these terrible losses.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I need to begin my remarks today by acknowledging two solemn anniversaries.

Yesterday marked 25 years since a deranged gunman shattered the calm of a summer afternoon here at the Capitol, 25 years since two brave members

of the United States Capitol Police—Jacob Joseph Chestnut and Detective John Michael Gibson—paid the ultimate price to keep us safe.

The senseless tragedy of July 24, 1998, robbed two families of beloved husbands and fathers. It deprived fellow officers of devoted colleagues and friends. But that day, the sacrifice of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson saved lives. They protected the law-makers and staff who come here to work, the tourists who come here to encounter the heart of our democracy, and the institutions of Congress themselves. And they reminded an entire nation of the vital service the men and women of the Capitol Police render honorably every day.

Time will not heal the pain of losing these fine men, but in a special way today, I know my colleagues join me in extending our sympathies to the families of Jacob Chestnut and John Gibson and to their comrades in the Capitol Police. America will never forget their service and sacrifice.

KENTUCKY FLOODING

Mr. President, tomorrow will mark 1 year since the brave people of Eastern Kentucky endured some of the worst flooding in the Commonwealth's history. Heavy rains and rising water caused mass evacuations and over 40 deaths, including a number of children. Roads turned to rapids, neighborhoods were swept away overnight, and families were left stranded.

In communities like Lost Creek, where I stood with Jackson Mayor Laura Thomas, not a single home was left untouched. From Lost Creek to communities and counties like Pike, Letcher, Knott, and Breathitt, I saw similar scenes of devastation and heard the painful stories of families displaced by the floods. But in the face of devastation, Kentucky's first responders rushed to help neighbors in their time of need.

As the full scope of the disaster became clear, I worked with leaders at FEMA to cut through redtape and encouraged a rapid Federal response. I made sure that Eastern Kentucky received big investments in recovery and that local leaders got more autonomy to restore communities, rebuild homes, and revitalize the economy.

Last year's tragedy tested Eastern Kentucky's resolve, and today, there is still work to be done. But Kentuckians are resilient. We rise up to the big challenges. I will continue to work with folks in Eastern Kentucky to build their communities back even stronger than before.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. President, on an entirely different matter, Democrats on the Judiciary Committee spent last Thursday considering the best way to reach from article I of the Constitution into article III and tell a coequal branch of government how to conduct its business.

The pretext for this latest chapter in Democrats' war on the institution of the Supreme Court was "ethics and

transparency.” They had a supposedly urgent legislative bone to pick with Justices who take vacations and publish children’s books. But for all our colleagues’ heartburn over a textualist Court that won’t reliably affirm their political preferences, for all of the baseless commotion about undue outside influence, Senate Democrats have proven themselves to be quite thoroughly influenced by the far left’s most notorious dark money advocates and discredited causes.

Here are some of the recent marching orders our colleagues have received from the activist left:

“Start taking on the court rhetorically as a political villain.”

“We’d like to amplify anyone who uses this corruption/legitimacy messaging.”

“Restrain MAGA justices immediately.”

“Rip the veil off.”

Well, Mr. President, Senate Democrats have dutifully followed their orders. In their words:

The Supreme Court is “MAGA-captured.”

We have a “stilted, illegitimate” Court.

“We need to expand the Court.”

One Senator let the cat out of the bag, saying that this supposed “ethics” inquiry is just a predicate to Court packing. Quote: “I don’t think we should foreclose that in an amendment.”

Our colleagues understand what the far left expects of them. They know that their party’s base has long since discarded any desire to achieve its goals from within our institutions. So last week, they rammed a blatant power grab through the Judiciary Committee as part of their effort to tear down a branch of government they can’t control.

Well, Senate Republicans are going to keep fighting this dangerous campaign at every step of the way, and in the meantime, our Nation’s highest Court should continue to pay it no mind.

UKRAINE

Mr. President, now on one final matter, Russia’s violence against civil infrastructure in Ukraine continues, but the consequences of this unilateral destruction extend far beyond Ukraine’s borders.

Just a week has passed since Vladimir Putin pulled out of the agreement that had allowed critical Ukrainian grain shipments to transit the Black Sea unharmed. But already, Russia has expanded from threatening vessels carrying the world’s grain supply to attacking grain storage in Odessa and other coastal cities.

Yesterday’s attacks are the latest in the wave of violence against agricultural infrastructure that will punish the world’s poorest and hungriest nations. Leaders in the developing world who have hesitated to cast blame in this conflict should take a careful look at Russia’s unprovoked behavior.

But Russia hasn’t limited its non-military targets to grain supplies. On Sunday, Russia struck Odessa’s largest Orthodox cathedral with a deadly missile barrage. So much for Russian propaganda efforts to present the Kremlin as a defender of the faithful. Of course, Putin, like many of his Soviet predecessors, has already done so much to corrupt and control the Russian Orthodox Church that we should not be surprised by his disrespect for religious institutions.

So let’s be very clear. A regime that exploits the clerics as propagandists and agents of influence and that destroys historical houses of worship is not—not—a friend to believers.

Now, as Ukraine’s counteroffensive makes slow progress, the United States and our allies can be sure of a few things.

First, our friends are using the munitions we have sent them, including the cluster munitions that are now hammering Russian positions in occupied Ukraine.

Second, at every step of the way, the Biden administration’s indecision and inaction have meant certain key capabilities have arrived late—late—to the battlefield.

And, third, additional long-range firearms would help Ukraine put Russian invaders on the back foot as our friends have already demonstrated by successfully using British Storm Shadow cruise missiles.

So the Biden administration needs to start moving at the speed of relevance—at the speed of relevance—and give our friends in Ukraine the lethal tools they need to finish their fight.

For our part, as we work to provide for the common defense, the Senate must invest in a defense industrial base that can sustain America’s support for Ukraine while equipping our own forces to deter further threats from Russia and China.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota.

HONORING OFFICER JAKE WALLIN

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, tomorrow, thousands of people will gather at Scheels Arena in Fargo, ND, to pay a final tribute to a hero. I wish I could be there to celebrate his life as well. It was a life that was well lived while being far too short. Fargo Police Officer Jake Wallin was laid to rest on Saturday in the small Midwest town of Pequot Lakes, MN.

Eleven days ago, on July 14, Officer Wallin was killed as he and fellow officers Andrew Dotas, Tyler Hawes, and Zachary Robinson responded to, really, a routine fender bender, where they were ambushed by an uninvolved assailant who was armed with several weapons, 1,800 rounds of ammunition, and multiple homemade explosive devices—clearly intent on going on a murder spree. Officer Robinson, the last cop standing, swiftly responded to neutralize the threat, fatally shooting the hate-filled killer.

Officer Wallin was murdered for simply being a cop, a peace officer, helping

ordinary people in need of assistance—a life-long public servant gunned down simply because of the uniform and badge that he wore. He has been, is, and will forever be a hero to our community.

Jake grew up in St. Michael, MN, and enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard after graduating from high school. He served our country on deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan before returning home and joining the Fargo Police Department in April of this year—3 months on the job.

Like so many boys and girls, Jake wanted to be a police officer more than anything. In fact, his father Jeff said in an interview that he “could never have stopped him” from joining the force. He always wanted a job with purpose behind it and said he didn’t want to work behind a desk.

He said, in fact:

I want to be doing something I can tell myself at the end of the day that I made a difference somehow.

That, colleagues, is the quote of an American hero. We need more heroes like Jake who are ready to answer the call.

In the time since Officer Wallin’s passing, Fargo hardware stores have experienced a phenomenon that many outside Minnesota would find baffling. Across the city, stores are almost completely sold out of blue light bulbs as people have rushed out to purchase them and light their porches and their homes blue in support of Jake and the Fargo Police Department’s officers.

I wish every State were like North Dakota and every American had the same respect and admiration for our law enforcement officers. In our neck of the woods, we pass these values down to our children as we teach them the importance of law and order and as we hope to inspire them to, one day, be police officers like Officer Wallin—protecting and serving their communities.

Our actions matter whether we want to acknowledge it or not. The end result of ruthless attacks on the men and women in uniform, whether with our words or actions or calls to defund the police, have never been clearer than in what transpired in Fargo just 11 days ago.

We do not know the assailant’s motives, but it is abundantly clear that he singled out the officers in his pursuit of a sick, twisted plan to wreak havoc in our community. He sought them out because of the job that they were doing.

While we are slowly learning the details of this senseless, tragic day, we know Officer Wallin is a hero who died while serving his community. Heroes like Jake bravely respond to the call and serve without hesitating, without knowing what might be around the corner or at the end of the parking lot.

Kris and I are praying for the recovery of fellow officers Andrew Dotas and Tyler Hawes, as well as bystander Karlee Koswick, the entire Fargo Police Department, and fellow officers

throughout our community, our State, and our country.

We also pray that God's peace—the peace that Scripture tells us “passes all understanding”—will come to Jake's fiancée Winter, to his parents Jeff and Amy, to his brother Brady, and to his brothers and sisters in blue as they mourn this terrible loss.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jake Wallin's obituary be printed in the RECORD.

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

OBITUARY

Jake Ryan Wallin, 23, died in the line of duty as a Fargo Police Officer on July 14, 2023.

He was born November 23, 1999, in South Carolina, the son of Jeff Wallin and Amy (Shuler) Wallin.

Jake grew up in St. Michael and graduated from St. Michael-Albertville High School and Alexandria Technical and Community College. He attended the American Military University. He served in the Minnesota National Guard and was deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq before returning stateside to make his home in Fargo, ND. He became a Fargo Police officer in April of 2023 and was on duty at the time of his death.

Jake wanted to live a life of purpose, where what he did meant something at the end of the day. His short adult years were spent in service to others. Not only to his country and his community, he was also dedicated to and loved dearly, his friends, family, fiancée, and his dog, Thor. His smile brightened any room. His laughter was contagious. He enjoyed life and all it had to offer. A life that was cut short doing a job he loved.

Jake is survived by his loving parents, Jeff and Amy (Shuler) Wallin, his beloved brother Brady, all of Saint Michael; his fiancée, Winter Malone, of Fargo; his grandparents John and Carolee Wallin of Pequot Lakes, Minn., and grandparents Jerry and Deborah Shuler, of Rock Hill, South Carolina, along with his aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A funeral service will take place at Pequot Lakes High School at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 22, at 30805 Olson Street, Pequot Lakes, MN 56472.

A private service will be held graveside at Greenwood Cemetery in Nisswa following the service.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Soldier's 6 at Soldiers6.com.

Arrangements by Kline Funeral Home, Pequot Lakes, MN.

Mr. CRAMER. I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I rise today and join my colleague Senator CRAMER to pay tribute to a truly exceptional young man, Fargo Police Officer Jake Wallin.

Tomorrow, the Fargo community will gather to honor Officer Wallin, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on July 14. The Senate's debate on the National Defense Authorization Act prevents both myself and Senator CRAMER from being there in person. So we wanted to do what we could to pay our respects here to Officer Wallin on the Senate floor.

As a member of the Minnesota National Guard, he served both in Afghanistan and in Iraq. His platoon captain had this to say of Officer Wallin:

Jake was that individual that you could always trust. Any time that you asked him to step up or do anything, there was no hesitation.

That dedication to service continued after his deployments to the Middle East. Following his time overseas, Jake made his home in Fargo, ND. He graduated from the Fargo Police Academy and joined the Fargo Police Department because, as he put it, “I've always wanted to work in some sort of position that had purpose behind my job. Police officer is always what came to me.”

Jake had only been on the job since April, but his impact on the community will not be forgotten. Police Chief Zibolski said that, even in his final moments, he was thinking of his fellow officers and trying to save the lives of those fellow officers.

My wife Mikey and I send our sincerest condolences also to his parents Jeff and Amy, his brother Brady, his fiancée Winter, and all of Jake's loved ones.

At the same time, we continue to pray for his fellow officers, especially Officers Andrew Dotas and Tyler Hawes, who were injured in the ambush. They were both shot as well. We are also grateful to Officer Zach Robinson, who was able to put an end to this horrific incident and whose bravery will never be forgotten. These peace officers have a long road to recovery and will continue to be in our prayers.

This tragic event is a reminder of the dangers our law enforcement officials face each and every day and of the enormous debt we owe them and their families for the sacrifices they make to keep our communities safe. We are truly grateful to our peace officers—all of them—whether they are in North Dakota or anywhere across this amazing country. We truly value them. We owe them so much, and we are truly grateful to all of them.

Particularly, we honor Officer Jake Wallin for making the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. May God bless him and his family.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from West Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO JOEL BRUBAKER

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I rise today to bid farewell to a good friend, a great confidant, and a strong leader: my chief of staff of over 18 years, Joel Brubaker.

I am joined in the Galleries by many folks who have worked with him, who know him, and who love him just as I do.

Joel started with me in the year 2005, when I was just entering my third term in the U.S. House. His experience in working with Bill Shuster and Bob Walker—both Pennsylvania Representatives from Joel's home State of Pennsylvania—prepared him well to head up a growing and aggressive congressional office from West Virginia.

Joel's path to Capitol Hill started in Lancaster, PA. He was born there and

was raised by his mother Eleanor. I haven't had the chance to meet Eleanor yet, but from what Joel has told me, she is a strong and independent woman.

Joel is also the youngest of four boys. My husband and I have always said that, no matter what the problem is, big or small, Joel handles it exactly like the youngest of four boys would—calmly, for the most part, and like it is no big deal.

After graduating from high school, Joel went to Gettysburg College and, later, picked up an MBA at American University.

His talents as a legislative director for then-Congressman Shuster led me to realize that those very same talents were perfect for our office to help us make decisions, to hire people. And do you know what? The results speak for themselves.

Last week, we had a gathering of well-wishers to send Joel off. The room was full—full—of folks from hockey players to former employees to co-workers to friends from West Virginia to neighbors and family, including my very own family, because our families are very much together. It was great to see so many individuals from all walks of life gathered in one place to wish Joel a good sendoff from a place that he truly loves.

Speaking of things that Joel truly loves, he has quite a few favorites in his life. First of all, Katrina, his wife of many years—who is one of my favorites too—and their two terrific children, Kat and Heath. Believe it or not, I remember Kat and Heath's births and their birthdays. Kat was a page here a couple of weeks ago, and we loved it. In fact, Katrina was 6 months pregnant with Kat when I interviewed Joel for the job of chief of staff, and now Kat is going to be away for her freshman year at Ole Miss.

Ice hockey is another one of Joel's favorite things. Whether it is pond hockey in freezing New Hampshire, going to a Caps game, watching his kids play hockey, or the Capitol Members hockey game—which, I must admit, he is a star there—he just loves the game. And he has the lineup of framed jerseys in his office to prove it.

Joel loves beef jerky; Chick-fil-A; Disney World and crazy rides; decorating his house outrageously for Halloween and Christmas—for those of you who live in Arlington, yes, that is his house—politics, especially West Virginia politics; and the Fourth of July. He always attends the national Independence Day celebration on the Capitol lawn.

That brings me to another strong attribute that we will miss about Joel. Joel loves his country and our traditional American values. He has not—and never has been—one to shy away from talking about what a great country we have. And he is grateful. He is grateful for that.

Joel has a great sense of integrity, and he is always careful—very careful—to make sure that we are all working within the boundaries of our office—and for me, especially, my oath of office. I appreciate his very keen sense of right and wrong, and I will miss the way we both see our duties through the same lens.

Now, Joel is not perfect. He will not fly into our great State of West Virginia, and he hasn't for many years. Apparently, one flight was just a little bit too much for him over those mountains, so he began to name our airlines "Air Fallujah."

He almost stayed overnight one time in my district office to fend off some very aggressive protesters, and he is known to have a camping-style cot that is very unique that he used in our campaign office once upon a time. Rumor has it the cot still exists today, despite Katrina's best efforts to get rid of it.

You could always tell you are getting under Joel's skin because his voice always raises an extra octave.

Apparently, Joel and I had three disagreements over 18 years. But do you know what? He tells me—and I am pretty sure—I think I won all of them.

Joel's sense of humor has carried us through tough times, hard campaigns, long days and nights, missed vacations, and challenges associated with larger and larger responsibilities.

I personally will always appreciate his affection for both of my parents and his compassion for the difficulties of watching them decline. Our whole family will miss Joel, because we really are parts of each other's families.

Joel has an enormous affection for West Virginia. He is a Mountaineer and holds the same sense of pride in our foundations and aspirations as if he had been there his whole life.

As I have often said in my speeches, and I will say to him: The country roads of West Virginia will always welcome you home, Joel. Good luck. We will miss you. You will always be a big part of my life and our lives. Eighteen years is a long time, but it has all been great. Thanks.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Hawaii.

NOMINATION OF JULIE A. SU

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise to express my support and appreciation for Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su and all she is doing to uplift workers and businesses across our country.

Acting Secretary Su has been leading the Department of Labor for nearly 5 months. She previously served as Deputy Secretary of Labor. In both positions, she has shown her ability to bring people together—labor and management—to resolve disputes. She did so to avert a freight railroad strike, and recently, as Acting Secretary, she helped avert a catastrophic strike at ports all across the west coast. Had major ports across our country come to a screeching halt, our country would have been subjected to massive supply

chain disruptions, costing our economy billions of dollars.

As Gene Seroka, director of the Port of Los Angeles, put it, Julie was "a constant and reassuring voice of reason that helped to keep both sides at the bargaining table and focused on resolution."

As she often does, Julie got the job done without fanfare or attention. She didn't ask for credit or recognition; she simply did the job. And that is what she has done throughout her career, whether while fighting for undocumented garment workers in California or helping the Biden-Harris administration create more than 13 million jobs.

Julie Su isn't a politician. She has dedicated her life to fighting for working people and leveling the playing field between labor and Big Business. She knows that the work of the Department of Labor isn't about her; it is about the millions of working people who keep our economy and our country moving forward.

Now, Mr. President, when I first immigrated to this country, we just had one suitcase, and our first home was a boarding house where we shared a single bed sleeping sideways.

My mother's perseverance eventually enabled her to get a job at the Honolulu Advertiser, our local newspaper. And while the job was nonunion when she was first hired, my mother and her coworkers ultimately came together to form a union. It was then that Mom's pay increased, providing the stability that allowed our family to buy our very first home, and, literally, we entered the middle class.

Unions are critical at a time when economic disparity continues to grow. We are seeing a resurgence of labor organizing across our country. From Honolulu to Hollywood and far beyond, actors, writers, teamsters, and so many others are organizing to demand fair pay, decent treatment, and basic dignity. At a time like this, we need a Labor Secretary who can bring labor and management together. Julie Su is that person.

Julie has broad support from businesses and labor alike, garnering the endorsement of groups including the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Small Business Majority, the AFL-CIO, and dozens of labor unions across the country. Given her experience, her qualifications, and those endorsements, it is hard to understand my colleagues' objections to her nomination, especially by those who voted to confirm her as Deputy Secretary of Labor in 2021.

Over the last few months, Julie has endured lies about her record, condescending questions about her qualifications, and an unprecedented campaign by special interests—some big businesses—to deny her nomination. They are going so far as to put up anti-Julie Su billboards in a number of States, all to persuade certain Senators to not vote for her confirmation.

In spite of this coordinated smear campaign, as far as I am concerned, Julie has a strong commitment to public service and to doing the job President Biden asked her to do. She will persevere.

Like millions of working people all across our country, I am grateful for Julie's perseverance and her leadership. I hope my colleagues will, at some point soon, acknowledge her record of accomplishments, her ability to do the job, and support her nomination. Julie not only deserves our support; she has earned it. In the meantime, I know that she will continue to do her job, and our country will be better for it.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

HUNTER BIDEN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today, I would like to address the unclassified, FBI-generated 1023 form that I made public last week. This is a 1023 that Director Wray refused to admit existed until I and Chairman COMER told him that we had read the document.

The FBI provided a highly redacted version to the House Committee on Oversight and in the process ignored the Senate access to that document. That version redacted references to the alleged audio recordings between then-Vice President Biden, Hunter Biden, and the foreign national. It also redacted references to text messages and financial records that allegedly existed to prove the criminal act was done. Those redactions are an obstructive conduct by the United States Government. Why? Because this was an unclassified document. It is not even marked "law enforcement sensitive."

By the way, Justice Department and FBI leaks exposed the source well before the 1023 became public.

Now there have been allegations in the media that this 1023 consists of unverified information. That didn't stop the media's breathless reporting for years about the unverified and very famous Steele dossier. But the Justice Department and the FBI have not told us what they did to investigate the 1023 document. So since the FBI hasn't told us anything about their investigation of the 1023, if they did any, how does the media then know that it is unverified?

From what I have seen, much of the media's reporting has missed the essential question. That essential question is this: Did the Justice Department and the FBI follow normal investigative process and procedures to run the information down or did they sweep this information under the rug?

Now, we have had several media outlets interviewing law enforcement sources with knowledge of the 1023 who start to answer that very question, so I am going to refer to some of these reports from the media.

One law enforcement source reported that "this was a confidential human

source that had a long relationship with the FBI, had given information that was used in multiple other investigations unrelated to Burisma or the Bidens.”

That law enforcement source said there was a “fight for a month” to get the FBI handler to reinterview the FBI source. That reinterview was necessary because a separate 1023 mentioned Hunter Biden, and that reinterview ultimately produced the 1023 that I made public last week.

When seeing that, my first question was: Why the fight to reinterview the FBI source? That is the fight that supposedly took a month that I previously referred to. Then the law enforcement source said:

We got that report back and we’re, like, holy smokes, this is something.

The news reports also show that the Justice Department and FBI personnel were able to validate some claims in the 1023 report without compulsory process. For example, a news report quotes a law enforcement source:

There were multiple meetings alleged overseas. Some of the confidential human source’s claims were corroborated against the confidential human source travel records and contemporary knowledge from the handler about him attending meetings with Zlochevsky and other people present.

The news report also notes that public records also validate some of the 1023 claims about Zlochevsky’s efforts to buy into the American energy market. A separate news report, based on a law enforcement source with knowledge, says that Weiss’s team was briefed on the validations, which then begs the question, What did the investigators do to investigate?

Well, it has been reported that a law enforcement source believed U.S. Attorney Weiss was reluctant to pursue leads because of political sensitivities. More precisely, Weiss’ team was concerned about investigating because it would involve then-Presidential candidate Biden. Well, that didn’t stop the Justice Department when Trump was a candidate the first or second time.

I would be remiss if I didn’t mention a July 25, 2022, letter that I wrote to the Justice Department and FBI. That letter talked about the FBI shutting down verified and verifiable investigative avenues into Hunter Biden separate from the ongoing U.S. Attorney Weiss’ investigation and the 1023. So it is clear that even if information is verified, the FBI has shut it down in the past if it relates to the Biden family.

Former Attorney General Bill Barr has said that the 1023 was credible enough to be passed on to Delaware for “further investigation.” He has also said that a review was done to ensure the 1023 wasn’t disinformation before passing it on.

Director Wray, likewise, informed me and Chairman COMER of its credibility, noting that it is relevant to an ongoing investigative matter. This also took place in the phone call that COMER and

I had with Wray. Wray also didn’t say that it is part of Giuliani’s information, and he didn’t tell me and COMER that it is the product of any disinformation.

Accordingly, I want to make clear what my oversight focus is and will be: holding the Justice Department and the FBI accountable to explain to the American people what they did to investigate and what they found. To do that, congressional oversight must focus on the Justice Department and the FBI’s investigative process and whether the U.S. Attorney Weiss’s scope includes bribery.

Congress and the public must get answers to these questions: What did the Justice Department and FBI do to investigate the information contained in the 1023? Did the Justice Department and FBI follow normal investigative process and procedures or try to sweep it all under the rug because of political bias? More precisely, did the FBI and DOJ seek to obtain the evidence referenced in the document? Did the DOJ and FBI seek to interview individuals relating to the 1023? If not, why not? If so, one way or the other, what did they find?

Here we are in July 2023, and we are talking about a June 2020 document. The FBI can easily answer those questions. The fact that they haven’t indicates to me that the Justice Department and FBI have not followed normal investigative protocol.

Congress must also find out the true extent to which the August 2020 assessment created by Brian Auten was used to shut down the Biden family investigative leads. For example, we know that the FBI had at one time over a dozen sources who provided potentially criminal information relating to Hunter Biden. Did the August 2020 assessment shut any of them down?

In conclusion, as we prepare to celebrate National Whistleblower’s Day, let’s not forget that the only reason why Congress has been able to make this information public is because of brave and very patriotic whistleblowers who have approached my office.

Remember this: To date, the Justice Department and the FBI have not disputed any of their allegations. Further, remember that it includes information relating to this 1023 that I made public, and some of this information goes back to October of last year. During that period of time, the Department of Justice and the FBI haven’t disputed any of that information. And a perfect chance for Christopher Wray, Director of the FBI, to do that would have been in that telephone conversation that he had with Chairman COMER and me.

Having given you all this information, that ought to tell you something about what the FBI is up to, what the DOJ is up to. And the information I have given you today ought to tell you that there is plenty out there in the media, and the media should not be questioning whether or not this information in the 1023 has any validity.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Ohio.

TRIBUTE TO AMY KAPLAN

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize longtime friend Amy Kaplan, who retired this month after a long career of service.

For the past 17 years, Amy has led the Jewish Federation of Cleveland as the vice president of external affairs. She has been a staunch advocate for Cleveland’s vibrant Jewish community on a range of issues.

I was speaking to the Ambassador from Israel today, Ambassador Herzog, about the vibrancy and the reach of the Cleveland Jewish community; how proud I was to have interacted with them for so many years.

Amy, herself, followed in her parents’ footsteps when she joined the Federation. Her mother was a staff member, and her father volunteered there often. Amy shares their commitment to their community and to their faith.

Her work has made a difference for so many Clevelanders in the communities the Federation serves—those who are too often overlooked and those who too often don’t have a voice in our government.

She has worked with me and my staff to combat anti-Semitism, strengthen Federal resources for our seniors, and to protect Medicaid from cuts. She led advocacy efforts on bail reform, voting rights, and gun violence, and oversees the Federation’s community relations work.

Amy has ensured that the issues most important to the Cleveland Jewish community are on the agenda.

She has been recognized over and over for her dedication to the community. She was named a “Difference Maker” by the Cleveland Jewish News, and she did it while caring for a family.

I hope in retirement, Amy will get to spend even more time with her husband Ira and their children and grandchildren.

Amy will be missed at the Federation. I am confident this won’t be the end of her work with the Jewish community and won’t be the end of her positive impact on Northeast Ohio.

In his letter from the Birmingham jail, Dr. King wrote:

Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability.

Now, those were Dr. King’s words, I would add, Progress rolls in because of advocates and activists like Amy Kaplan who listen, who learn, who work with communities to make a difference.

Congratulations, Amy, on your well-earned retirement. Thank you, again, for your service to our community and to our State and wish you the best in your retirement. We look forward to working with your team to keep pushing for these important priorities and to make sure that Cleveland’s and all of Ohio’s Jewish community continues to have a voice in our government.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Tennessee.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, this month, millions of Americans received a very rude awakening as they saw the horrors of human trafficking playing out on the big screen.

I say that they had a rude awakening because until very recently, the fight against modern-day slavery has been an uphill battle on multiple fronts.

Transnational criminal organizations have turned the buying and selling of human beings into a \$150 billion-a-year enterprise, and current policy has made it almost impossible to catch them.

Of course, the work being done on a Federal, State, and local level to help trafficking victims hasn't been made any easier by the astonishing number of people who insist that human trafficking is a myth or that things aren't nearly as bad as advocates make it out to be.

That is some truly impressive spin. It is really quite disgusting. And right now, the American people are wondering why that is the message that, apparently, is driving this administration and, unfortunately, some of my Senate Democratic colleagues when we have so much evidence to the contrary.

Human trafficking is an epidemic. Tennesseans have asked me, and they want to know, how could this happen in this country? How could this human trafficking issue have gotten to be so bad, and what are we going to do to stop it?

I will tell you, the data does not lie. In the interest of setting the record straight, I want to start by offering to my colleagues a few statistics showing us just how bad things have gotten for the victims of human trafficking. That \$150 billion-per-year figure that I mentioned a few moments ago doesn't come from me; it doesn't come from a non-profit. This comes from this administration's Department of Homeland Security. That is their assessment. That is their number.

If you want to look it up, I encourage you. Go to the report that DHS issued in January; you are going to find that stat on page 2 of that report. Yes, indeed. Selling of human beings, trafficking of human beings is, indeed, \$150 billion-a-year business. And it is happening right here, every community, every State, all across this country. Should we accept that? Absolutely not.

Here is another one for you: DHS also estimates that there are—get this number—30 million victims of sex trafficking and forced labor around the world. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation estimates that, on average in the United States, a child is bought or sold for sex every 2 minutes. Think about that. Every 2 minutes a child—a child—is bought or sold for sex every 2 minutes.

This is what is going on. This is what is happening right here: modern-day slavery. You better believe it is modern-day slavery.

In fiscal year 2022, DHS alone—just DHS—helped 765 confirmed victims of human trafficking. They initiated another 1,373 cases and made 3,655 arrests. As of this January, they had convicted 638 traffickers and indicted another 1,045.

In 2022, the number of investigations, arrests, indictments, and convictions all increased from the previous year, so it is safe to say the cartels and the traffickers, they are gaining ground. They are gaining power.

And, again, this is not my educated guess. You can find every bit of that information on page 6 of the report that DHS put out in January of this year.

So human trafficking is not a myth. Our concern is not overblown. These criminals—criminals—violent, vicious criminals are hiding in plain view in your cities, in your communities, in your States. They are selling human beings. They are setting a price. It is disgusting.

In 2021, the National Human Trafficking Hotline received 525 reports from good Samaritans in Tennessee concerned about potential human trafficking. That year, advocates identified 152 confirmed cases involving 217 victims. That is 217 people identified by one organization in one State. Think about that one. And that stat is 2 years old.

Human trafficking has grown from a \$500 million-a-year business about 4 years ago to \$150 billion-a-year business. And Tennessee is not the only one. There were 217 victims in Tennessee; Massachusetts had 143 victims; Michigan identified 429 victims; California, 2,122 victims; Georgia, 1,065 victims. You know, the list goes on and on. Texas, 1,702 victims. It is all there on the National Human Trafficking Hotline website.

If you drill down to the local level, you are going to see it gets even worse, because this is where the survivors come for help. The Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking, which serves survivors in the Knoxville, TN, area, handled 408 referrals in 2022. The situation was dire, or so they thought. And, yes, indeed, it is.

But guess what? This year it is worse. I know that other organizations around our State in Jackson, in Franklin, Chattanooga, Nashville, Memphis, Powell, Dayton, and Cleveland, they are all telling me the same story.

I don't know how any serious person could look at these numbers and claim that the horror stories these advocates have heard are part of some elaborate conspiracy theory to say that human trafficking is not happening; to say that, well, it is a falsehood meant to distract. No, it is happening. The stats show it.

Now, we do know for a fact that our wide-open southern border is enabling this disgusting practice. Many of the people who fall into the hands of the cartel smugglers are trafficked by their captors. Yes, indeed. Many are

women. Many are children. They are physically, mentally, emotionally, and sexually abused as they make their journey to that southern border.

But don't take my word for it; ask the Department of Homeland Security. Now, they know it is an issue, so they have allocated more than 60 million to the Counter Human Smuggler campaign and sent more than 1,300 personnel to the southern border and into Latin America to try and stop it.

DHS has identified a problem at the border, so why can't Congress put politics aside and do the same thing and admit that these children, these women, need our attention and our help. This is a humanitarian crisis. This year, I have introduced two bills that would throw a wrench in the operations of these trafficking rings and help the border patrol and the local law enforcement regain some ground in this fight that they seem to be losing.

The SAVE Girls Act would establish a \$50 million grant program for States, localities, NGOs that work to prevent the smuggling and trafficking of young women and girls.

We know that most of the innocent people who end up in the hands of sex traffickers are, indeed, young women and girls. And even if they do manage to escape, we see many of these women fall victim to domestic violence and to drug abuse.

They are trapped in a system. If the Federal Government is not going to secure that border and stop this, it ends up with local entities. That is why the SAVE Girls Act would put resources into the hands of these local law enforcement agencies and NGOs who are trying to rescue and save these women and girls from this.

Heightened border security is a necessity, but it won't save the women who have already been forced into servitude. And as I said, many of them are in your communities. They are hiding in plain sight.

Having those funds locally will help to save them. But there are also things we can do directly at the border to pull young women out of the hands of traffickers before they disappear into the country.

Last month, I reintroduced my End Child Trafficking Now Act, which would crack down on the practice of "child recycling," which is horrendous. Absolutely disgusting.

It would mandate DNA testing for migrants coming across the border with children. My bill would require up to a 10-year prison sentence for any person who lies about their familial relationship with a minor. If this sounds familiar, it is because it is an old policy that was very successful in the previous administration because of the data that was collected from that one pilot program. What we learned from that was that 30 percent of the children presenting at that southern border—30 percent—have no relation at all whatsoever to the adult who is bringing them to the border. These children are

enslaved. And what happens? That adult gets through, they send that child back to the cartel, and they attach them to another adult the cartel is trying to get into the country.

Passing the End Child Trafficking Now Act and implementing DNA testing at that border would help save lives. This is something we should do on a bipartisan basis.

The problem with human trafficking is intertwined with so many other issues that we are charged with handling every day. You can find connections to border policy, immigration law, criminal justice, and even to the NDAA and defense policies.

As many of my colleagues know, I filed the End Child Trafficking Now Act in the form of an amendment to the NDAA, and I have asked for a floor vote on this issue. The U.S. Senate should be heard on this issue. So of course I ask for support of that amendment, but no matter what people decide to do on this, I would remind my Democratic colleagues that they cannot hide from this issue just because it would force them to ask some serious questions about the policies of this administration.

The American people are figuring this out. Every 2 minutes, a child is trafficked and sold for sex. What they have seen this month has driven them to start asking questions, and I am so glad so many Tennesseans have paid attention to the media around this issue.

The Nashville Anti-Human Trafficking Coalition normally welcomes about three new volunteers every week. Now, on average, 38 new volunteers per week are reaching out and saying: Tell me what I can do to help rid our community, our State, our Nation of this problem. I hope other organizations across the State and the country are seeing the same wave of support.

Advocates who work with victims of sex and labor trafficking refer to this as modern-day slavery. If you look at the pictures and if you listen to these survivors who have been rescued tell their stories about their experience, you would see why. They have been raped, abused, stripped of their dignity. They live in fear. Many of them have been in bondage so long that they have lost their sense of self.

These people deserve better from us and from this administration and our President. At the very least, they deserve a government that recognizes that, indeed, their lives are worth saving.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

AMENDMENT NO. 931

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today to respectfully request bipartisan support from my Senate colleagues on the Cornyn-Casey amendment No. 931, the Outbound Investment Transparency Act. This amendment would establish a program to provide

visibility on U.S. investments going to the People's Republic of China and critical supply chains and technology sectors.

Here is what the amendment does. The proposed amendment would establish a program led by the Department of the Treasury, in coordination with the Department of Commerce, that would require U.S. companies planning to invest in national security technology sectors in countries of concern to notify—notify—the Department of the Treasury before those deals are completed.

This proposal has been vetted by industry, by the Senate Banking Committee, and by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Those are the fundamentals of this amendment.

We all know that this year's Defense bill that we are going to be voting on today that we started last week tackles the toughest national security issues that face our Nation, and technological competition with the People's Republic of China is certainly at the top of that list.

Right now, we are in competition with a communist government that doesn't play by the rules. The Chinese Government employs economic espionage, and it exploits the United States' open research and innovation to build up its own capabilities.

U.S. companies are sending capital, intellectual property, and innovation to the People's Republic of China, fueling its advance in dual-use critical technological areas.

A recent report by the National Security Advisor in the last administration, GEN H.R. McMaster, states as follows:

Outbound investment harms U.S. strategic interests when it facilitates inappropriate technology transfer, allows for underinvestment in domestic capabilities, or undermines the long-term competitiveness of American firms.

Testimony before the Senate Intelligence Committee—the committee on which both Senator CORNYN and I sit—noted that in 2020, U.S. companies' capital investment in China totaled over \$200 billion just in artificial intelligence, so-called AI—\$200 billion just in AI—over \$21 billion in semiconductors, and over \$50 billion in biotechnology. These numbers don't even account for the transfer of operational know-how and intellectual property. You can't even quantify those values. We need a targeted response to these risks to our national security.

Again, this amendment would require U.S. companies planning to invest in national security technology sectors in countries of concern to notify only—to notify the Department of the Treasury before those deals are completed. We need this type of outbound investment notification to understand just how much critical technology we are transferring to our adversaries via these capital flows. With this information in

hand, we can begin to take control of our own economic future. By utilizing this information, we can make determinations as to how to protect U.S. talent, U.S. technology, and U.S. supply chains.

This issue—and this is true of a lot of the Defense bill—this issue transcends party lines and gets to the heart of one of the most significant national security threats that we must confront.

I want to thank Senator CORNYN for his strong bipartisan work on this issue over the last 3 years.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of amendment No. 931.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. TESTER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

FOOD SECURITY

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, we are going to be voting on an amendment here in a few minutes that I want to rise in support of. It was introduced by my friend the Senator from South Dakota, Senator ROUNDS.

This amendment aims to protect American food security against attacks by foreign adversaries—in particular, these four foreign adversaries: China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea.

As many of you know, I am a third-generation farmer. I know firsthand that food security is national security. It is that plain. It is that simple. Allowing our foreign adversaries to invest in American farmland and agribusiness is a direct threat to our food supply.

Preventing our adversaries, our enemies from acquiring land near sensitive military sites—sites like Air Force bases, like the one in Montana, Malmstrom Air Force Base—is a no-brainer, and now we need to protect the rest of our food system.

This amendment will enable the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States—otherwise known as CFIUS—to review all significant agriculture-related foreign investments, and it will empower the Agency to prohibit future purchases of farmland by our foreign adversaries.

Our amendment also includes commonsense provisions that protect the rights of U.S. citizens and permanent residents and small farmers and business owners.

This is a critical step toward making sure we aren't handing over valuable American assets to foreign entities that want to replace us as the world's leading military and economic power.

I would urge all of my colleagues in this room and the ones who are going to come to this room to support this commonsense solution that will protect our Nation's food supply and defend our country against folks who would like to see us cease to exist.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AMENDMENT NO. 931

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, is it timely for me to call up my amendment No. 931?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. It is.

Mr. CORNYN. I would do so and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CORNYN], for himself and others, proposes an amendment numbered 931 to amendment No. 935.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To provide for an investment screening mechanism relating to covered sectors)

At the end of subtitle G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1083. PROTECTION OF COVERED SECTORS.

The Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4501 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“TITLE VIII—PROTECTION OF COVERED SECTORS

“SEC. 801. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Ways and Means, the Committee on Financial Services, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

“(2) COUNTRY OF CONCERN.—The term ‘country of concern’ means, subject to such regulations as may be prescribed in accordance with section 806, a country specified in section 4872(d)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

“(3) COVERED ACTIVITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to such regulations as may be prescribed in accordance with section 806, and except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘covered activity’ means any activity engaged in by a United States person in a related to a covered sector that involves—

“(i) an acquisition by such United States person of an equity interest or contingent equity interest, or monetary capital contribution, in a covered foreign entity, directly or indirectly, by contractual commitment or otherwise, with the goal of generating income or gain;

“(ii) an arrangement for an interest held by such United States person in the short- or long-term debt obligations of a covered foreign entity that includes governance rights that are characteristic of an equity investment, management, or other important rights, as defined in regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806;

“(iii) the establishment of a wholly owned subsidiary in a country of concern, such as a greenfield investment, for the purpose of production, design, testing, manufacturing, fabrication, or development related to one or more covered sectors;

“(iv) the establishment by such United States person of a joint venture in a country of concern or with a covered foreign entity for the purpose of production, design, testing, manufacturing, fabrication, or research involving one or more covered sectors, or other contractual or other commitments involving a covered foreign entity to jointly research and develop new innovation, including through the transfer of capital or intellectual property or other business proprietary information; or

“(v) the acquisition by a United States person with a covered foreign entity of—

“(I) operational cooperation, such as through supply or support arrangements;

“(II) the right to board representation (as an observer, even if limited, or as a member) or an executive role (as may be defined through regulation) in a covered foreign entity;

“(III) the ability to direct or influence such operational decisions as may be defined through such regulations;

“(IV) formal governance representation in any operating affiliate, like a portfolio company, of a covered foreign entity; or

“(V) a new relationship to share or provide business services, such as but not limited to financial services, marketing services, maintenance, or assembly functions, related to a covered sectors.

“(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The term ‘covered activity’ does not include—

“(i) any transaction the value of which the Secretary of the Treasury determines is de minimis, as defined in regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806;

“(ii) any category of transactions that the Secretary determines is in the national interest of the United States, as may be defined in regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806; or

“(iii) any ordinary or administrative business transaction as may be defined in such regulations.

“(4) COVERED FOREIGN ENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806, and except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘covered foreign entity’ means—

“(i) any entity that is incorporated in, has a principal place of business in, or is organized under the laws of a country of concern;

“(ii) any entity the equity securities of which are primarily traded in the ordinary course of business on one or more exchanges in a country of concern;

“(iii) any entity in which any entity described in subclause (i) or (ii) holds, individually or in the aggregate, directly or indirectly, an ownership interest of greater than 50 percent; or

“(iv) any other entity that is not a United States person and that meets such criteria as may be specified by the Secretary of the Treasury in such regulations.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—The term ‘covered foreign entity’ does not include any entity described in subparagraph (A) that can demonstrate that a majority of the equity interest in the entity is ultimately owned by—

“(i) nationals of the United States; or

“(ii) nationals of such countries (other than countries of concern) as are identified for purposes of this subparagraph pursuant to regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806.

“(5) COVERED SECTORS.—Subject to regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806, the term ‘covered sectors’ includes sec-

tors within the following areas, as specified in such regulations:

“(A) Advanced semiconductors and microelectronics.

“(B) Artificial intelligence.

“(C) Quantum information science and technology.

“(D) Hypersonics.

“(E) Satellite-based communications.

“(F) Networked laser scanning systems with dual-use applications.

“(6) PARTY.—The term ‘party’, with respect to an activity, has the meaning given that term in regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806.

“(7) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United States’ means the several States, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

“(8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ‘United States person’ means—

“(A) an individual who is a citizen or national of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States; and

“(B) any corporation, partnership, or other entity organized under the laws of the United States or the laws of any jurisdiction within the United States.

“SEC. 802. ADMINISTRATION OF UNITED STATES INVESTMENT NOTIFICATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall delegate the authorities and functions under this title to the Secretary of the Treasury.

“(b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the duties of the Secretary under this title, the Secretary shall—

“(1) coordinate with the Secretary of Commerce; and

“(2) consult with the United States Trade Representative, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, and the Director of National Intelligence.

“SEC. 803. MANDATORY NOTIFICATION OF COVERED ACTIVITIES.

“(a) MANDATORY NOTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to regulations prescribed in accordance with section 806, beginning on the date that is 90 days after such regulations take effect, a United States person that plans to engage in a covered activity shall—

“(A) if such covered activity is not a secured transaction, submit to the Secretary of the Treasury a complete written notification of the activity not later than 14 days before the anticipated completion date of the activity; and

“(B) if such covered activity is a secured transaction, submit to the Secretary of the Treasury a complete written notification of the activity not later than 14 days after the completion date of the activity.

“(2) CIRCULATION OF NOTIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, upon receipt of a notification under paragraph (1), promptly inspect the notification for completeness.

“(B) INCOMPLETE NOTIFICATIONS.—If a notification submitted under paragraph (1) is incomplete, the Secretary shall promptly inform the United States person that submits the notification that the notification is not complete and provide an explanation of relevant material respects in which the notification is not complete.

“(3) IDENTIFICATION OF NON-NOTIFIED ACTIVITY.—The Secretary shall establish a process to identify covered activity for which—

“(A) a notification is not submitted to the Secretary under paragraph (1); and

“(B) information is reasonably available.

“(b) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any information or documentary material filed with the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to this section shall be

exempt from disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code, and no such information or documentary material may be made public by any government agency or Member of Congress.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, Deng Xiaoping often repeated a Chinese proverb:

Hide Your strength. Bide your time. Never take the lead.

As a result of that strategy, which worked beyond anybody's imagination, whether by the People's Republic of China or the Chinese Communist Party, America slumbered during the economic rise of the People's Republic of China. American companies invested. Chinese students studied here and then went home to use their new education to compete against us while intellectual property theft, forced technology transfers, and cyber crime emanating from the People's Republic of China have become rampant.

Well, I think it is fair to say that the colossus that is America has finally awakened from its slumber and realized what a challenge China is to us and to world peace.

Today, the market value of American investments in the PRC numbers in the trillions of dollars. Those are American companies that invested in China that helped them to grow their economy. It is no exaggeration to say that we have helped to build their economy into a near-peer status and helped them to finance a military that threatens us and our allies in the Indo-Pacific.

What this amendment does that Senator CASEY and I have been pursuing is to seek transparency. We need to understand as policymakers exactly what is going on. We are not asking for any sort of limitation on investments in the PRC. It just makes sense to me that we should know what is going on so that we can consider whether there are any policy options that we ought to embrace.

We policymakers need to know what American companies are doing to help finance an aggressive, authoritarian adversary. What we do know about this and what we do about this is a debate for another day. First, we need to know the facts.

I ask my colleagues to join us in supporting this commonsense amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 931

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. CARDIN. 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), is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 6, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 196 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Baldwin	Hagerty	Reed
Barrasso	Hassan	Ricketts
Bennet	Hawley	Risch
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Romney
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Boozman	Hirono	Rounds
Britt	Hoeven	Rubio
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson	Schatz
Capito	Kaine	Schmitt
Cardin	Kelly	Schumer
Carper	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Casey	King	Shahen
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Lankford	Stabenow
Coons	Lujan	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lummis	Tester
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Thune
Cotton	Markey	Tuberville
Cramer	Marshall	Van Hollen
Crapo	McConnell	Vance
Cruz	Menendez	Warner
Daines	Merkeley	Warnock
Duckworth	Moran	Warren
Ernst	Mullin	Welch
Feinstein	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murphy	Wicker
Fischer	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Young
Graham	Padilla	
Grassley	Peters	

NAYS—6

Blackburn	Lee	Sinema
Braun	Paul	Tillis

NOT VOTING—3

Budd	Durbin	Scott (SC)
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). On this vote, the yeas are 91, the nays are 6.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 931) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

AMENDMENT NO. 813

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 813 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from South Dakota [Mr. ROUNDS], for himself and others, proposes an amendment numbered 813.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and require review of certain agricultural transactions)

At the end of subtitle G of title X, insert the following:

SEC. 1083. REVIEW OF AGRICULTURE-RELATED TRANSACTIONS BY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

Section 721 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4565) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—
 (A) in paragraph (4)—
 (i) in subparagraph (A)—
 (I) in clause (i), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;
 (II) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and
 (III) by adding at the end the following:
 “(iii) any transaction described in clause (vi) or (vii) of subparagraph (B) proposed or

pending on or after the date of the enactment of this clause.”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by adding at the end the following:

“(vi) Any other investment, subject to regulations prescribed under subparagraphs (D) and (E), by a foreign person in any unaffiliated United States business that is engaged in agriculture or biotechnology related to agriculture.

“(vii) Subject to subparagraphs (C) and (E), the purchase or lease by, or a concession to, a foreign person of private real estate that is—

“(I) located in the United States;

“(II) used in agriculture; and

“(III) more than 320 acres or valued in excess of \$5,000,000.”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking “subparagraph (B)(ii)” and inserting “clause (ii) or (vii) of subparagraph (B)”;

(iv) in subparagraph (D)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “subparagraph (B)(iii)” and inserting “clauses (iii) and (vi) of subparagraph (B)”;

(II) in clause (iii)(I), by striking “subparagraph (B)(iii)” and inserting “clauses (iii) and (vi) of subparagraph (B)”;

(III) in clause (iv)(I), by striking “subparagraph (B)(iii)” each place it appears and inserting “clauses (iii) and (vi) of subparagraph (B)”;

(IV) in clause (v), by striking “subparagraph (B)(iii)” and inserting “clauses (iii) and (vi) of subparagraph (B)”;

(v) in subparagraph (E), by striking “clauses (ii) and (iii)” and inserting “clauses (ii), (iii), (iv), and (vii)”;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(14) AGRICULTURE.—The term ‘agriculture’ has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 203).”;

(2) in subsection (k)(2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (H), (I), and (J), as subparagraphs (I), (J), and (K), respectively; and

(B) inserting after subparagraph (G) the following new subparagraph:

“(H) The Secretary of Agriculture (non-voting, ex officio).”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(r) PROHIBITION WITH RESPECT TO AGRICULTURAL COMPANIES AND REAL ESTATE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the Committee, in conducting a review and investigation under this section, determines that a transaction described in clause (i), (vi), or (vii) of subsection (a)(4)(B) would result in control by a covered foreign person or investment by a covered foreign person in a United States business engaged in agriculture or private real estate used in agriculture, the President shall prohibit such transaction.

“(2) WAIVER.—The President may waive, on a case-by-case basis, the requirement to prohibit a transaction under paragraph (1), not less than 30 days after the President determines and reports to the relevant committees of jurisdiction that it is vital to the national security interests of the United States to waive such prohibition.

“(3) DEFINED TERMS.—In this subsection:

“(A) COVERED PERSON.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by clause (ii), the term ‘covered person’—

“(I) has the meaning given the term ‘a person owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of a foreign adversary’ in section 7.2 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024), except that each reference to ‘foreign adversary’ in that definition shall be deemed to be

a reference to the government of a covered country; and

“(II) includes an entity that—
“(aa) is registered in or organized under the laws of a covered country;

“(bb) has a principal place of business in a covered country; or

“(cc) has a subsidiary with a principal place of business in a covered country.

“(ii) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘covered person’ does not include a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States.

“(B) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ‘covered country’ means any of the following:

- “(i) The People’s Republic of China.
- “(ii) The Russian Federation.
- “(iii) The Islamic Republic of Iran.
- “(iv) The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, China and Russia are our near-peer adversaries, and North Korea and Iran are no friends of the United States.

In just a few minutes, we will vote on an amendment that I proposed with Senator TESTER that would ban China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran from purchasing American farmland or ag businesses.

In recent years, our country has seen, firsthand, attempts by our near-peer competitors to acquire land adjacent to our military bases.

In 2020, a Chinese-linked company planned to build a wind energy farm project near Del Rio, TX, only miles away from Laughlin Air Force Base, where U.S. pilots are trained.

In 2022, a Chinese-linked company attempted to build a corn milling plant on farmland near a sensitive Air Force base outside Grand Forks, ND. Treasury later determined that they did not have the proper jurisdiction to take action in this case, which demonstrates the need for this amendment.

My amendment would require the Committee on Foreign Investment of the United States, CFIUS, to prohibit China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran from purchasing ag land and ag businesses in the United States and make modest reforms to the CFIUS process to improve our country’s ability to protect our national security.

I want to thank my friend from Montana, Senator TESTER, for his hard work on the amendment and our original bill, the PASS Act.

I would also like to thank our co-sponsors on this amendment: Senators DAINES, KENNEDY, LUMMIS, KRAMER, HOEVEN, ERNST, BRITT, BROWN, and CRUZ.

This is a commonsense provision that will make our homeland more secure.

I yield my time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 813

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

There being none, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

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) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 91, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 197 Leg.]

YEAS— 91

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Reed
Barrasso	Graham	Ricketts
Bennet	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Blumenthal	Hassan	Rosen
Booker	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Heinrich	Rubio
Braun	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Britt	Hoeven	Schatz
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Budd	Johnson	Schumer
Cantwell	Kaine	Scott (FL)
Capito	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	Kennedy	Sinema
Carper	King	Smith
Casey	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cassidy	Lankford	Sullivan
Collins	Lee	Tester
Coons	Lujan	Thune
Cornyn	Lummis	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tuberville
Cotton	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cramer	McConnell	Vance
Crapo	Menendez	Warner
Cruz	Merkley	Warnock
Daines	Moran	Whitehouse
Duckworth	Mullin	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Wyden
Feinstein	Murray	Young
Fetterman	Ossoff	
Fischer	Peters	

NAYS—7

Hirono	Padilla	Welch
Markey	Paul	
Murphy	Warren	

NOT VOTING—2

Durbin	Scott (SC)
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The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). On this vote the yeas are 91, the nays are 7.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

The amendment (No. 813) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

REMEMBERING LOWELL WEICKER

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I am honored to be here today to speak in tribute to the late Lowell Weicker, a U.S. Senator from Connecticut and Governor from my State—a giant in Connecticut politics but on the national scene as well. He, sadly, passed away.

I will be introducing a resolution, with my colleague Senator MURPHY, honoring him for his service to our country, and I hope that it will be enacted overwhelmingly—in fact, unanimously—by the Senate shortly.

The most common thing said about Lowell Weicker after his passing was that he was larger than life. Certainly, he was a big man in stature. He was tall, strong, forceful, and remarkable in his physical presence. He was larger than life in his fearless and relentless championing of what he believed was right and in serving people. He might

have been a big man physically, but he cared about everyone. No matter how small they might be in power or wealth, everyone deserved a champion, in Lowell Weicker’s view.

He had a long history of service to this country. He began in the U.S. Army in 1953, and he served through 1955, reaching the rank of first lieutenant. He went on to serve in the town of Greenwich, where I live, as the first selectman and then represented Connecticut as a Member of the House of Representatives and then for three terms as a U.S. Senator.

He is probably best known here for standing up to the President of his own party, Richard Nixon. During Watergate, he had the political courage and fortitude to say no to corruption and to persevere against attacks within his own party as he insisted, as a matter of conscience and conviction, that a President who violated the law should be held accountable. He was the first Republican Senator to call for the resignation of Richard Nixon as President. It was an act of political bravery and, more importantly, a dedication to public service and the rule of law. It was a message to the American people that nobody is above the law and that nobody can defy the Constitution of this great country, not even the President.

Although we talk a lot about it now, in his day, for him to take that position and call for the resignation of a President of his own party was also an act of potential political destruction. It was very much against his self-interest, but he stood strong, he persevered, and history has vindicated him. Beyond vindication, it has honored him for that courage.

He was also a champion of many other causes and people. Throughout his tenure, he was a strong advocate for the Americans with Disabilities Act, which prohibits discrimination based on disabilities in everyday activities. One example is his standing for new laws that protected people. He was a champion of public health, of preventing cuts in funding for the National Institutes of Health, of supporting scientific medical research efforts, of securing funding for AIDS and HIV treatment.

After he left the Senate under circumstances that might have discouraged a lot of people from remaining in public service, he came back—and it was one of his finest hours—as Governor of the State of Connecticut.

I was sworn in as attorney general of our State on the same day that he became Governor, and we served together for 4 years. We had what could be called a close working relationship, not always totally amicable or not always in agreement, but I knew about Lowell Weicker that what he told me was what he believed. I returned that approach, and he respected me for it even when we disagreed. He understood that the attorney general of the State, at

least in Connecticut, was not the Governor's lawyer; he was the people's lawyer. He is elected separately, and he has to do what he thinks is right.

For me, it was always the ultimate tribute to his belief in the rule of law that he respected the attorney general of Connecticut for whatever legal opinion I would give, whatever litigation I would bring, or whatever positions I would take based on the law. And he was, again, a champion of social services to the people who needed them, of education, of the kind of fairness in our criminal justice system that distinguishes us in our respect for legal rights.

He is probably best known for securing passage of a State income tax. It was incredibly unpopular. Everybody in our State who was around at the time will remember well how he refused to go around the back way to exit the capitol, even though there was an angry crowd, even though they were going to deluge him with invectives and worse. But he was going out to face that crowd, to confront them, to speak with them, to listen to them.

He was responsible for enabling the State of Connecticut to retain those essential services that people needed because he cared, and he listened.

He also signed a ban on assault weapons, the first time in Connecticut's history. We now have had one since then. I defended it in court when it was challenged on constitutional grounds. I tried the case in a Litchfield County courthouse, a 10-day trial with evidence. I tried it myself because I thought it was so important. We won, and then I argued it when the outcome was appealed. And we won again in the State supreme court. Nobody was happier in the State of Connecticut with that result when our ban on assault weapons was upheld in the 1990s.

He was a model of courage for me, a role model in standing up, speaking out for conviction and conscience, even when others disagreed, especially when others disagreed.

He did immense good for Connecticut. He left a legacy that is lasting and large that will inspire people for decades and generations to come.

I extend my deepest condolences to his wife Claudia, all of his children—a number of them good friends of mine—and to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I hope my colleagues will join me unanimously in honoring Lowell Weicker, U.S. Senator, Governor of our State.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

The Senator from Minnesota.

AFGHAN ADJUSTMENT ACT

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today to speak to the importance of passing the Afghan Adjustment Act as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which is pending before the U.S. Senate.

This is our moment. We have been working on this for 2 years—2 years—while people who have stood with our military have been in limbo, 2 years when they don't know what their future will hold. This is their time.

This bipartisan legislation that I lead with Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM is also cosponsored by Senator COONS; Senator MORAN, who is the ranking Republican on the Veterans' Affairs Committee; Senator BLUMENTHAL; Senator MURKOWSKI; Senator SHAHEEN; Senator WICKER, who is the ranking Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee; Senator DURBIN, who is the chair of the Judiciary Committee; of course, Senator GRAHAM, who is the ranking member on the Judiciary Committee; Senator TILLIS and Senator MULLIN, with many others who support this bill.

Mr. President, this bill strengthens our national security. It does right by Afghans who worked alongside our troops. And from a broader national security perspective, as we look at the many purposes of the bill before us, this amendment shows the world that when the United States of America makes a promise, we keep it. We keep our covenant.

Nearly 80,000 Afghans who sought refuge in our country, who are in our country, are currently in limbo, including many who risked their own lives and their families' safety to protect our servicemembers. Among them are translators, humanitarian workers, and courageous members of the Afghan military who stood shoulder to shoulder with our troops.

We were right to help those people flee the Taliban and come to the United States, and it now falls on us to uphold the covenant we made to them and give them the stability and the security that they need to rebuild their life.

We know this has worked before. I know this. I have one of the biggest Hmong populations in the United States of America. They came after a war in really sad circumstances for our country and for them, but they have rebuilt their lives. They are now police officers in Minnesota. They are teachers. They are lawyers. They are legislators.

That is what we did after the revolution in Cuba. That is what we did. We took people and we gave them a status that allowed them to succeed in our country.

But in this case, we actually asked them to serve with our military, to put their lives at risk, to gather intelligence for our military.

Who do you think is going to want to help us in the future if we don't keep our covenant, if we don't keep our promise?

The bipartisan Afghan Adjustment Act creates a more thorough system for Afghan allies to apply for permanent legal status. It requires that applicants go through a vetting that is just as rigorous as the vetting they would have gone through if they came to the United States as refugees.

They get this. They are already here.

So one of the reasons that Senator GRAHAM, especially, and Senator WICKER are so interested in this bill is it actually provides more security because of the vetting that will occur that otherwise would not occur. This vetting standard is a standard that eight former Trump and George W. Bush administration national security officials called the "gold standard" of vetting.

Senator GRAHAM and I worked closely with Republicans, including Senator MORAN, and the Department of Defense to strengthen the bill's vetting standards. That is what is before us with this amendment—keeping our covenant and doing the vetting. Both ways you look at it, it is good for national security.

In addition, our legislation updates the Special Immigrant Visa Program to include groups that should never have been excluded from the program in the first place, including the female tactical teams of Afghanistan, who did so much to support our troops. The entire purpose of the Special Immigration Visa Program is to provide residency for those who have supported the United States abroad. It is clear to me that these brave women should qualify just as many of the men did.

The Afghan Adjustment Act is supported, as I noted, by a bipartisan group of 11 cosponsors. But get this: This bill has earned the backing of more than 60 organizations, including the Veterans of Foreign Wars, or, as we know them, the VFW, and the American Legion. This is one of their top priorities right now, as well as for some of our most revered military leaders, including Admirals Mike Mullen, William McRaven, and James Stavridis; and Generals Richard Myers of the Air Force, Joseph Dunford of the Marine Corps, and Stan McChrystal of the Army.

I think the Presiding Officer knows a few of these people, and he knows how they have served our country.

That is why, if you are not going to listen to me, listen to them. Listen to the leading veterans groups in this country that know how important it is for us to pass this bill. We must uphold our covenant.

That means bringing well-earned certainty to Afghans who are already here—an example, Nangialy, who began working alongside U.S. troops as an interpreter in 2007.

I want to be clear about what it meant for an interpreter to work alongside U.S. troops in Afghanistan. What did it mean? When the Taliban ambushed our soldiers with bullets, they ambushed their interpreters too.

They weren't just sitting in an office being interpreters and just sitting there and whispering in their books. They were out on the battlefield with our military. When the Taliban ambushed the soldiers, they ambushed the interpreters. When our troops were targeted with IEDs, the interpreters were targeted too.

That is what Nangialy risked, but he did it anyway. Why? To use his words, "same goals, same target, and same achievement."

Now, it wasn't just the interpreters. There is another Afghan who wants to remain anonymous because his family is still back in Afghanistan. That is the risk we are putting people in when they are in this very unclear status. He was a helicopter fighter pilot with the U.S. military. He worked with our troops to combat the Taliban in remote areas of Afghanistan for 8 years. On one mission, he was shot in the face by flying bullets. Miraculously, he survived because the bullet passed through his cheek and open mouth. He shed blood in our fight, and we should not let another day go by without keeping the covenant we made to him.

Another story: An Afghan intelligence sergeant who also wants to remain anonymous, who helped carry out several operations against the Taliban and ISIS with our military. In 2018, while working alongside a U.S. Special Forces group, he was caught in an IED explosion and lost both of his legs.

Let me repeat that.

His fight with our troops cost him both of his legs. Doesn't he deserve better than complete uncertainty and a refusal of our government to even give him a status, a provisional status, and never knowing if he is going to have to be sent back there? That is what we are doing?

Our servicemembers and veterans understand this is imperative. I know every Member in this Senate has been approached by members of our own military about this. On Veterans Day, on Memorial Day, when you are walking in a parade, they come up and they tell a story about someone who stood with them whom they got to know. Maybe that person is still somewhere in hiding in Afghanistan, but most likely, some of them are in our country, which is a good thing. But, right now, they are in our country—let me repeat. They are in our country, living in our country, but we, right now, are refusing to give them the status that we have given past people who helped us in conflicts. That is embarrassing.

Some of the most vocal advocates of the Afghan Adjustment Act have been military groups. A coalition of more than 30 military groups, including the American Legion and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, penned a letter calling on congressional leadership to pass this bill.

They wrote this to the leaders of both Houses on both sides of the aisle:

America's veterans served with Afghans for two decades in Afghanistan. We fought

side-by-side with them, and we saw firsthand their courage and dedication. They risked their very lives to help us and made significant contributions to our mission.

Again, this is 30 military groups, including the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the American Legion, Blue Star families, Honor the Promise, the Black Veterans Project—and I could go on and on and on.

What else did they write?

They write:

We call on Congress to pass legislation that would allow Afghan parolees who are being evacuated from Afghanistan to have an opportunity to seek lawful permanent residence in the United States.

Again, these are people who have this SIV status.

Then they go on:

We urge you to support the Afghan Adjustment Act as soon as possible. We promised to stand by our allies who, often at risk to themselves and their families, served in uniform or publicly defended women's and democratic rights. The U.S. government made a similar promise.

This is a letter from the 30 military groups of our country. They say:

The U.S. government made a similar promise; keeping it assures that the American commitments will be honored.

This is 30 military organizations telling us what it was like to serve alongside our Afghan allies. Most of us in this Chamber don't know that experience. We don't know how much they owe those Afghan interpreters—those people who gathered the intelligence. We don't know. We would go on congressional trips there, but we weren't there on the battlefield; they were. So maybe, for a change, we should listen to what they have to say about what they saw. They know that many of these people are here right now, but we just can't get out of our petty politics to try to at least give them the status that they deserve.

Many of our Nation's national security experts have also called on Congress to pass the Afghan Adjustment Act, accurately pointing out that doing so is both a moral imperative and necessary for our national security.

Here is a portion of a letter that was sent to congressional leadership by the following experts: Rick "Ozzie" Nelson, former Director, Office of Combating Terrorism; National Security Council staff under George W. Bush. He was also a U.S. Navy helicopter pilot and Afghan veteran; Gus Coldebella, former Acting General Counsel with the Department of Homeland Security; Michael Neifach, former Principal Legal Advisor for Immigration and Customs Enforcement with the Homeland Security Council staff under George W. Bush; Elizabeth Neumann, former Assistant Secretary for Threat Prevention and Security Policy for the Department of Homeland Security and former Deputy Chief of Staff for the Department of Homeland Security; Stewart Verdery, former Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning for the Department of Homeland Security; Ross Ashley, former Assistant Admin-

istrator for the Federal Emergency Management Association, former Virginia Air National Guardsmen and U.S. Air Force Reserves; Hans Miller, former Deputy Assistant Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration; and Lynden Melmed, former Chief Counsel of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

What does this letter say?

This letter says this:

The rationale for the Afghan Adjustment Act is clear. First, it follows through on our nation's commitment to its wartime allies by providing at risk Afghans and their families—including many that supported U.S. military and diplomatic efforts for the past 20 years—a path to permanent status in the United States.

Second, it sends a clear message to current and future allies—

And this is so key and it isn't kind of the first thing you think about here—those that are necessary for U.S. servicemembers and diplomats to perform their missions in pursuit of national security—that the United States is a reliable and trusted partner and it stands by the democratic ideals that it professes.

This is why Senator GRAHAM and I have worked on this bill for so many years. This is why we have the ranking Republicans on Veterans', on Judiciary, and on Armed Services supporting the bill.

When I first got to the Senate, honestly, I thought that would be enough to get this done; that that would be enough to bless this and give it the gold standard, just as all of these former Bush and Trump and Obama and current Biden officials have given it their stamp; that this is a good vetting process; that it is certainly a lot better than having people sit here in limbo after they have served our country.

Here is another letter from former Ambassadors to Afghanistan because it is not just military groups and national security experts. Eight former U.S. Ambassadors to Afghanistan called on us to pass the Afghan Adjustment Act. These experts served under Presidents George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden, and each has an intimate understanding of the sacrifices made by our Afghan allies.

Remember, it is these diplomats, it is these military leaders who have asked these Afghans for their help. Regardless of what people think about what happened with the withdrawal—regardless of people's views on this—can't we just agree on one thing; that we should stand with the people who stood with us?

This is what the Ambassadors to Afghanistan under George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden have said:

Without the Afghan Adjustment Act, the task of American diplomacy will be much more difficult. If the United States does not act to support its allies by passing the Afghan Adjustment Act, in the future, our allies will be less likely to support the U.S. missions if they see that our Afghan partners are abandoned.

In diplomacy, our words will have lost meaning, and in the unfortunate event of future conflict—

This is the Ambassadors writing, not me, Ambassadors who went to serve in Afghanistan and who took on that assignment under four different Presidents.

They are writing, if we don't do this, "[i]n diplomacy, our words will have lost meaning, and in the unfortunate event of future conflict, what incentive would local allies have to support our troops?"

A good question.

Finally, I want to share some words from a group of more than three dozen of our Nation's most esteemed military leaders. They are retired military leaders. As I mentioned, they are Gen. Joseph F. Dunford of the U.S. Marine Corps; ADM Mike Mullen of the U.S. Navy; Gen. Richard Myers of the U.S. Air Force; ADM Jim Stavridis of the U.S. Navy; GEN Peter W. Chiarelli of the U.S. Army; GEN Stan McChrystal of the U.S. Army; GEN David McKiernan of the U.S. Army; ADM William H. McRaven of the U.S. Navy; GEN Austin S. Miller of the U.S. Army; GEN John W. Nicholson, Jr., of the U.S. Army; GEN M. David Rodriguez of the U.S. Army; GEN Curtis Scaparrotti of the U.S. Army; GEN Raymond A. Thomas III of the U.S. Army; GEN Joseph Votel of the U.S. Army; Gen. Mark Welsh of the U.S. Air Force; Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley of the U.S. Air Force; LTG Jeff Buchanan of the U.S. Army; LTG Stephen Fogarty of the U.S. Army; LTG Benjamin C. Freakley of the U.S. Army; LTG Ben Hodges of the U.S. Army; LTG John F. Mulholland, Jr., of the U.S. Army; LTG Leopoldo A. Quintas, Jr., of the U.S. Army; LTG Mark C. Schwartz of the U.S. Army; LTG John C. Thomson of the U.S. Army; LTG Francis Wiercinski of the U.S. Army; MG Edward Dorman III of the U.S. Army; Maj. Gen. Dawn Dunlap of the U.S. Air Force; MG Paul Eaton of the U.S. Army; Maj. Gen. Buck Elton of the U.S. Air Force; Maj. Gen. Walter D. Givhan of the U.S. Air Force; MG William Hix of the U.S. Army; MG James B. Linder of the U.S. Army; MG Mark MacCarley of the U.S. Army; MG Mark R. Quantock of the U.S. Army; MG Edward Reeder of the U.S. Army; MG Patrick J. Reinert of the U.S. Army; MG Jefforey Smith of the U.S. Army; MG Tammy Smith of the U.S. Army; MG James "Boe" Young of the U.S. Army; BG Steve Anderson of the U.S. Army; BG Norvell Coots of the U.S. Army; BG Gary M. Jones of the U.S. Army; BG Richard C. Kim of the U.S. Army; and Brig. Gen. Chad T. Manske of the U.S. Air Force.

Those are only the ones who signed the letter. So I will just ask my colleagues—and perhaps we should listen to those who have led our forces in times of war. When they say that these people stood with them and when they say that if we do nothing and just let them be in limbo—and we know, just a

few weeks ago, one of them was murdered in the State of Virginia, in the middle of the night, because he was working as a Lyft driver—is that what we are going to do? Are we just going to leave them in limbo or are we going to stand with them as the top leaders in our military have suggested?

They have been resolute in their support, not just of doing something about this, but of this bill, of this amendment. We worked with the military for years on this amendment. They have signed their names to this letter. What does the letter say specifically?

It says:

If Congress fails to enact the [Afghan Adjustment Act], the United States will be less secure.

OK. There you go. We can just stand here and not want to deal with this because everyone wants to go home for August or we can actually vote on this amendment. That is all we are asking. We want to vote on this amendment.

They write:

If Congress fails to enact the [Afghan Adjustment Act], the United States will be less secure. As military professionals, it was and remains our duty to prepare for future conflicts. We assure you that in any such conflict, potential allies will remember what happens now with our Afghan allies. If we claim to support the troops and want to enable their success in wartime, we must keep our commitments today. The [Afghan Adjustment Act]—

And this isn't me talking. This is all the top brass, the top military, who led us in times of war.

They write:

The [Afghan Adjustment Act] will go a long way.

Additionally, without the fixes applied by the [Afghan Adjustment Act]—

This is them writing, not me—

our immigration system will be less capable, not more capable, of properly processing and vetting applicants.

To break from their letter, that was the point I made earlier about why Senator WICKER and Senator GRAHAM and Senator MORAN were so focused on making sure that this was the gold standard of vetting in this bill.

Back to the letter:

The enhancements that the Afghan Adjustment Act adds to the security screening process of those who were evacuated are of critical importance to our national security.

Listening?

Even if you don't agree with me on the security of our country overall in standing with our allies, at the very least, look at that. Shouldn't we be vetting people who were evacuated? Hmm. Maybe that would be a good idea. That is what they say in this letter.

Three dozen military flag officers think that without the Afghan Adjustment Act, our Nation will be less secure. Our soldiers will face new obstacles in finding allies on the battlefield, and our immigration system will be less capable of vetting applicants. Those are plenty of good reasons to support this amendment and why we have leading Senators—both on the

Democratic side and Republican side—on this critical amendment. So that is it.

We have the leading people who head the committees in this very Chamber supporting this bill. That is how much work that Senator GRAHAM and I have done to get them on board. We have got them on this.

We have got military and veterans groups. We have national security leaders. We have retired U.S. Ambassadors to Afghanistan under four different Presidents: Obama, Trump, Biden, and George W. Bush. And we have all of the top brass retired military officers, whose names I just read off.

They are not debating which bill or which amendment because we have been working on it for 2 years. They know exactly what we should do, and it is this bill, the Afghan Adjustment Act.

All of our colleagues have had at least a year to look at this bill. So I don't want to hear that. I don't want to hear that, "Oh, we have got to look at this more." Give me a break. This bill has been out there for a very, very long time. There is absolutely no reason we shouldn't have a vote.

If people want to vote against the American Legion, and the VFW, and all the top brass of the military, and all the Ambassadors who served under those Presidents, that is fine. That is their right. But we need to have a vote. That is the only way we can show that we are keeping our covenant.

Until we get this done, we are essentially asking our Afghan allies—people who took bullets in the face, who lost limbs—to rebuild their lives on top of a trapped door that could fall out from under them at any second. Without the Afghan Adjustment Act, all of it—their jobs, their homes, their safety—could disappear.

By including the amendment in the NDAA, we can strengthen the national security of our country by making our vetting program more thorough—such a top priority of many of our colleagues—while finally doing right by our Afghan allies who sacrificed for us.

Let's put aside the politics and the distractions. There are a lot of good things in this bill. We have got a lot of votes on big things and little things so far. Where is this? Who is going to object to at least allowing this vote? They can vote against it if they want, some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, but don't deny us a vote.

By "us," who am I talking about? Yeah, the Afghans who are here who sacrificed for us, the top military, the Ambassadors, the military in this country who have come up and talked to each and every one of us about this bill, American soldiers who are begging us to do something about it. That is "us."

The way I see it, this defense bill is about three things: one, our Nation's security; two, setting a moral example for the world; and, three, showing people everywhere that when America

makes a promise, a covenant, it will be kept. The Afghan Adjustment Act, the amendment that Senator GRAHAM and I have put forth, advances all of these objectives.

Pass this amendment. Show the world that our word, show our own military that our word and our covenant matters.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, with regards to Rounds amendment No. 813 to S. 2226, the FY24 National Defense Authorization Act, I share the sponsor's national security concerns, especially in reference to the purchase of agricultural lands by companies affiliated with the People's Republic of China, and appreciate the sponsor's effort to improve review of these sales. However, I am also deeply concerned by issues that have been raised with respect to civil liberties and want to ensure that no one is discriminated against or viewed as a national security threat simply because of where they were born.

As written, the language seems to equate individuals from the specified countries as synonymous with their governments. Under this provision, if an individual with a valid visa, who has no connection to one of the governments listed, seeks to buy agricultural property above a certain threshold, the U.S. Government would deny them the ability to proceed with the purchase simply because of their national origin. While the national security concerns this amendment seeks to address are real, we must not discriminate on individuals based on national origin, race, or ethnicity.

I voted in favor of my colleagues' amendment in order to continue the conversation on this important issue, but will not support any final provision that does not resolve these civil liberties concerns.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, had I been able to vote, I would have voted yea on the Kaine amendment No. 429 to require the advice and consent of the Senate or an act of Congress to suspend, terminate, or withdraw the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty and authorizing related litigation, and for other purposes.

I am a cosponsor for a similar bill, S.J. Res. 37, led by Senators Kaine and Rubio, which establishes a mechanism for the United States to exit the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO. Although the Constitution provides clear guidance on Congress's role in ratifying treaties, it does not say anything about Congress's role in approving or disapproving withdrawal from a treaty. I believe, together with Senator

KAINE and Senator RUBIO, that the NATO alliance is a foundational principle of U.S. national security, regardless of who is President, and the U.S. leadership role in the alliance should depend on more than the whims of any one administration.

HONORING OFFICER JAKE WALLIN

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Madam President, on behalf of Senator TINA SMITH of Minnesota, Senator JOHN HOEVEN of North Dakota, and Senator KEVIN CRAMER of North Dakota, I rise to honor Jake Ryan Wallin, a Fargo police officer whose life was cut tragically short in the line of duty on July 14, 2023. He lived every day of his 23 years in the service of others, and his loss is nothing short of a tragedy for his family, his community, and our country.

Jake was the beloved son of Jeff and Amy Wallin. Raised in St. Michael, MN, he was a graduate of St. Michael-Albertville High School and Alexandria Technical and Community College before attending the American Military University.

As a member of the Minnesota National Guard, he was deployed to both Afghanistan and Iraq, where he served honorably. Upon return, he found a new home in Fargo, ND, and continued his life of service with the Fargo Police Department.

At Officer Wallin's funeral, the people who knew him best emphasized that more than anything, he wanted to live a life of purpose—to do work that made a difference for people. As a servicemember and a police officer, he did that and so much more. Time and time again, Officer Wallin heard the call of duty and raised his hand to say, "Count me in." That level of selflessness, character, and patriotism is the mark of a good citizen and a good man. A world where everyone lived the values that defined Officer Wallin's life would be a better world indeed.

My heart is with Jake's parents Jeff and Amy; his brother Brady; his fiancée Winter; and everyone who called him a grandson, a nephew, a cousin, a colleague, or a friend. I wish them peace and comfort as they mourn the needless, devastating loss of an exceptional young man. While he is no longer with us, his memory will serve as an inspiration to generations of public servants who choose to follow in his brave footsteps.

TRIBUTE TO GRACE ABDALLAH

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Grace Abdallah, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Grace is a graduate of O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS, where she is pursuing a degree in business. She is

a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Grace for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO HALEIGH BROWN

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Haleigh Brown, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Haleigh is a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, SD, where she is pursuing a degree in political science. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Haleigh for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DILLON GESTRING

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Dillon Gestring, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Dillon is a graduate of Vermillion High School in Vermillion, SD. Currently, he is attending Grinnell College in Grinnell, IA, where he is pursuing a degree in political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Dillon for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE MICKELSON

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Charlie Mickelson, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Charlie is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending Creighton University in Omaha, NE, where he is pursuing a degree in business. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Charlie for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO NOAH ROISUM

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Noah Roisum, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Noah is a graduate of Rapid City Christian High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, he is attending Northwestern College in Orange City, IA, where he is pursuing degrees in international business and political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Noah for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO ALYSSA THALER

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Alyssa Thaler, an intern in my Aberdeen, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Alyssa is a graduate of Groton High School in Groton, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND, where she is pursuing a degree in business economics. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Alyssa for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO JON AND DIANNE KIRKBRIDE

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, at the 111th Wyoming State Fair, Senator LUMMIS and I will have the pleasure of introducing Jon and Dianne Kirkbride as 2023 inductees to the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Jon and Dianne Kirkbride have been devoted to each other and the agriculture industry for over five decades. They have been married for 55 years while also running a multi-operational ranch, the Harding and Kirkbride Livestock Company. Harding and Kirkbride Livestock company is located 32 miles outside of Cheyenne, WY. The ranch has hosted tours during the Cheyenne Frontier Days Fair and Rodeo, educating the public on Wyoming ranch life.

Dianne devoted decades to the beef industry. She is a member of Wyoming CattleWomen, of which she is the past president. She advocates for American and Wyoming beef. Dianne was selected as the American National CattleWomen's Woman of the Year in 2001 for her years of dedicated service to the cattle industry. Dianne also worked for Senator Mike Enzi as a field representative in Cheyenne for 20 years.

Dianne's service to her community doesn't end here. She is on the Cheyenne Regional Medical Board of Trustees, the Laramie County Community College Foundation Board, and the Congressional Award Council, where she was the president for 6 years. Through her work in the Wyoming Congressional Awards Program, Dianne

mentored more than 80 students in volunteer and community service projects for the past 24 years. Dianne regularly follows up with kids that she worked with 20 years ago. She is delighted when she hears about all of their impressive accomplishments. These students learned early on the value of being involved and giving back to their communities. This is a great example of how the Kirkbrides are influencing the next generation in Wyoming.

Jon runs the ranch while also contributing to the beef industry on a local, State, and national level. He is committed to agriculture in Wyoming and to Wyoming public schools. Jon has served as president of the Wyoming Stock Growers Association and as the Wyoming director of the U.S. Meat Export Federation. Jon also spent 16 years on the Laramie County School District No. 2 Board of Trustees. He served as president of the Wyoming School Board Association and also served on the Wyoming State Board of Education. In addition to serving his community, Jon served his country in the U.S. Air Force.

Together, Jon and Dianne have garnered an impressive list of accomplishments. Both Jon and Dianne exemplify the leadership in Wyoming agriculture that the Agriculture Hall of Fame has recognized for over 20 years. Jon and Dianne have three sons TJ, Jeff, and Glen. TJ and his wife Michelle have two daughters Maddy and Bryn and two boys Brady and Joel. Jeff and Jami have six boys Taylor, Carter, Jackson, Jayden, Grayson, and Bennett, along with their daughter Savannah. Glen and Rochel have three children Kayla, Morgan, and Shelby. Jon and Dianne's son Jeff and grandson Taylor are both ranchers living in Meriden. TJ is a counselor at Triumph High School, and Glen is also a teacher and coach at Central High School. Dianne and Jon's children are a testament to their dedication for education in Wyoming.

Jon and Dianne's unmatched passion for family, Wyoming agriculture, wildlife and animal conservation, and cultivating partnerships make them an outstanding choice for the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

It is a great honor to participate in their induction. They continue to represent Wyoming and Western interests with dedication and distinction. My wife Bobbi joins me in congratulating Jon and Dianne as 2023 inductees into the Wyoming Agriculture Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO HALEY GRAHAM

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Haley for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Haley has lived in Casper since she was young. She recently graduated from Casper College and plans to con-

tinue her studies at the University of Denver in the fall. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Haley for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

TRIBUTE TO KEENAN MORGAN

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Keenan for his hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Keenan has lived in Casper since he was young. He is currently attending Casper College, where he studies secondary education, political science, and history. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Keenan for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

TRIBUTE TO ZOEY PICKETT

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Zoey for her hard work as an intern in my Casper office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Zoey is a native of Casper. She is currently attending Mount Holy Oak College where she studies international relations and environmental studies. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Zoey for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

TRIBUTE TO ARKANSAS INTERNS

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to applaud the efforts of the young people who interned in my Washington, DC, and Arkansas offices this summer.

I appreciate their commitment and dedication to serving Arkansans and

being an ambassador for our office. These talented students and recent graduates have grown professionally and personally through this experience. On a daily basis, they provided support to all areas of office operations. From giving tours of the U.S. Capitol, to drafting press releases and researching legislation, they played a vital role in helping us provide the best possible constituent service.

Interns also took advantage of our speaker series, hearing from some of Arkansas' best and brightest in our Nation's Capital. This summer offered our interns memorable moments, including attending Prime Minister Modi's arrival at the White House, the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, and the Army Birthday Run at Arlington National Cemetery. These responsibilities and opportunities allow interns to maximize their time in the Nation's Capital while ultimately serving the Natural State.

I would like to recognize the following interns for their hard work and service to Arkansas this summer: Alex Sumrall, Danny Moreno, Reese Maginn, Cross Thompson, Wyatt Bailey, Kylie Roesler, Sydney Kincaid, Ben Sherman, Julija Eddy, Kendall Webb, Blake Bradshaw, Rebecca Brown, Trey Nichols, Sam Woodhouse, John Reagan Hiland, Jackson Renfro, and Colin Keady all served in the Washington, DC office.

Anna Mathis, Kade Miller, Logan Moss, Heath Brandt, Ryan Munley, and Mary Eichenberger served as interns for the Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

Victoria Moody, Buddy Gaston, Jake Strawn, and Kyleigh Threlkeld served in State offices.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our interns for their service. Their contributions to our office have been invaluable, and I wish them all the best.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JAMES BARNETT

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize DaySpring Cards president James Barnett, who is retiring after 42 years of service with the world's largest Christian expression company.

James is a business leader, family man, person of faith, community supporter, and author. A native of Northwest Arkansas, he holds a bachelor of science degree in business from John Brown University and an MBA from the Walton School of Business at the University of Arkansas.

After beginning his DaySpring career as an intern, James was inspired to expand the company's reach into well-known retail stores. His four-decade commitment to DaySpring led to a successful career that incorporated his dedication to business and ministry.

Since 1994, James has led DaySpring with humility, strength, and a serv-

ant's heart. His leadership has been instrumental in the company's mission of sharing God's word over the course of four decades. Even in times of deep division in our Nation, his stewardship has helped encourage countless people to live out their faith with devotion and positivity.

His impact extends far beyond DaySpring. James has been very involved in organizations around his community including athletic, charitable, and scholastic boards. He served on the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and in 2020, he was board chairman of the Siloam Springs Chamber of Commerce. He currently serves on the Walton School of Business Advisory Board and is a member of the WorkMatters board.

I congratulate James on his faithful service and wish him the best in his retirement, where I know he will be happy to spend more time with his wife Marilyn, their children, and grandchildren. I know he will continue working in different but meaningful ways to spread God's love.●

RECOGNIZING FIRESIDE WINERY

• Ms. ERNST. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Fireside Winery of Marengo, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Husband and wife Bill and Rona Wyant have always had a passion for wine. In 2007, they decided to start a winery of their own, establishing Fireside Winery in Marengo. Fireside Winery allowed the Wyant family to get back into agriculture but in a new way for their family farm. The Wyant family farm has been producing Iowa staples like corn and soybeans in Eastern Iowa for five generations, and the winery was an excellent opportunity for the Wyants to diversify their family business. Fireside Winery produces red, white, and sparkling wines from Iowa-grown grapes on their 22-acre vineyard. Fireside Winery offers wine tastings in their tasting room, winery tours, live music, and a beautiful venue for weddings.

The Wyant's hard work has paid off. In 2020, the Iowa Wine Growers Association awarded Fireside Winery's Storyteller white wine the Best of Show/Governor's Cup. Bottled in 2018, the Storyteller White was named silver at the Finger Lakes International Wine Competition in 2018, silver at the Jefferson Cup Invitational in 2018, and gold at the Mid-American Wine Competition in 2017. In June 2023, the Fireside Winery's Marengo sparkling wine made history when it was chosen to christen the USS *Iowa* SSN 797 nuclear submarine. The christening was held in Groton, CT, and Fireside Winery was represented by operations manager Bill

and Rona's daughter Cassie Bott and her husband, winemaker Zach Bott.

Fireside Winery is actively involved in the Marengo community, hosting the Wine Run 5K. Rona Wyant serves on the board of Iowa County 100+ Who Care, an organization that supports local Iowa County charitable causes like the Hope For All Foundation, a cancer support group. Bill and Rona Wyant are members of the Wine Growers Association and the Iowa Wine Growers Association.

Fireside Winery's commitment to providing quality wines in Iowa is clear. I want to congratulate Bill and Rona Wyant and the entire team at Fireside Winery for their continued dedication to the Iowa wine and agriculture industry. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CLAIR COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

• Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of St. Clair County Community College, located in Port Huron, MI, along the banks of the St. Clair River. St. Clair County Community College serves Michigan's Blue Water Area as its primary center for affordable higher education.

St. Clair County Community College was first established in 1923 by the Michigan Board of Education. Originally named the Port Huron Junior College, its purpose was to provide accessible higher education options that met local community needs and contributed to Michigan's greater success and vitality. The college officially changed its name to St. Clair County Community College in 1967 but is more often known by the moniker "SC4."

In the 100 years since its founding, St. Clair County Community College has grown to offer over more than 25 on-campus and online programs, as well as University Center partnerships that allow SC4 students to earn bachelor's and master's degrees on campus. While SC4's inaugural class numbered just 34 students, today, the college supports more than 5,000 students each year. With its main campus located in Port Huron and additional learning centers located in Harbor Beach, Algonac, Yale, Peck, and Crosswell, St. Clair County Community College serves a large portion of Michigan's Thumb region.

The St. Clair County Community College occupies 29-acres in downtown Port Huron, placing students within the heart of the St. Clair Community. Through the provision of accessible and life-changing education, SC4 has added more than \$137,700,000 to the economy of St. Clair County and employs 2,041 local community members. This number represents 1 of every 10 jobs within St. Clair County that are supported by the operations of St. Clair County Community College's faculty, staff, and students. In addition to providing

high quality student care, SC4 strives to support the taxpayers, local businesses, and community of St. Clair County by hosting athletic conferences, concerts, exhibits, and engaging St. Clair residents. Alumni of St. Clair County Community College work as leaders in education, healthcare, engineering, manufacturing, government, public safety, hospitality, design retail, and more and through their presence that enriches the St. Clair Community.

St. Clair County Community College has been an integral part of the St. Clair and Blue Water community for more than 100 years. As a Michigander and a proud representative of the Blue Water Area, I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this significant milestone for St. Clair County Community College, its staff, faculty, and students, as well as the entire St. Clair community. I wish St. Clair County Community College continued growth and prosperity in the years ahead.●

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

● Mr. WARNOCK. Madam President, today I pay tribute to the Center for Transportation and the Environment in Atlanta, GA, on their 30th anniversary.

Since 1993, the Center for Transportation and the Environment has supported the commercialization of clean and zero-emissions transportation technologies that have driven the development of green energy economies in Georgia and across the United States. Using its engineering and planning expertise, the center has helped connect innovative thinkers, create jobs in emerging sectors, and foster energy independence over its long and storied history.

Though the Center for Transportation and the Environment calls Atlanta home, it has an extensive national network and imprint. The center currently manages 115 zero-emission development and deployment projects across 35 States. Over the past 30 years, the center has helped more than 300 U.S. companies move their technologies into the global energy and transportation mainstream and has supported countless cities, transit agencies, airports, municipal entities, and vehicle manufacturers as they adopt these technologies and advance our clean energy future.

Recently, the Center for Transportation and the Environment offered its unbiased expertise and insight in support of the development of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Public Law 117-58, and resulting Low and No-Emissions Program at the U.S. Department of Transportation. Thanks in part to their recommendations, Congress delivered the largest infrastructure investment in our Nation's history and advanced bipartisan and transformative low-emissions transpor-

tation policies that will help keep our planet healthy for generations to come.

On their 30th anniversary, I would like to thank the Center for Transportation and Environment for their monumental efforts to reduce emissions in our Nation's transportation sector and their commitment to being a good steward for our planet. I look forward to working with the center for another 30 years as we continue to develop green energy economies in Georgia and across the country.●

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

As 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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 6:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3935. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 7:56 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1096. An act 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.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 931. A bill to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-73).

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

S. 1858. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to establish a deadline for applying for disaster unemployment assistance (Rept. No. 118-74).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment and an amendment to the title:

S. 1260. A bill to release the reversionary interest of the United States in certain non-Federal land in Salt Lake City, Utah, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-75).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1466. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-76).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1540. A bill to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for circumstances under which reinitiation of consultation is not required under a land and resource management plan or land use plan under those Acts, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-77).

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

S. Con. Res. 2. A concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

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

S. Res. 20. A resolution condemning the coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained, promoting accountability and justice for those killed by the Burmese military, and calling for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 38. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, and for other purposes.

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

S. Res. 75. A resolution reaffirming the state of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemning the People's Republic of China's provocations in South Asia.

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

S. 416. A bill to designate the Russian-based mercenary Wagner Group as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

S. 490. A bill to require the President to remove the extension of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices if Hong Kong no longer enjoys a high degree of autonomy from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, without amendment:

S. 673. A bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

By Mr. REED, from the Committee on Armed Services, with an amendment:

S. 822. A bill to terminate the Department of Defense memorandum relating to access to abortions, to prohibit the use of travel and transportation allowances, medical convalescent leave, and administrative absences

to travel to obtain abortions, and for other purposes.

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

S. 847. A bill to establish the International Children with Disabilities Protection Program within the Department of State, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment:

S. 936. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 943. A bill to increase the minimum disaster loan amount for which the Small Business Administration may require collateral, and for other purposes.

S. 1156. A bill to establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

By Mr. MENENDEZ, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1203. A bill to amend the Peace Corps Act by reauthorizing the Peace Corps, providing better support for current, returning, and former volunteers, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1345. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental obligations of certified development companies, and for other purposes.

S. 1352. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, and for other purposes.

S. 1396. A bill to improve commercialization activities in the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

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

S. 1457. A bill to authorize negotiation and conclusion and to provide for congressional consideration of a tax agreement between the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO).

S. 2006. A bill to foster Tunisia's democratic institutions, to limit funds until Tunisia restores checks and balances, and to authorize the creation of a fund to support democratic reforms.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2099. A bill to establish an Office of Community Financial Institutions within the Small Business Administration that will strengthen the ability of Community Financial Institutions to support the development of small business concerns in underserved communities, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with amendments:

S. 2212. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish an SBIC Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

By Mr. CARDIN, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, without amendment:

S. 2482. An original bill to amend the Small Business Act to authorize the Community

Advantage Loan Program of the Small Business Administration, 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 Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1. A bill to expand Americans' access to the ballot box and reduce the influence of big money in politics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 2458. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to promote crop insurance support for beginning farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 2459. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate supervision requirements for outpatient physical therapy and outpatient occupational therapy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 2460. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to clarify the availability and appropriateness of training for local food service personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 2461. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require reporting of certain accidents resulting in serious physical injuries or death at institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 2462. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the 7-year recovery period for motorsports entertainment complexes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 2463. A bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, and the STOCK Act to require certain senior officials to report payments received from the Federal Government, to improve the filing and disclosure of financial disclosures, to ban stock ownership for certain senior Government officials, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mrs. BRITT):

S. 2464. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage from imposing cost-sharing requirements with respect to diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2465. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish doula services to veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2466. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to modify False Claims Act procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2467. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide that children who have relocated from Puerto Rico to the States are fully considered for purposes of State allotments under the English Language Acquisition grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2468. A bill to amend title III of division H of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 to prohibit the expenditure of funds on divisive concepts under the priorities noticed in the proposed rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to Proposed Priorities-American History and Civics Education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2469. A bill to authorize the Department of Education, in coordination with other relevant Federal agencies, to include a longitudinal component on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on student outcomes and well-being on an existing longitudinal educational study; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 2470. A bill to increase transparency regarding the activities, and reduce the malign influence of, the People's Republic of China in the Inter-American Development Bank, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. OSSOFF:

S. 2471. A bill to increase access to Federal grants for individuals with limited English proficiency; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2472. A bill to amend the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to improve interagency coordination in the pesticide registration process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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

S. 2473. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the Contested Logistics Working Group of the Department of Defense; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2474. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure appropriate cost-sharing for chronic care drugs under Medicare part D; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 2475. A bill to amend the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to clarify the definition of competitive integrated employment; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2476. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2477. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2478. A bill to designate the National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in Pooler, Georgia, as the official National Museum of the Mighty Eighth Air Force in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 2479. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an alternative manure management program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 2480. A bill to require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to promulgate regulations with respect to regional and interregional transmission planning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 2481. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to encourage appropriate prescribing under Medicaid for victims of opioid overdose; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 2482. An original bill to amend the Small Business Act to authorize the Community Advantage Loan Program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2483. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional transparency and consumer protections relating to medical debt collection practices; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. OSSOFF, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2484. A bill to ensure that States do not prohibit an individual from obtaining, possessing, distributing, or using life-saving drug testing technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2485. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Henrietta Lacks, in recognition of her immortal cells which have made invaluable contributions to global health, scientific research, our quality of life, and patients' rights; to the Com-

mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 2486. A bill to limit the availability of funds for the destruction of landmines; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 2487. A bill to provide for an enhanced domestic content requirement for Navy shipbuilding programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2488. A bill to provide for increases in the Federal minimum wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 2489. A bill to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts with Tribal organizations to carry out the food distribution program on Indian reservations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 2490. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the head of a department or organization within the Department of Defense to place an order with any other such department or organization for certain construction projects on a reimbursable basis; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 2491. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a tax on certain trading transactions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. CARPER):

S. 2492. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to improve coordination between the Do Not Pay working system and Federal and State agencies authorized to use the system; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2493. A bill to require the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC) submit to Congress two reports on arrangements with pharmacy benefit managers with respect to prescription drug plans MA-PD plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 2494. A bill to update the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 2495. A bill to protect student athletes, ensure fair competition and compensation, and preserve intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2496. A bill to amend the National Housing Act to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 307. A resolution remembering the 31st anniversary of the bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires on March 17, 1992, and the 29th anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine-Israeli Mutual Association building in Buenos Aires on July 18, 1994, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the victims of the attacks; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 308. A resolution recognizing the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KING, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 309. A resolution recognizing the importance of the blueberry industry to the United States and designating July 2023 as "National Blueberry Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BUDD, Ms. ERNST, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 310. A resolution recognizing the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for 50 years of safety education; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. Con. Res. 17. A concurrent resolution requiring all Members of Congress to publish a public schedule; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 141

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve certain programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs for home and community based services for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 161

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 161, a bill to extend the Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the program for direct housing loans made to Native American veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 226

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 226, a bill to establish eligibility requirements for education support professionals and school support staff under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and for other purposes.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 260, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes.

S. 344

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

S. 359

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 359, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 528

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 528, a bill to require a standard financial aid offer form, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 547, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to amend chapter 38 of title 31, United States Code, relating to civil remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 665

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 665, a bill to provide incentives to physicians to practice in rural and medically underserved communities, and for other purposes.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins to honor and memorialize the tragedy of the Sultana steamboat explosion of 1865.

S. 760

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 760, a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to authorize mandatory funding for the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

S. 761

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 761, a bill to combat forced organ harvesting and trafficking in persons for purposes of the removal of organs, and for other purposes.

S. 886

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 886, a bill to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

S. 965

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 965, a bill to establish a rural postsecondary and economic development grant program.

S. 1047

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1047, a bill to provide that the Federal Communications Commission may not prevent a State or Federal correctional facility from utilizing jamming equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1266, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 1272

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1272, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for examination and disclosure with respect to Presidential income tax returns, to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. 1491

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 1573

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1573, a bill to reauthorize the Prematurity Research Expansion and Education for Mothers who deliver Infants Early Act.

S. 1668

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1668, a bill to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, and for other purposes.

S. 1669

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) 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. 1749

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1749, a bill to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act with respect to nursing facility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 1751

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Washington

(Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1751, a bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining, and for other purposes.

S. 1809

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1809, a bill to amend the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 to establish an Office of Small Farms, and for other purposes.

S. 1829

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) 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. 1967

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1967, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements relating to the responsibility of pharmacy benefit managers under Medicare part D.

S. 1979

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1979, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving age discrimination.

S. 2055

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2055, a bill to provide urgent acquisition and deployment authority for purposes of replenishing United States stockpiles.

S. 2082

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2082, a bill to make technical corrections relating to the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act.

S. 2087

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2087, a bill to reauthorize the Congressional Award Act.

S. 2180

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2221

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2221, a bill to amend the Internal Rev-

enue Code of 1986 to clarify that all provisions shall apply to legally married same-sex couples in the same manner as other married couples, and for other purposes.

S. 2249

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2249, a bill to improve the timeliness, resiliency, and transparency of passport processing operations, and for other purposes.

S. 2270

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2270, a bill to establish and maintain a database within each agency for executive branch ethics records of noncareer appointees.

S. 2307

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2307, a bill to support and strengthen the fighter aircraft capabilities of the Air Force, and for other purposes.

S. 2359

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2359, a bill to require a report on military health care referral policies.

S. 2370

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2370, a bill to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to provide protection for the good faith donation of pet products, and for other purposes.

S. 2396

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2396, a bill to provide enhanced protection against debt collector harassment of members of the Armed Forces.

S. 2427

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2427, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to permit enrollees to obtain a 365-day supply of contraceptives.

S. 2430

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2430, a bill to amend the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 to exclude certain air emissions from emergency notification requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 2442

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASS-

LEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2442, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility to certain short-term workforce programs.

S. CON. RES. 14

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 14, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress supporting the State of Israel.

AMENDMENT NO. 142

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 142 intended to be proposed to 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 199

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 199 intended to be proposed to 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 509

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 509 intended to be proposed to 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 813

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 813 proposed to 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 931

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 931 proposed to 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2476. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy to reduce stigma associated with mental health among the Hispanic and Latino population, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Mental Health for Latinos Act. This important bill would boost our continued efforts to reduce stigma and promote mental wellness, while meeting the diverse needs of Latino communities across the country.

In response to the mental health crisis in the Latino community, this legislation requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a strategy to provide information on evidence-based practices, interventions, and treatments that are culturally and linguistically appropriate and increases awareness of symptoms of mental illnesses common among such populations, considering differences within subgroups, such as gender, gender identity, age, sexual orientation, race, or ethnicity.

The evidence is clear: We are experiencing a mental health crisis in the Latino community. Disparities within our healthcare system are preventing members of Latino communities from receiving lifesaving mental health services.

These barriers to care are causing too many to suffer in silence, and this must change. Presently, only 36.1 percent of Latino adults aged 18 or older with a mental illness received services in 2021, compared to the U.S. average of 47.2 percent. Between 2010 and 2020, the suicide rate among male Latino adults ages 20 to 64 increased by 35.7 percent, and the female rate increased by 40.6 percent. Even those who are able to access services rarely receive the effective, culturally competent care they need.

This bill would further our continued efforts to reduce stigma and promote mental wellness, while meeting the diverse needs of Latino populations across the country. As our Nation confronts an unfolding mental health cri-

sis, this critical legislation reinforces the timeless message that there is zero shame in asking for help and that seeking support is a sign of strength.

I would like to thank Congresswoman NAPOLITANO for leading this legislation in the House of Representatives, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact the Mental Health for Latinos Act as soon as possible.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2477. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2477

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 “Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act”.

SEC. 2. COVERAGE OF PHARMACIST SERVICES UNDER MEDICARE PART B.

(a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (II), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (JJ), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(KK) pharmacist services and such services and supplies furnished as an incident to the pharmacist’s service as would otherwise be covered under part B if furnished by a physician or as an incident to a physician’s service that—

“(i) are furnished by a pharmacist—

“(I) as licensed under State law; or

“(II) pursuant to a Federal emergency authority described under section 319F–3 or section 361 of the Public Health Service Act, or other similar Federal law;

“(ii) would otherwise be covered under part B if furnished by a physician; and

“(iii) are services—

“(I) for encounters for the evaluation and management of patients for testing or treatment for COVID–19, influenza, respiratory syncytial virus, or streptococcal pharyngitis; or

“(II) that address a public health need related to a public health emergency under section 319F–3 or section 361 of the Public Health Service Act, or other similar Federal law.”; and

(2) in paragraph (10), in each of subparagraphs (A) and (B), by inserting “, including when furnished by a pharmacist” before the semicolon in each such subparagraph.

(b) PAYMENT.—Section 1833(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and (HH)” and inserting “(HH)”; and

(2) by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “and (II) with respect to pharmacist services described in section 1861(s)(2)(KK), the amounts paid shall be equal to 80 percent of the lesser of (i) the actual charge for the services or (ii) 85 percent

(or 100 percent, in the case of such services furnished pursuant to a Federal emergency authority described in clause (i)(II) of such section) of the amount determined under the payment basis under section 1848 for such services.”.

(c) PROHIBITION ON BALANCE BILLING FOR PHARMACIST SERVICES.—Section 1842(b)(18)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(b)(18)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(ix) A pharmacist.”.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to restrict the ability of pharmacies and pharmacists to enroll and obtain reimbursement under existing pathways under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) as of the date of the enactment of this Act, including payment as mass immunizers.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall implement the provisions of, and the amendments made by, this section by interim final rule, program instruction, or otherwise not later than the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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

S. 2479. A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to establish an alternative manure management program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Converting Our Waste Sustainably, COWS, Act of 2023. This legislation will help dairy and livestock producers reduce methane emissions, improve air and water quality, and implement more sustainable alternative manure management practices.

As the top dairy State in the country and the second in cheese production, California is the largest producer of milk, butter, and cheeses like mozzarella, Monterey Jack, and queso fresco. Dairy operations contribute billions of dollars to California’s economy but are also responsible for 60 percent of California’s methane emissions.

Recognizing the urgency of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions like methane, California and the dairy industry are on track to reduce dairy methane emissions by 40 percent by 2030 largely due to the successes of California’s own Alternative Manure Management Program.

The COWS Act would establish an Alternative Manure Management Program to help dairy and livestock producers transition toward pasture-based management, alternative treatment and storage practices, solid separation systems, and scrape technologies.

This voluntary program, modeled after California’s extremely successful Alternative Manure Management Program, will provide more resources for the dairy and livestock industry to modernize technologies for manure management that help boost profitability, improve water quality, and reduce methane and nitrogen oxide emissions by fostering climate-smart farming.

The bill also makes composting eligible for funding under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program and the Conservation Stewardship Program.

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural operations is critical to addressing the climate crisis. Because of the high construction and operation costs associated with anaerobic digesters, nondigester manure management practices can provide a more cost-effective alternative for family dairy and livestock operators seeking to improve profitability while improving air and water quality for their communities.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Senators BROWN and HEINRICH, for their leadership in reducing agricultural methane emissions and Representative COSTA for championing this bill in the House.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass the COWS Act as quickly as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 307—REMEMBERING THE 31ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBING OF THE EMBASSY OF ISRAEL IN BUENOS AIRES ON MARCH 17, 1992, AND THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOMBING OF THE ARGENTINE-ISRAELI MUTUAL ASSOCIATION BUILDING IN BUENOS AIRES ON JULY 18, 1994, AND RECOMMITTING TO EFFORTS TO UPHOLD JUSTICE FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE ATTACKS

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 307

Whereas, on March 17, 1992, a truck laden with explosives struck and detonated at the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires, Argentina, killing 29 people and wounding more than 200 others

Whereas Argentina is home to the largest Jewish community in Latin America and the sixth largest in the world, outside Israel;

Whereas, in 1999, the Supreme Court of Argentina, after conducting an investigation, found that the Lebanese terrorist organization Hezbollah was responsible for the bombing, which claimed the lives of Israeli diplomats, their relatives, and numerous Argentine citizens and children;

Whereas 2 years after the bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Argentina, on July 18, 1994, a car bomb detonated at the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center building in Buenos Aires, killing 85 people and wounding more than 300 others, rendering it the deadliest terrorist attack in Argentina's history;

Whereas, for 25 years, the investigation into the AMIA bombing has been stymied by international inaction, political interference, investigative misconduct, and allegations of cover-ups, including the removal of the Federal judge in charge of the case in 2005 for "serious" irregularities in his handling of the case;

Whereas, in October 2006, Argentine prosecutors Alberto Nisman and Marcelo Martín

Burgos formally accused the Government of Iran of directing Hezbollah to carry out the AMIA bombing;

Whereas the Argentine prosecutors charged Iranian nationals as suspects in the AMIA bombing, including—

(1) Ali Fallahijan, Iran's former intelligence minister;

(2) Mohsen Rabbani, Iran's former cultural attaché in Buenos Aires;

(3) Ahmad Reza Asghari, a former Iranian diplomat posted to Argentina;

(4) Ahmad Vahidi, Iran's former defense minister;

(5) Ali Akbar Velayati, Iran's former foreign minister;

(6) Mohsen Rezaee, former chief commander of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps;

(7) Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, former President of Iran; and

(8) Hadi Soleimanpour, former Iranian ambassador to Argentina;

Whereas, in November 2007, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) published Red Notices on 5 of the Iranian nationals and Hezbollah operative Ibrahim Hussein Berro;

Whereas those with INTERPOL Red Notices have repeatedly traveled internationally with impunity on more than 20 occasions since 2007;

Whereas, in May 2013, Argentine prosecutor Alberto Nisman published a 500-page report accusing the Government of Iran of establishing terrorist networks throughout Latin America;

Whereas, in January 2015, Mr. Nisman released the results of an investigation alleging that then-President Fernandez de Kirchner and then-Foreign Minister Timerman conspired to cover up Iranian involvement in the 1994 AMIA bombing and that they had agreed to negotiate immunity for Iranian suspects and secure the removal of the INTERPOL Red Notices;

Whereas Mr. Nisman was scheduled to present his findings to a commission of the Argentine National Congress on January 19, 2015, but on January 18, 2015, was found dead as the result of a gunshot wound to his head in his apartment in Buenos Aires;

Whereas, to date, no one has been brought to justice for the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Argentina, the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, or the death of Argentine prosecutor Alberto Nisman; and

Whereas the Third Federal Criminal and Correctional Court of Buenos Aires requested—

(1) on October 18, 2022, that Qatar detain Mohsen Rezaee; and

(2) on June 15, 2023, that Argentinian authorities and INTERPOL work together to apprehend Lebanese nationals Hussein Mounir Mouzannar, Ali Hussein Abdallah, Farouk Abdul Hay Omairi, and Abdallah Salman for the role of these individuals in the 1994 bombing of the AMIA Jewish Community Center: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reiterates its strongest condemnation of the 1992 attack on the Israeli Embassy in Argentina and the 1994 attack on the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires;

(2) honors the victims of the 1992 bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Argentina and the 1994 AMIA bombing and expresses its sympathy to the relatives of the victims who are still waiting for justice;

(3) underscores the concern of the United States regarding the continuing, decades-long delay in resolving the 1992 and 1994 terrorist attacks in Argentina and urges the President of the United States to offer technical assistance to the Government of Argentina to support the ongoing investigations;

(4) urges the Government of Argentina and the international community to continue efforts to bring the perpetrators of the March 17, 1992, and July 18, 1994, terrorist attacks to justice, including by—

(A) enforcing the Red Notices issued by the International Criminal Police Organization; and

(B) extending such Red Notices prior to expiration;

(5) calls upon the Government of Argentina to conclude the investigation into the murder of Alberto Nisman so the responsible individuals are brought to justice;

(6) commends the Government of Argentina for designating Hezbollah as a terrorist organization and urges other United States allies and partners in Latin America and the Caribbean to do the same; and

(7) commends the Government of Argentina for adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance working definition of antisemitism and encourages other partners and allies to do the same.

SENATE RESOLUTION 308—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. RISCH, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 308

Whereas the Department of Defense State Partnership Program (referred to in this preamble as the "State Partnership Program") has evolved from a program designed to assist countries emerging from behind the Iron Curtain to one that now involves 100 nations and the National Guard of every State and territory of the United States;

Whereas members of the National Guard work with partner militaries to bolster capabilities, improve interoperability, and enhance principles of responsible governance;

Whereas the State Partnership Program delivers a significant return on investment by broadening the pool of security partners who are willing and able to support defense and security cooperation objectives of the United States around the world;

Whereas most of the earliest State Partnership Program partner countries in Europe have gone on to become United States allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and many of them credit the State Partnership Program and their National Guard State partners with helping to make that possible;

Whereas the State Partnership Program helps ensure that the Department of Defense has capable, trusted, and interoperable partners;

Whereas the State Partnership Program has created 88 enduring, cost-effective partnerships with 100 nations encompassing over ½ of the countries in the world;

Whereas members of the National Guard typically engage in more than 1,000 State Partnership Program events per year;

Whereas the National Guard Bureau is working with the commanders of the combatant commands and the Department of State to increase State Partnership Program partnerships by 2 nations per year for the next 15 years; and

Whereas commanders of the combatant commands and United States ambassadors strongly endorse the State Partnership Program for cultivating long-term relationships with partners: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(2) expresses deep gratitude for the continuing service by members of the National Guard in support of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program;

(3) recognizes the outsized influence of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in developing and supporting enduring relationships around the world that serve both the interests of the partner nations and the United States;

(4) supports the continued expansion of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program in furtherance of global security cooperation; and

(5) designates July 17, 2023, as State Partnership Program Day to recognize the 30th anniversary of the historic Department of Defense State Partnership Program.

SENATE RESOLUTION 309—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BLUEBERRY INDUSTRY TO THE UNITED STATES AND DESIGNATING JULY 2023 AS “NATIONAL BLUEBERRY MONTH”

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KING, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 309

Whereas blueberries are a native North American fruit, first managed and harvested as wild blueberries by the native Wabanaki;

Whereas wild blueberries continue to be managed and harvested in Maine by farmers, including the Wabanaki, as a native, naturally occurring crop;

Whereas the pioneering work conducted in New Jersey in the early 1900s by Elizabeth White and Dr. Frederick Coville, a botanist at the Department of Agriculture, to domesticate wild lowbush blueberries resulted in the development of the hybrid variety of cultivated highbush blueberries;

Whereas, because of these early efforts, highbush blueberries are large, sweet, juicy berries that can be commercially produced and shipped;

Whereas wild blueberries—

(1) are small and sweet; and

(2) are not planted, but still grow and are harvested where they have naturally occurred for thousands of years;

Whereas the blueberry industry in the United States is an important sector of United States agriculture with an annual economic impact of \$4,700,000,000;

Whereas highbush and wild blueberries have a total harvested area estimated at more than 140,000 acres and are produced in 48 States by nearly 13,185 farms;

Whereas blueberry production in the United States has continually increased, with particular growth in the first 2 decades of the 21st century, to reach a harvest of 731,400,000 pounds in 2022;

Whereas blueberries are low in fat and are a source of fiber, vitamins, and minerals;

Whereas blueberries are being studied to examine the role the berries may play in promoting good health in areas such as cardiovascular health, brain health, exercise, insulin response, and gut health; and

Whereas blueberries are harvested in the United States from March through early September, with the harvest reaching its peak in July: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 2023 as “National Blueberry Month”;

(2) recognizes the contributions of blueberry growers in the United States and their families; and

(3) recognizes that purchasing blueberries grown in the United States supports farmers, jobs, communities, and the economy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 310—RECOGNIZING THE MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION FOR 50 YEARS OF SAFETY EDUCATION

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BUDD, Ms. ERNST, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. CASEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 310

Whereas, in 1973, the Motorcycle Safety Foundation began creating the first motorcycle rider safety training curriculum in the United States;

Whereas the Motorcycle Safety Foundation is a nonprofit organization providing motorcycle rider training and education;

Whereas the Motorcycle Safety Foundation meets the needs of motorcycle riders by continuing to create courses for the most popular bikes on the road and on the trail, including the hands-on Adventure Bike Rider Course and the Dirtbike School courses, that enable motorcycle riders to get the most out of their bikes;

Whereas new and experienced riders can benefit from learning basic motorcycle controls, safe-riding habits, and street strategies in a comprehensive, research-based curriculum created by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation;

Whereas 10,000,000 motorcyclists have taken the Basic Rider Course taught by Motorcycle Safety Foundation rider coaches in the last 50 years;

Whereas 46 States and the Armed Forces use Motorcycle Safety Foundation curriculum as their motorcycle license waiver course;

Whereas nearly 10,000 rider coaches teach Motorcycle Safety Foundation curriculum at 2,700 training sites across the United States; and

Whereas the efforts of the Motorcycle Safety Foundation are aimed at making the roadways of the United States safer for both motorcycle riders and non-riders: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the Motorcycle Safety Foundation for 50 years of safety education and improving the ride for motorcycle riders across the United States.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 17—REQUIRING ALL MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO PUBLISH A PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. KELLY) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. CON. RES. 17

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Transparency in Congress Resolution of 2023”.

SEC. 2. PUBLICATION OF PUBLIC SCHEDULE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “disclosure” has the meaning given that term in section 2302(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code;

(2) the term “Member of Congress” has the meaning given that term in section 2106 of title 5, United States Code, except that such term does not include the Vice President; and

(3) the term “public schedule” means the public schedule of a Member of Congress required to be published under subsection (b)(1).

(b) REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the last day of each month, each Member of Congress shall publish a public schedule of the Member of Congress for the preceding month that includes the following:

(A) A daily calendar of—

(i) each hearing, meeting, or event attended by the Member of Congress during the month, either in person or by teleconference or other electronic means, at which the Member of Congress appears in his or her official capacity; and

(ii) the floor activity of the Member of Congress during the month.

(B) For each meeting or event described in subparagraph (A), if known by the Member of Congress—

(i) a general description of the individuals, entities, or organizations participating in the meeting or event; or

(ii) a general description of the meeting or event.

(2) EXCLUSIONS.—A public schedule is not required to include—

(A) personal or campaign meetings or events;

(B) meetings or events with congressional staff; or

(C) meetings or events at which the Member of Congress is not appearing in an official capacity.

(c) INFORMATION NOT DISCLOSED.—A Member of Congress may determine to not disclose in a public schedule the following information:

(1) Any information—

(A) that implicates personal privacy or law enforcement concerns;

(B) that implicates the personal safety of congressional staff (including the time of the arrival or departure of congressional staff from their duty station); or

(C) the release or disclosure of which would cause a threat to national security interests or reveal information that is confidential or classified.

(2) Information related to particularly sensitive meetings, including a meeting with an anonymous or confidential whistleblower.

(d) AVAILABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For each Congress and as required under subsection (b)(1), a Member of Congress shall make each monthly public schedule of the Member of Congress publicly

available on the website of the Member of Congress at least until the date that is 30 days after—

(A) the last day of the Congress; or

(B) in the case of a Member of Congress whose service as a Member of Congress ends before the last day of the Congress, the last day of such service.

(e) ETHICS IMPLEMENTATION AND GUIDANCE.—The Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate and the Committee on Ethics of the House of Representatives—

(1) shall have authority to implement this resolution with respect to Members of Congress of the applicable House; and

(2) may issue guidance as needed to implement this resolution.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A Member of Congress shall make available the public schedule of the Member of Congress in accordance with this section for each day on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of adoption of this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1014. Mr. COTTON (for himself and 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.

SA 1015. Mr. COTTON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1016. Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1017. 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 1018. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1019. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1020. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASIDY, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1021. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1022. Mr. HAGERTY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1023. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAWLEY, and Ms. SINEMA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1024. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1025. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1026. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended

to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1027. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1028. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1029. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1030. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1031. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1032. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1033. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1034. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1035. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASIDY, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1036. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1037. 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 1038. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1039. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1040. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1041. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1042. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1043. Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. ROSEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1044. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1045. Mr. MARSHALL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1046. Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr.

BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1047. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (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 1048. Ms. SINEMA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1049. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2226, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1014. Mr. COTTON (for himself and 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 appropriate place in title X, insert the following:

SEC. 10. TREATMENT OF RELOCATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR ACTIVE SERVICE FOR PURPOSES OF MORTGAGE REFINANCING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title III of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is amended by inserting after section 303 (50 U.S.C. App. 533) the following new section:

“SEC. 303A. TREATMENT OF RELOCATION OF SERVICEMEMBERS FOR ACTIVE DUTY OR ACTIVE SERVICE FOR PURPOSES OF MORTGAGE REFINANCING.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED REFINANCING MORTGAGE.—The term ‘covered refinancing mortgage’ means any federally backed mortgage that—

“(A) is made for the purpose of paying or prepaying, and extinguishing, the outstanding obligations under an existing mortgage or mortgages; and

“(B) is secured by the same residence that secured such existing mortgage or mortgages described in subparagraph (A).

“(2) EXISTING MORTGAGE.—The term ‘existing mortgage’ means a federally backed mortgage that is secured by a 1- to 4-family residence, including a condominium or a share in a cooperative ownership housing association, that was the principal residence of a servicemember for a period that—

“(A) had a duration of 13 consecutive months or longer; and

“(B) ended upon the relocation of the servicemember caused by the servicemember receiving military orders for a permanent change of station or to deploy with a military unit, or as an individual in support of a military operation, for a period of not less than 18 months that did not allow the servicemember to continue to occupy such residence as a principal residence.

“(3) FEDERALLY BACKED MORTGAGE.—The term ‘federally backed mortgage’ has the meaning given the term ‘Federally backed mortgage loan’ in section 4022 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9056).

“(b) TREATMENT OF ABSENCE FROM RESIDENCE DUE TO ACTIVE DUTY OR ACTIVE SERVICE.—While a servicemember who is the

mortgagor under an existing mortgage does not reside in the residence that secures the existing mortgage because of a relocation described in subsection (a)(2)(B), if the servicemember inquires about or applies for a covered refinancing mortgage, the servicemember shall be considered, for all purposes relating to the covered refinancing mortgage (including such inquiry or application and eligibility for, and compliance with, any underwriting criteria and standards regarding such covered refinancing mortgage) to occupy the residence that secures the existing mortgage to be paid or prepaid by such covered refinancing mortgage as the principal residence of the servicemember during the period of such relocation.

(c) LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) shall not apply with respect to a servicemember who inquires about or applies for a covered refinancing mortgage if, during the 5-year period preceding the date of such inquiry or application, the servicemember entered into a covered refinancing mortgage pursuant to this section.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 303 the following new item:

“303A. Treatment of relocation of servicemembers for active duty or active service for purposes of mortgage refinancing.”

SA 1015. Mr. COTTON 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 G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1083. NATIONAL COLD WAR CENTER DESIGNATION.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to designate the museum located at Blytheville/Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas, including its future and expanded exhibits, collections, and educational programs, as a “National Cold War Center”;

(2) to recognize the preservation, maintenance, and interpretation of the artifacts, documents, images, and history collected by the Center;

(3) to enhance the knowledge of the American people of the experience of the United States during the Cold War years; and

(4) to ensure that all future generations understand the sacrifices made to preserve freedom and democracy, and the benefits of peace for all future generations in the 21st century and beyond.

(b) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The museum located at Blytheville/Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas, is designated as a “National Cold War Center”.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall preclude the designation of other national centers or museums in the United States interpreting the Cold War.

(c) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—The National Cold War Center designated by this section is not a unit of the National Park System, and the designation of the center as a National Cold War Center shall not be construed to require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the designation made by this section.

SA 1016. Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) 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. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE FOR ASSESSING PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES IN WATER SOURCES AND PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCE REMEDIATION SOLUTIONS.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to dedicate resources to advancing, and expanding access to, perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance detection and remediation science, research, and technologies through Centers of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the congressional defense committees (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code);

(B) the Committee on Environment and Public Works, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(3) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the Center of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions established under subsection (c)(1)(A).

(4) CENTERS.—The term “Centers” means—

(A) the Center; and

(B) the Rural Center.

(5) ELIGIBLE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY.—The term “eligible research university” means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a))) that—

(A) has annual research expenditures of not less than \$750,000,000; and

(B) is located near a population center of not fewer than 5,000,000 individuals.

(6) ELIGIBLE RURAL UNIVERSITY.—The term “eligible rural university” means an institution of higher education that—

(A) is located in a State described in section 1703(d)(1)(C)(iii)(I) of title 38, United States Code; and

(B) is a member of the National Security Innovation Network in the Rocky Mountain Region.

(7) EPA METHOD 533.—The term “EPA Method 533” means the method described in the document of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled “Method 533: Determination of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Drinking Water by Isotope Dilution Anion Exchange Solid Phase Extraction and Liquid

Chromatography/Tandem mass Spectrometry” (or a successor document).

(8) EPA METHOD 537.1.—The term “EPA Method 537.1” means the method described in the document of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled “Determination of Selected Per- and Polyfluorinated Alkyl Substances in Drinking Water by Solid Phase Extraction and Liquid Chromatography/Tandem Mass Spectrometry (LC/MS/MS)” (or a successor document).

(9) NATIONAL LABORATORY.—The term “National Laboratory” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).

(10) RURAL CENTER.—The term “Rural Center” means the Rural Center of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions established under subsection (c)(1)(B).

(c) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall—

(A)(i) select from among the applications submitted under paragraph (2)(A) an eligible research university and a National Laboratory applying jointly for the establishment of a center, to be known as the “Center of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions”, which shall be a bi-institutional collaboration between the eligible research university and National Laboratory co-applicants; and

(ii) guide and assist the eligible research university and National Laboratory in the establishment of that center; and

(B)(i) select from among the applications submitted under paragraph (2)(B) an eligible rural university for the establishment of an additional center, to be known as the “Rural Center of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions”; and

(ii) guide and assist the eligible rural university in the establishment of that center.

(2) APPLICATIONS.—

(A) CENTER.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An eligible research university and National Laboratory desiring to establish the Center shall jointly submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(ii) CRITERIA.—In evaluating applications submitted under clause (i), the Administrator shall only consider applications that—

(I) include evidence of an existing partnership between the co-applicants that is dedicated to supporting and expanding shared scientific goals with a clear pathway to collaborating on furthering science and research relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances;

(II) demonstrate a history of collaboration between the co-applicants on the advancement of shared research capabilities, including instrumentation and research infrastructure relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances;

(III) indicate that the co-applicants have the capacity to expand education and research opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to prepare a generation of experts in sciences relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances;

(IV) demonstrate that the National Laboratory co-applicant is equipped to scale up newly discovered materials and methods for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance detection and perfluoroalkyl and

polyfluoroalkyl substance removal processes for low-risk, cost-effective, and validated commercialization; and

(V) identify 1 or more staff members of the eligible research university co-applicant and 1 or more staff members of the National Laboratory co-applicant who—

(aa) have expertise in sciences relevant to perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance detection and remediation; and

(bb) have been jointly selected, and will be jointly appointed, by the co-applicants to lead, and carry out the purposes of, the Center.

(B) RURAL CENTER.—An eligible rural university desiring to establish the Rural Center shall submit to the Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Administrator may require.

(3) TIMING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Centers shall be established not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) DELAY.—If the Administrator determines that a delay in the establishment of 1 or more of the Centers is necessary, the Administrator—

(i) not later than the date described in subparagraph (A), shall submit a notification to the appropriate committees of Congress explaining the necessity of the delay; and

(ii) shall ensure that the 1 or more Centers for which a delay is necessary are established not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(4) REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator shall carry out subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1)—

(A) in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate; and

(B) in consultation with the Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program of the Department of Defense.

(d) DUTIES AND CAPABILITIES OF THE CENTERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Centers shall develop and maintain—

(A) capabilities for measuring, using methods certified by the Environmental Protection Agency, perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination in drinking water, ground water, and any other relevant environmental, municipal, industrial, or residential water samples; and

(B) capabilities for—

(i) evaluating emerging perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance removal and destruction technologies and methods; and

(ii) benchmarking those technologies and methods relative to existing technologies and methods.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Centers shall, at a minimum—

(i) develop instruments and personnel capable of analyzing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination in water using EPA method 533, EPA method 537.1, any future method or updated method, or any other relevant method for detecting perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in water;

(ii) develop and maintain capabilities for evaluating the removal of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances from water using newly developed adsorbents or membranes;

(iii) develop and maintain capabilities to evaluate the degradation of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in water or other media;

(iv) make the capabilities and instruments developed under clauses (i) through (iii)

available to researchers throughout the regions in which the Centers are located; and

(v) make reliable perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance measurement capabilities and instruments available to municipalities and individuals in the region in which the Centers are located at reasonable cost.

(B) OPEN-ACCESS RESEARCH.—The Centers shall provide open access to the research findings of the Centers.

(e) COORDINATION WITH OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—The Administrator may, as the Administrator determines to be necessary, use staff and other resources from other Federal agencies in carrying out this section.

(f) REPORTS.—

(1) REPORT ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.—With respect to each of the Center and the Rural Center, not later than 1 year after the date on which the center is established under subsection (c), the Administrator, in coordination with that center, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(A) the establishment of that center; and

(B) the activities of that center since the date on which that center was established.

(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—With respect to each of the Center and the Rural Center, not later than 1 year after the date on which the report under paragraph (1) for that center is submitted, and annually thereafter until the date on which that center is terminated under subsection (g), the Administrator, in coordination with that center, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(A) the activities of that center during the year covered by the report; and

(B) any policy, research, or funding recommendations relating to the purposes or activities of that center.

(g) TERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Centers shall terminate on October 1, 2033.

(2) EXTENSION.—If the Administrator, in consultation with the Centers, determines that the continued operation of 1 or more of the Centers beyond the date described in paragraph (1) is necessary to advance science and technologies to address perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination—

(A) the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(i) a notification of that determination; and

(ii) a description of the funding necessary for the applicable 1 or more Centers to continue in operation and fulfill their purpose; and

(B) subject to the availability of funds, may extend the duration of the applicable 1 or more Centers for such time as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(h) FUNDING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2024 by this Act, \$25,000,000 shall be made available to the Administrator to carry out this section, to remain available until September 30, 2033.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 4 percent of the amounts made available to the Administrator under paragraph (1) shall be used by the Administrator for the administrative costs of carrying out this section.

SA 1017. Mr. RISC 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 mili-

tary 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 XII, insert the following:

Subtitle —Western Hemisphere Partnership Act of 2023

SEC. . . . SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Western Hemisphere Partnership Act of 2023”.

SEC. . . . UNITED STATES POLICY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

It is the policy of the United States to promote economic competitiveness, democratic governance, and security in the Western Hemisphere by—

(1) encouraging stronger economic relations, respect for property rights, the rule of law, and enforceable investment rules and labor and environmental standards;

(2) advancing the principles and practices expressed in the Charter of the Organization of American States, the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man, and the Inter-American Democratic Charter; and

(3) enhancing the capacity and technical capabilities of democratic partner nation government institutions, including civilian law enforcement, the judiciary, attorneys general, and security forces.

SEC. . . . PROMOTING SECURITY AND THE RULE OF LAW IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should strengthen security cooperation with democratic partner nations in the Western Hemisphere to promote a secure hemisphere and to address the negative impacts of transnational criminal organizations and malign external state actors.

(b) COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS.—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should support the improvement of security conditions and the rule of law in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) enhance the institutional capacity and technical capabilities of defense and security institutions in democratic partner nations to conduct national or regional security missions, including through regular bilateral and multilateral engagements, foreign military sales and financing, international military education and training programs, expanding the National Guard State Partnership Programs, and other means;

(2) provide technical assistance and material support (including, as appropriate, radars, vessels, and communications equipment) to relevant security forces to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle organizations involved in the illicit trafficking of narcotics and precursor chemicals, transnational criminal activities, illicit mining, and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and other illicit activities;

(3) enhance the institutional capacity, legitimacy, and technical capabilities of relevant civilian law enforcement, attorneys general, and judicial institutions to—

(A) strengthen the rule of law and transparent governance;

(B) combat corruption and kleptocracy in the region; and

(C) improve regional cooperation to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle transnational organized criminal networks and terrorist organizations, including through training, anticorruption initiatives, anti-money laundering programs, and strengthening cyber capabilities and resources;

(4) enhance port management and maritime security partnerships and airport management and aviation security partnerships

to disrupt, degrade, and dismantle transnational criminal networks and facilitate the legitimate flow of people, goods, and services;

(5) strengthen cooperation to improve border security across the Western Hemisphere, dismantle human smuggling and trafficking networks, and increase cooperation to demonstrably strengthen migration management systems;

(6) counter the malign influence of state and non-state actors and disinformation campaigns;

(7) disrupt illicit domestic and transnational financial networks;

(8) foster mechanisms for cooperation on emergency preparedness and rapid recovery from natural disasters, including by—

(A) supporting regional preparedness, recovery, and emergency management centers to facilitate rapid response to survey and help maintain planning on regional disaster anticipated needs and possible resources;

(B) training disaster recovery officials on latest techniques and lessons learned from United States experiences;

(C) making available, preparing, and transferring on-hand nonlethal supplies, and providing training on the use of such supplies, for humanitarian or health purposes to respond to unforeseen emergencies; and

(D) conducting medical support operations and medical humanitarian missions, such as hospital ship deployments and base-operating services, to the extent required by the operation;

(9) foster regional mechanisms for early warning and response to pandemics in the Western Hemisphere, including through—

(A) improved cooperation with and research by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through regional pandemic response centers;

(B) personnel exchanges for technology transfer and skills development; and

(C) surveying and mapping of health networks to build local health capacity;

(10) promote the meaningful participation of women across all political processes, including conflict prevention and conflict resolution and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts; and

(11) hold accountable actors that violate political and civil rights.

(c) **LIMITATIONS ON USE OF TECHNOLOGIES.**—Operational technologies transferred pursuant to subsection (b) to partner governments for intelligence, defense, or law enforcement purposes shall be used solely for the purposes for which the technology was intended. The United States shall take all necessary steps to ensure that the use of such operational technologies is consistent with United States law, including protections of freedom of expression, freedom of movement, and freedom of association.

(d) **STRATEGY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a 5-year strategy to promote security and the rule of law in the Western Hemisphere in accordance to this section.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) A detailed assessment of the resources required to carry out such collaborative efforts.

(B) Annual benchmarks to track progress and obstacles in undertaking such collaborative efforts.

(C) A public diplomacy component to engage the people of the Western Hemisphere

with the purpose of demonstrating that the security of their countries is enhanced to a greater extent through alignment with the United States and democratic values rather than with authoritarian countries such as the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

(3) **BRIEFING.**—Not later than 1 year after submission of the strategy required under paragraph (1), and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall provide to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on the implementation of the strategy.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING DIGITALIZATION AND CYBERSECURITY IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should support digitalization and expand cybersecurity cooperation in the Western Hemisphere to promote regional economic prosperity and security.

(b) **PROMOTION OF DIGITALIZATION AND CYBERSECURITY.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should promote digitalization and cybersecurity in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) promote digital connectivity and facilitate e-commerce by expanding access to information and communications technology (ICT) supply chains that adhere to high-quality security and reliability standards, including—

(A) to open market access on a national treatment, nondiscriminatory basis; and

(B) to strengthen the cybersecurity and cyber resilience of partner countries;

(2) advance the provision of digital government services (e-government) that, to the greatest extent possible, promote transparency, lower business costs, and expand citizens' access to public services and public information; and

(3) develop robust cybersecurity partnerships to—

(A) promote the inclusion of components and architectures in information and communications technology (ICT) supply chains from participants in initiatives that adhere to high-quality security and reliability standards;

(B) share best practices to mitigate cyber threats to critical infrastructure from ICT architectures by technology providers that supply equipment and services covered under section 2 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1601);

(C) effectively respond to cybersecurity threats, including state-sponsored threats; and

(D) to strengthen resilience against cyberattacks and cybercrime.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL PARTNERSHIPS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should enhance economic and commercial ties with democratic partners to promote prosperity in the Western Hemisphere by modernizing and strengthening trade capacity-building and trade facilitation initiatives, encouraging market-based economic reforms that enable inclusive economic growth, strengthening labor and environmental standards, addressing economic disparities of women, and encouraging transparency and adherence to the rule of law in investment dealings.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the United States Trade Representative, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, and the heads of other relevant Federal

agencies, should support the improvement of economic conditions in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) facilitate a more open, transparent, and competitive environment for United States businesses and promote robust and comprehensive trade capacity-building and trade facilitation by—

(A) reducing trade and nontariff barriers between the countries in the region, establishing a mechanism for pursuing Mutual Recognition Agreements and Formalized Regulatory Cooperation Agreements in priority sectors of the economy;

(B) establishing a forum for discussing and evaluating technical and other assistance needs to help establish streamlined “single window” processes to facilitate movement of goods and common customs arrangements and procedures to lower costs of goods in transit and speed to destination;

(C) building relationships and exchanges between relevant regulatory bodies in the United States and democratic partners in the Western Hemisphere to promote best practices and transparency in rulemaking, implementation, and enforcement, and provide training and assistance to help improve supply chain management in the Western Hemisphere;

(D) establishing regional fora for identifying, raising, and addressing supply chain management issues, including infrastructure needs and strengthening of investment rules and regulatory frameworks;

(E) establishing a dedicated program of trade missions and reverse trade missions to increase commercial contacts and ties between the United States and Western Hemisphere partner countries; and

(F) strengthening labor and environmental standards in the region;

(2) establish frameworks or mechanisms to review and address the long-term financial sustainability and national security implications of foreign investments in strategic sectors or services;

(3) establish competitive and transparent infrastructure project selection and procurement processes that promote transparency, open competition, financial sustainability, and robust adherence to global standards and norms; and

(4) advance robust and comprehensive energy production and integration, including through a more open, transparent, and competitive environment for United States companies competing in the Western Hemisphere, including by—

(A) facilitating further development of integrated regional energy markets;

(B) improving management of grids, including technical capability to ensure the functionality, safe and responsible management, and quality of service of electricity providers, carriers, and management and distribution systems;

(C) facilitating private sector-led development of reliable and affordable power generation capacity;

(D) establishing a process for surveying grid capacity and management focused on identifying electricity service efficiencies and establishing cooperative mechanisms for providing technical assistance for—

(i) grid management, power pricing, and tariff issues;

(ii) establishing and maintaining appropriate regulatory best practices; and

(iii) proposals to establish regional power grids for the purpose of promoting the sale of excess supply to consumers across borders;

(E) assessing the viability and effectiveness of decentralizing power production and transmission and building micro-grid power networks to improve, when feasible, access

to electricity, particularly in rural and underserved communities where centralized power grid connections may not be feasible in the short to medium term; and

(F) exploring opportunities to partner with the private sector and multilateral institutions, such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, to promote universal access to reliable and affordable electricity in the Western Hemisphere.

SEC. ____ . PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY AND DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the United States should support efforts to strengthen the capacity and legitimacy of democratic institutions and inclusive processes in the Western Hemisphere to promote a more transparent, democratic, and prosperous region.

(b) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and heads of other relevant Federal agencies, should support transparent, accountable, and democratic governance in the Western Hemisphere through collaborative efforts with democratic partners that—

(1) strengthen the capacity of national electoral institutions to ensure free, fair, and transparent electoral processes, including through pre-election assessment missions, technical assistance, and independent local and international election monitoring and observation missions;

(2) enhance the capabilities of democratically elected national legislatures, parliamentary bodies, and autonomous regulatory institutions to conduct oversight;

(3) strengthen the capacity of subnational government institutions to govern in a transparent, accountable, and democratic manner, including through training and technical assistance;

(4) combat corruption at local and national levels, including through trainings, cooperation agreements, initiatives aimed at dismantling corrupt networks, and political support for bilateral or multilateral anticorruption mechanisms that strengthen attorneys general and prosecutors' offices;

(5) strengthen the capacity of civil society to conduct oversight of government institutions, build the capacity of independent professional journalism, facilitate substantive dialogue with government and the private sector to generate issue-based policies, and mobilize local resources to carry out such activities;

(6) promote the meaningful and significant participation of women in democratic processes, including in national and subnational government and civil society; and

(7) support the creation of procedures for the Organization of American States (OAS) to create an annual forum for democratically elected national legislatures from OAS member States to discuss issues of hemispheric importance, as expressed in section 4 of the Organization of American States Legislative Engagement Act of 2020 (Public Law 116-343).

SEC. ____ . INVESTMENT, TRADE, AND DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

(a) **STRATEGY REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall establish a comprehensive United States strategy for public and private investment, trade, and development in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean.

(2) **FOCUS OF STRATEGY.**—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall focus on increasing exports of United States goods and services to Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean by 200 percent in real dollar value by the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) **CONSULTATIONS.**—In developing the strategy required by paragraph (1), the President shall consult with—

(A) Congress;

(B) each agency that is a member of the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee;

(C) the relevant multilateral development banks, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the respective United States Executive Directors of such banks;

(D) each agency that participates in the Trade Policy Staff Committee established;

(E) the President's Export Council;

(F) each of the development agencies;

(G) any other Federal agencies with responsibility for export promotion or financing and development; and

(H) the private sector, including businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and African and Latin American and Caribbean diaspora groups.

(4) **SUBMISSION TO APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—

(A) **STRATEGY.**—Not later than 200 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress the strategy required by subsection (a).

(B) **PROGRESS REPORT.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of the strategy required by paragraph (1).

(b) **SPECIAL AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN EXPORT STRATEGY COORDINATORS.**—The Secretary of Commerce shall designate an individual within the Department of Commerce to serve as Special Africa Export Strategy Coordinator and an individual within the Department of Commerce to serve as Special Latin America and the Caribbean Export Strategy Coordinator—

(1) to oversee the development and implementation of the strategy required by subsection (a);

(2) to coordinate developing and implementing the strategy with—

(A) the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee;

(B) the Director General for the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service and the Assistant Secretary for Global Markets;

(C) the Assistant United States Trade Representative for African Affairs or the Assistant United States Trade Representative for the Western Hemisphere, as appropriate;

(D) the Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs or the Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs, as appropriate;

(E) the Foreign Agricultural Service of the Department of Agriculture;

(F) the Export-Import Bank of the United States;

(G) the United States International Development Finance Corporation; and

(H) the development agencies; and

(3) considering and reflecting the impact of promotion of United States exports on the economy and employment opportunities of importing country, with a view to improving secure supply chains, avoiding economic disruptions, and stabilizing economic growth in a trade and export strategy.

(c) **TRADE MISSIONS TO AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.**—It is the sense of Congress that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce and other high-level officials of the United States Government with responsibility for export promotion, financing, and development should conduct joint trade missions to Africa and to Latin America and the Caribbean.

(d) **TRAINING.**—The President shall develop a plan—

(1) to standardize the training received by United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers, economic officers of the Depart-

ment of State, and economic officers of the United States Agency for International Development with respect to the programs and procedures of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the Small Business Administration, and the United States Trade and Development Agency; and

(2) to ensure that, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) all United States and Foreign Commercial Service officers that are stationed overseas receive the training described in paragraph (1); and

(B) in the case of a country to which no United States and Foreign Commercial Service officer is assigned, any economic officer of the Department of State stationed in that country receives that training.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Finance, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Ways and Means, and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(2) **DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES.**—The term “development agencies” means the United States Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the United States Trade and Development Agency, the United States Department of Agriculture, and relevant multilateral development banks.

(3) **MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS.**—The term “multilateral development banks” has the meaning given that term in section 1701(c)(4) of the International Financial Institutions Act (22 U.S.C. 262r(c)(4)) and includes the African Development Foundation.

(4) **TRADE POLICY STAFF COMMITTEE.**—The term “Trade Policy Staff Committee” means the Trade Policy Staff Committee established pursuant to section 2002.2 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(5) **TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COMMITTEE.**—The term “Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee” means the Trade Promotion Coordinating Committee established under section 2312 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727).

(6) **UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE.**—The term “United States and Foreign Commercial Service” means the United States and Foreign Commercial Service established by section 2301 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721).

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ON PRIORITIZING NOMINATION AND CONFIRMATION OF QUALIFIED AMBASSADORS.

It is the sense of Congress that it is critically important that both the President and the Senate play their respective roles to nominate and confirm qualified ambassadors as quickly as possible.

SEC. ____ . WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEFINED.

In this subtitle, the term “Western Hemisphere” does not include Cuba, Nicaragua, or Venezuela.

SEC. ____ . REPORT ON EFFORTS TO CAPTURE AND DETAIN UNITED STATES CITIZENS AS HOSTAGES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of

the House of Representatives a report on efforts by the Maduro regime of Venezuela to detain United States citizens and lawful permanent residents.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include, regarding the arrest, capture, detainment, and imprisonment of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents—

(1) the names, positions, and institutional affiliation of Venezuelan individuals, or those acting on their behalf, who have engaged in such activities;

(2) a description of any role played by transnational criminal organizations, and an identification of such organizations; and

(3) where relevant, an assessment of whether and how United States citizens and lawful permanent residents have been lured to Venezuela.

(c) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but shall include a classified annex, which shall include a list of the total number of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents detained or imprisoned in Venezuela as of the date on which the report is submitted.

SA 1018. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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 E of title III, add the following:

SEC. 345. STUDY ON FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE NECESSARY TO CONDUCT MILITARY OPERATIONS AND EXTEND THE OPERATIONAL REACH OF THE ARMED FORCES INTO THE ARCTIC REGION.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall conduct a study to evaluate and plan facilities and infrastructure that would be required north of the Arctic Circle to conduct military operations and extend the operational reach of the Armed Forces into the Arctic region of the United States.

(b) ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) assess possible locations that could serve as forward bases for personnel recovery, agile combat employment, and distributed operations; and

(2) evaluate the capacity and potential of locations for infrastructure, storage and distribution points, refueling stations, staging bases for tactical operations, medical support centers, and providers of common-user logistics support.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the study required under subsection (a).

SA 1019. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) 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 C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1240A. EXTENSION OF LEND-LEASE AUTHORITY TO UKRAINE.

Section 2(a)(1) of the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-118; 136 Stat. 1184) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2022 and 2023” and inserting “fiscal years 2022 through 2024”.

SA 1020. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) 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 XVI, insert the following:

SEC. 16. IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL IN POSITIONS HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO CYBER ATTACK.

Section 1645 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 10 U.S.C. 2224 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “AUTHORITY” and inserting “REQUIREMENT”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “and personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(ii) by inserting “and shall provide such support to any such personnel who request the support” after “in paragraph (2)”; and

(C) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and networks” and inserting “, personal networks, and personal accounts”; and

(3) by striking subsections (d) and (e) and inserting the following new subsection (d):

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘personal accounts’ means accounts for online and telecommunications services, including telephone, residential internet access, email, text and multimedia messaging, cloud computing, social media, health care, and financial services, used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department.

“(2) The term ‘personal technology devices’ means technology devices used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department and includes networks to which such devices connect.”

SEC. 16. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON EFFORTS TO PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL FROM EXPLOITATION BY FOREIGN ADVERSARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on Department of Defense ef-

forts to protect personal information of its personnel from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under subsection (a) shall include any observations on the following elements:

(1) An assessment of efforts by the Department of Defense to protect the personal information, including location data generated by smart phones, of members of the Armed Forces, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, veterans, and their families from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(2) Recommendations to improve Department of Defense policies and programs to meaningfully address this threat.

(c) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall publish on its website an unclassified report, which may contain a classified annex submitted to the congressional defense and intelligence committees, on the elements described in subsection (b) at a time mutually agreed upon.

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

(1) the congressional defense committees;

(2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(3) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SA 1021. Mr. HAGERTY 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 CONTRACTING WITH CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of an executive agency may not—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with any entity that—

(A) uses covered biotechnology equipment or services acquired after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(B) enters into any contract the performance of which such entity knows or has reason to believe will require the direct use of covered biotechnology equipment or services.

(b) PROHIBITION ON LOAN AND GRANT FUNDS.—The head of an executive agency may not obligate or expend loan or grant funds to—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with an entity described in subsection (a)(2).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) WAIVER AUTHORITIES.—

(1) SPECIFIC BIOTECHNOLOGY EXCEPTION.—

(A) WAIVER.—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibition under subsections (a) and (b) on a case-by-case basis—

(i) with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense; and

(ii) if such head submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(B) DURATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) shall last for a period of not more than 180 days.

(ii) EXTENSION.—The Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Acquisition Security Council and the Secretary of Defense, may extend a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) one time, for a period up to 180 days after the date on which the waiver would otherwise expire, if such an extension is in the national security interests of the United States and the Director submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notification of such waiver.

(2) OVERSEAS HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) with respect to a contract, subcontract, or transaction for the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas on a case-by-case basis—

(A) if the head of such executive agency determines that the waiver is—

(i) necessary to support the mission or activities of the employees of such executive agency described in subsection (e)(2)(A); and

(ii) in the interest of the United States;

(B) with the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Federal Security Acquisition Council and the Secretary of Defense; and

(C) if such head submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(e) EXCEPTIONS.—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to—

(1) any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States;

(2) the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas for—

(A) employees of the United States, including members of the uniformed services (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code), whose official duty stations are located overseas; or

(B) employees of contractors or subcontractors of the United States—

(i) who are performing under a contract that directly supports the missions or activities of individuals described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) whose primary duty stations are located overseas; or

(3) the acquisition, use, or distribution of genetic sequencing data, however compiled, that is commercially available.

(f) EVALUATION OF CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY ENTITIES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall determine whether Wuxi AppTec, AxBio, and any subsidiary, affiliate, or successor of such entities, or any other entity headquartered in or organized under the laws of the People's Republic of China, are a biotechnology company of concern.

(g) REGULATIONS.—

(1) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in coordination with the Federal Acquisition Security Council, the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council, the Secretary of Defense, and other heads of Executive agencies as determined appropriate by the Director of the Office of Management

and Budget, shall establish guidance, as necessary, to implement the requirements of this section.

(2) FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council shall revise the Federal Acquisition Regulation as necessary to implement the requirements of this section.

(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(2) BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPANY OF CONCERN.—The term “biotechnology company of concern” means—

(A) the BGI Group, MGI Group, or Complete Genomics, or any subsidiary, parent, affiliate, or successor of such entities; and

(B) any other entity that the Secretary of Defense deems to pose a national security risk to the United States.

(3) BIOTECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term “biotechnology equipment or service” means—

(A) any instrument, apparatus, machine, or device, including components and accessories thereof, that is designed for use in the research, development, production, or analysis of biological materials as well as any software, firmware, or other digital components that are specifically designed for use in, and necessary for the operation of, such an instrument, apparatus, machine, or device;

(B) any service for the research, development, production, analysis, detection, or provision of information related to biological materials, including—

(i) advising, consulting, or support services provided by a biotechnology company of concern with respect to the use or implementation of an instrument, apparatus, machine, or device described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) disease detection, genealogical information, and related services; and

(C) any other service, instrument, apparatus, machine, component, accessory, device, software, or firmware that the Federal Acquisition Security Council, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and such other heads of Executive agencies (as determined by the Federal Acquisition Security Council), determines appropriate.

(4) COVERED BIOTECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term “covered biotechnology equipment or service” means a biotechnology equipment or service produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern.

(5) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term “Executive agency” has the meaning given such term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) OVERSEAS.—The term “overseas” means any area outside of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the United States.

SA 1022. Mr. HAGERTY 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 CONTRACTING WITH CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY PROVIDERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Department of Defense may not—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with any entity that—

(A) uses covered biotechnology equipment or services acquired after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) enters into any contract the performance of which such entity knows or has reason to believe will require the direct use of covered biotechnology equipment or services; or

(C) provides funding for research to any entity that uses covered biotechnology equipment or services acquired after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) PROHIBITION ON LOAN AND GRANT FUNDS.—The Department of Defense may not obligate or expend loan or grant funds to—

(1) procure or obtain or extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain any covered biotechnology equipment or service; or

(2) enter into a contract or extend or renew a contract with an entity described in subsection (a)(2).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall take effect 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) WAIVER AUTHORITIES.—

(1) SPECIFIC BIOTECHNOLOGY EXCEPTION.—

(A) WAIVER.—The head of an executive agency may waive the prohibition under subsections (a) and (b) on a case-by-case basis—

(i) with the approval of the Secretary of Defense; and

(ii) if such head submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(B) DURATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) shall last for a period of not more than 180 days.

(ii) EXTENSION.—The Secretary of Defense may extend a waiver granted under subparagraph (A) one time, for a period up to 180 days after the date on which the waiver would otherwise expire, if such an extension is in the national security interests of the United States and the Secretary of Defense submits to the appropriate congressional committees a notification of such waiver.

(2) OVERSEAS HEALTH CARE SERVICES.—The Secretary of Defense may waive the prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) with respect to a contract, subcontract, or transaction for the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas on a case-by-case basis if the Secretary—

(A) determines that the waiver is—

(i) necessary to support the mission or activities of the employees of Department of Defense described in subsection (e)(2)(A); and

(ii) in the interest of the United States; and

(B) submits a notification and justification to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 30 days after granting such waiver.

(e) EXCEPTIONS.—The prohibitions under subsections (a) and (b) shall not apply to—

(1) any activity subject to the reporting requirements under title V of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3091 et seq.) or any authorized intelligence activities of the United States;

(2) the acquisition or provision of health care services overseas for—

(A) employees of the United States, including members of the uniformed services (as defined in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code), whose official duty stations are located overseas; or

(B) employees of contractors or subcontractors of the United States—

(i) who are performing under a contract that directly supports the missions or activities of individuals described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) whose primary duty stations are located overseas; or

(3) the acquisition, use, or distribution of genetic sequencing data, however compiled, that is commercially available.

(f) **EVALUATION OF CERTAIN BIOTECHNOLOGY ENTITIES.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall determine whether Wuxi AppTec, AxBio, and any subsidiary, affiliate, or successor of such entities, or any other entity headquartered in or organized under the laws of the People's Republic of China, are a biotechnology company of concern.

(g) **REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **GUIDANCE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall establish guidance, as necessary, to implement the requirements of this section.

(2) **FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.**—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall revise all defense acquisition guidance and systems as necessary to implement the requirements of this section.

(h) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(2) **BIOTECHNOLOGY COMPANY OF CONCERN.**—The term “biotechnology company of concern” means—

(A) the BGI Group, MGI Group, or Complete Genomics, or any subsidiary, parent, affiliate, or successor of such entities; and

(B) any other entity that the Secretary of Defense deems to pose a national security risk to the United States.

(3) **BIOTECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.**—The term “biotechnology equipment or service” means—

(A) any instrument, apparatus, machine, or device, including components and accessories thereof, that is designed for use in the research, development, production, or analysis of biological materials as well as any software, firmware, or other digital components that are specifically designed for use in, and necessary for the operation of, such an instrument, apparatus, machine, or device;

(B) any service for the research, development, production, analysis, detection, or provision of information related to biological materials, including—

(i) advising, consulting, or support services provided by a biotechnology company of concern with respect to the use or implementation of a instrument, apparatus, machine, or device described in subparagraph (A); and

(ii) disease detection, genealogical information, and related services; and

(C) any other service, instrument, apparatus, machine, component, accessory, device, software, or firmware that the Federal Acquisition Security Council, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense and such other heads of Executive agencies (as deter-

mined by the Federal Acquisition Security Council), determines appropriate.

(4) **COVERED BIOTECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.**—The term “covered biotechnology equipment or service” means a biotechnology equipment or service produced or provided by a biotechnology company of concern.

(5) **OVERSEAS.**—The term “overseas” means any area outside of the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory or possession of the United States.

SA 1023. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HAWLEY, and Ms. SINEMA) 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 C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1240A. OFFICE OF THE LEAD INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR UKRAINE ASSISTANCE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established the Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance to provide for the oversight of independent and objective conduct and supervision of audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine.

(b) **APPOINTMENT OF LEAD INSPECTOR GENERAL; REMOVAL.**—

(1) **APPOINTMENT.**—The head of the Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance shall be known as the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance (in this section referred to as the “Lead Inspector General”), who shall be designated by the President.

(2) **QUALIFICATIONS.**—The appointment of the Lead Inspector General shall be made solely on the basis of integrity and demonstrated ability in conducting investigations, including experience in accounting, auditing, financial analysis, law, management analysis, public administration, or investigations.

(3) **SELECTION.**—The Lead Inspector General may be—

(A) a senior member of the civil service or Foreign Service;

(B) selected from among the offices of the Inspectors General; or

(C) an individual that the meets the qualifications under paragraph (2), as determined by the President.

(4) **DEADLINE FOR APPOINTMENT.**—The appointment of an individual as Lead Inspector General shall be made not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(5) **PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**—For purposes of section 7324 of title 5, United States Code, the Lead Inspector General shall not be considered an employee who determines policies to be pursued by the United States in the nationwide administration of Federal law.

(6) **REMOVAL.**—The Lead Inspector General shall be removable from office in accordance with the provisions of section 403(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(c) **SUPERVISION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of carrying out this section, the Lead Inspector General shall report directly to, and be under the general supervision of, the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Defense.

(2) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to limit the ability of the Inspectors General to enter into agreements to conduct joint audits, inspections, or investigations in the exercise of their oversight responsibilities in accordance with this section with respect to Ukraine.

(d) **DUTIES.**—The duties of the Lead Inspector General are as follows:

(1) To appoint, from among the offices of the Inspectors General, an Assistant Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance, who shall supervise auditing and investigative activities and assist the Lead Inspector General in the discharge of responsibilities under this subsection.

(2) To develop and carry out, in coordination with the offices of the Inspectors General, a joint strategic plan to conduct comprehensive oversight of all amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine.

(3) To apply key lessons from prior oversight work, in coordination with the offices of the Inspectors General, to Ukraine response programs and operations to minimize waste, fraud, and abuse.

(4) With respect to amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine—

(A) to ensure, through joint or individual audits, inspections, and investigations, independent and effective oversight of—

(i) all funds appropriated for such support; and

(ii) the programs, operations, and contracts carried out using such funds; and

(B) to review and ascertain the accuracy of information provided by Federal agencies relating to—

(i) obligations and expenditures;

(ii) costs of programs and projects;

(iii) accountability of funds;

(iv) the tracking and monitoring of all lethal and nonlethal security assistance and compliance with end-use certification requirements; and

(v) the award and execution of major contracts, grants, and agreements in support of Ukraine.

(5) To employ, or authorize the employment by the Inspectors General, on a temporary basis using the authorities in section 3161 of title 5, United States Code (without regard to subsection (b)(2) of such section), such auditors, investigators, and other personnel as the Lead Inspector General considers appropriate to carrying out the duties described in this subsection.

(6) To obtain expert and consultant services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, at daily rates not to exceed the equivalent rate prescribed for grade GS-15 of the General Schedule by section 5332 of that title.

(7) To carry out such other responsibilities relating to the coordination and efficient and effective discharge by the Inspectors General of duties relating to United States military and nonmilitary support for Ukraine as the Lead Inspector General shall specify.

(8) To discharge the responsibilities under this subsection in a manner consistent with the authorities and requirements of this section and the authorities and requirements applicable to the Inspectors General under chapter 4 of title 5, United States Code, including section 404(b)(1) and section 406 of that title.

(e) **DEPLOYMENT OF LEAD INSPECTOR GENERAL STAFF.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance shall maintain a presence of at least one individual in the country of Ukraine on a permanent basis.

(2) **EVACUATION PLAN.**—The Lead Inspector General shall—

(A) coordinate with the appropriate chief of mission for the purpose of developing an evacuation plan; and

(B) maintain a plan to evacuate personnel should an evacuation be required.

(3) NOTICE AND JUSTIFICATION.—To any extent that the Lead Inspector General determines that the Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance cannot maintain such a presence in Ukraine, the Lead Inspector General shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress in writing within 7 days of such determination, along with a justification for why the presence could not be maintained.

(f) REPORTS.—

(1) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal-year quarter, the Lead Inspector General shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report summarizing, with respect to that quarter and, to the extent possible, the period beginning on the date on which such quarter ends and ending on the date on which the report is submitted, the activities of the Lead Inspector General with respect to programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine.

(B) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by subparagraph (A) shall include, for the period covered by the report—

(i) a description of any identified waste, fraud, or abuse with respect to programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine;

(ii) a description of the status and results of—

(I) investigations, inspections, and audits; and

(II) referrals to the Department of Justice;

(iii) a description of the overall plans for review by the Inspectors General of such support of Ukraine, including plans for investigations, inspections, and audits; and

(iv) an evaluation of the compliance of the Government of Ukraine with all requirements for receiving United States funds, including a description of any area of concern with respect to the ability of the Government of Ukraine to achieve such compliance.

(2) FORM.—Each report required by this subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex if the Lead Inspector General considers it necessary.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—

(A) PUBLIC.—The Lead Inspector General shall publish on a publicly available internet website the unclassified form of each report required by paragraph (1) in English and any other language the Lead Inspector General determines is widely used and understood in Ukraine.

(B) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—On request by a Member of Congress, the Lead Inspector General shall make any report required by paragraph (1), including the classified annex, as applicable, available to the Member of Congress.

(4) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to authorize the public disclosure of information that is—

(A) specifically prohibited from disclosure by any other provision of law;

(B) specifically required by Executive order to be protected from disclosure in the interest of national defense or national security or in the conduct of foreign affairs; or

(C) a part of an ongoing criminal investigation.

(g) PUBLICATION OF UNITED STATES ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President, acting through the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State, shall publish a comprehensive accounting of unclassified amounts appropriated by the

United States for Ukraine on a publicly available website of the United States Government.

(h) BRIEFINGS.—On request by a committee of Congress or a Member of Congress, not later than 15 days after receiving the request, the Lead Inspector General shall provide to the committee of Congress or Member of Congress a briefing on the oversight of programs and operations funded with amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine.

(i) INSPECTORS GENERAL STAFFING.—Personnel assigned to Ukraine-related oversight work by the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Inspector General of the Department of State, the Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development, and the Inspector General of other Federal agency shall exclusively perform Ukraine-related oversight work in accordance with the joint strategic plan under subsection (d)(2).

(j) ASSESSMENT OF OFFICE OF THE LEAD INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR UKRAINE ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance is established, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall enter into a contract with an independent third-party entity, which may include a federally funded research and development corporation, to conduct an assessment of the Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The assessment conducted under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the discharge of the duties described in subsection (d), including an assessment as to whether any structural or policy adjustments would enable more effective oversight efforts.

(B) An assessment as to whether establishing a Special Inspector General would be a more effective oversight model.

(C) An assessment as to whether the Lead Inspector General would benefit from additional resources or authorities to ensure the discharge of all duties under subsection (d) and any other provision of law.

(D) Any recommendations for Congress to improve the effectiveness of the Lead Inspector General.

(3) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress, and on request, to any Member of Congress, a report on the assessment required by paragraph (1)

(B) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State shall publish the report required by subparagraph (A) on a publicly accessible internet website of the United States Government.

(k) TERMINATION.—The Office of the Lead Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance shall terminate 180 days after the date on which amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine are less than the amounts that were appropriated by the United States for Ukraine on February 24, 2022.

(l) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out this section.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated for the Office of the Secretary of Defense is hereby reduced by \$10,000,000.

(m) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED BY THE UNITED STATES FOR UKRAINE.—The term “amounts appropriated by the United States for Ukraine” means amounts appropriated on or after January 1, 2022, for—

(A) the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative established under section 1250 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92; 129 Stat. 1608);

(B) any foreign military financing accessed by the Government of Ukraine;

(C) the presidential drawdown authority under section 506(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2318(a));

(D) the defense institution building program under section 332 of title 10, United States Code;

(E) the building partner capacity program under section 333 of title 10, United States Code; and

(F) the international military education and training program of the Department of State.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(3) INSPECTORS GENERAL.—The term “Inspectors General” means the following:

(A) The Inspector General of the Department of Defense.

(B) The Inspector General of the Department of State.

(C) The Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development.

SA 1024. Mr. MENENDEZ 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 E of title V, add the following:

SEC. 560A. SERVICE ACADEMIES: NUMBERS OF NOMINATIONS BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND APPOINTMENTS BY THE SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

(a) UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY.—Section 7442 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter following paragraph (10), by striking “10 persons” and inserting “15 persons”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(5), by striking “150” and inserting “250”.

(b) UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY.—Section 8454 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter following paragraph (10), by striking “10 persons” and inserting “15 persons”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(5), by striking “150” and inserting “250”.

(c) UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY.—Section 9442 of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the matter following paragraph (10), by striking “10 persons” and inserting “15 persons”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(5), by striking “150” and inserting “250”.

SA 1025. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) 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, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **AI.**—The term “AI” has the meaning given the term “artificial intelligence” in section 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (10 U.S.C. 2358 note).

(2) **COVERED EMPLOYEE.**—The term “covered employee” means—

(A) a management official;

(B) a supervisor; or

(C) any other employee of an executive agency—

(i) as determined appropriate by the Director for the purposes of this section; or

(ii) who is designated by the head of that executive agency to participate in the Program.

(3) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

(4) **EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—The term “executive agency” has the meaning given the term in section 133 of title 41, United States Code.

(5) **MANAGEMENT OFFICIAL; SUPERVISOR.**—The terms “management official” and “supervisor” have the meanings given those terms in section 7103(a) of title 5, United States Code.

(6) **PROGRAM.**—The term “Program” means the AI leadership training program established and implemented (or the provision of which is otherwise ensured) by the Director under subsection (b)(1).

(b) **PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—

(A) **ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with any other person determined relevant by the Director, shall develop and implement (or otherwise ensure the provision of) an AI leadership training program for covered employees, under which training in accordance with the requirements of this section shall be provided to covered employees on an annual basis.

(B) **INCORPORATION OF EXISTING TRAINING PERMITTED.**—For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the Director may include executive agency or other training that the Director determines is relevant to providing the information required under paragraph (3).

(2) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the Program shall be to ensure that covered employees have knowledge regarding—

(A) the capabilities and risks associated with AI;

(B) safety and ethical issues relating to AI;

(C) Federal Government requirements and best practices with respect to AI, such as with respect to the procurement, use, testing, evaluation, and auditing of AI capabilities; and

(D) other matters relating to requirements for the development and use of AI within and by the Federal Government.

(3) **TOPICS.**—At a minimum, the Program shall include information relating to—

(A) what AI is and how AI works;

(B) introductory concepts regarding, and features of, different types of AI;

(C) the benefits offered, and the risks posed, by AI;

(D) the role of data in AI systems and the risks of not using sufficiently representative training data in those systems, including risks relating to bias;

(E) the ways in which AI can fail;

(F) the need for continuous refinement of AI as part of the development and deployment of AI;

(G) ways to mitigate the risks of AI, including through efforts to create and identify AI that is reliable, safe, and trustworthy;

(H) organizational considerations for the development and deployment of AI, including necessary norms and practices, workforce training, and specific use cases;

(I) the risks that the use by the Federal Government of AI, including by using AI to engage in censorship and conduct surveillance, poses to the First and Fourth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States; and

(J) the risk of developer bias with respect to AI.

(4) **UPDATES.**—Not less frequently than once every 2 years after the date on which the Director develops and implements (or otherwise ensures the provision of) the Program under paragraph (1), the Director shall update the Program to—

(A) incorporate new information relating to AI; and

(B) ensure that the Program continues to satisfy the requirements under paragraph (3) and any other requirements determined by the Director.

(5) **METRICS.**—The Director shall establish the means by which to—

(A) understand and measure the participation of covered employees in the Program; and

(B) receive and consider feedback from participants in the Program so as to improve the Program through updates implemented under paragraph (4).

(6) **CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Congress may request from the Director information regarding the materials used to carry out the Program, including—

(i) a bibliography of written materials used to carry out the Program;

(ii) the name of the responsible senior executive; and

(iii) the name of each organization that developed or carried out any part of the Program.

(B) **DEADLINE FOR PROVISION OF INFORMATION.**—Not later than 14 days after the date on which the Director receives a request submitted under subparagraph (A), the Director shall provide Congress with the information sought in the request.

(7) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Director should ensure that training provided under the Program includes interactions with technologists, scholars, and other experts, including from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors.

(8) **SUNSET.**—Effective on the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act, this section shall have no force or effect.

SA 1026. Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. BRAUN) 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—Transparent Automated Governance

SEC. 1091. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Transparent Automated Governance Act” or the “TAG Act”.

SEC. 1092. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) **AGENCY.**—The term “agency” has the meaning given the term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(2) **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.**—The term “artificial intelligence” has the meaning given the term in section 238(g) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (10 U.S.C. note prec. 4061; Public Law 115–232).

(3) **AUGMENTED CRITICAL DECISION PROCESS.**—The term “augmented critical decision process” means the use by an agency, or by a third party on behalf of the agency, of an automated system to determine or substantially influence the outcomes of critical decisions.

(4) **AUTOMATED SYSTEM.**—The term “automated system”—

(A) means a set of computational processes derived from statistics or artificial intelligence techniques, or that otherwise rely on data about specific individuals or groups, to substantially influence the outcome of critical decisions, including computational processes that stand alone or are embedded within another process, system, or application, including paper-based processes; and

(B) does not include computational processes or infrastructure the function of which is not directly related to influencing or determining the outcome of critical decisions.

(5) **CRITICAL DECISION.**—The term “critical decision” means an agency determination, including the assignment of a score or classification, related to the status, rights, property, or wellbeing of specific individuals or groups, the outcome of which—

(A) is likely to meaningfully differ from one individual or group to another; and

(B) meaningfully affects access to, or the cost, terms, or availability of—

(i) education and vocational training;

(ii) employment;

(iii) essential utilities, including electricity, heat, water, and internet;

(iv) transportation;

(v) any benefits or assistance under any Federal public assistance program or under any State or local public assistance program funded in whole or in part with Federal funds;

(vi) financial services, including access to credit or insurance;

(vii) asylum and immigration services;

(viii) healthcare;

(ix) housing, lodging, or public accommodations; and

(x) any other service, program, or opportunity a determination about which would have a legal, material, or significant effect on the life of an individual, as determined by the Director.

(6) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(7) **PLAIN LANGUAGE.**—The term “plain language” has the meaning given the term in section 1311(e)(3)(B) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 18031(e)(3)(B)).

(8) **TRANSPARENT AUTOMATED GOVERNANCE GUIDANCE.**—The term “transparent automated governance guidance” means the guidance issued by the Director pursuant to section 1093(a).

SEC. 1093. TRANSPARENT AUTOMATED GOVERNANCE GUIDANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Director shall issue guidance that—

(1) is consistent with relevant legal authorities relating to privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections; and

(2) requires agencies to provide disclosure and opportunity for appeal when using certain automated systems and augmented critical decision processes.

(b) GUIDANCE.—The transparent automated governance guidance issued under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an identification by the Director of any additional services, programs, or opportunities relating to critical decisions described in section 1092(5)(B)(x), if appropriate, for use by agencies with respect to the requirements under this subtitle;

(2) a list of automated systems that may be used in augmented critical decision processes, that, as determined by the Director, are not subject to the requirements of this subtitle;

(3) with respect to automated systems that contribute to augmented critical decision processes and interact with the public, guidance for how agencies shall design, develop, procure, or update those automated systems to provide plain language notice to individuals not later than the time and at the place of interaction with such an automated system that they are interacting with such an automated system;

(4) the proper contents of the notice described in paragraph (3);

(5) examples of what the notice described in paragraph (3) could look like in practice;

(6) with respect to augmented critical decision processes, guidance for how agencies shall provide plain language notice to individuals not later than the time a critical decision is issued to an individual that a critical decision concerning the individual was made using an augmented critical decision process;

(7) the proper contents of the notice described in paragraph (6);

(8) examples of what the notice described in paragraph (6) could look like in practice;

(9) guidance for how agencies shall establish an appeals process for critical decisions made by an augmented critical decision process in which an individual is harmed as a direct result of the use of an automated system in the augmented critical decision process;

(10) with respect to critical decisions made by an augmented critical decision process, guidance for how agencies should provide individuals with the opportunity for an alternative review, as appropriate, by an individual working for or on behalf of the agency with respect to the critical decision, independent of the augmented critical decision process; and

(11) criteria for information that each agency is required to track and collect relating to issues that arise during the use of augmented critical decision processes—

(A) to ensure that the information collected can be used to determine whether each automated system and augmented critical decision process covered by this subtitle is accurate, reliable, and, to the greatest extent practicable, explainable; and

(B) that the agency shall make accessible for use by the agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and Congress.

(c) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Director shall make a preliminary version of the transparent automated governance guidance available for public comment for a period of 30 days.

(d) CONSULTATION.—In developing the transparent automated governance guidance, the Director shall consider soliciting input from—

(1) the Government Accountability Office;

(2) the General Services Administration, including on the topic of user experience;

(3) the private sector; and

(4) the nonprofit sector, including experts in privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties.

(e) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE GUIDANCE.—The guidance required by section 104 of the AI in Government Act of 2020 (40 U.S.C. 11301 note) may be used to satisfy the requirement for the transparent automated governance guidance with respect to relevant automated systems and augmented critical decision processes, or a subset thereof, if such guidance addresses each requirement under subsection (b) of this section with respect to the automated system or augmented critical decision process.

(f) UPDATES.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the Director issues the transparent automated governance guidance, and biennially thereafter, the Director shall issue updates to the guidance.

SEC. 1094. AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION OF TRANSPARENT AUTOMATED GOVERNANCE GUIDANCE.—Not later than 270 days after the date on which the Director issues the transparent automated governance guidance, the head of each agency shall implement the transparent automated governance guidance to the extent that implementation does not require rulemaking.

(b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subtitle, and biennially thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall review agency compliance with this subtitle and submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives a report with findings and recommendations.

SEC. 1095. SUNSET.

Beginning on the date that is 10 years after the date of enactment of this subtitle, this subtitle shall have no force or effect.

SA 1027. Mr. LANKFORD 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 F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1063. ENSURING RELIABLE SUPPLY OF CRITICAL MINERALS.

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

(1) the People's Republic of China's dominant share of the global minerals market is a threat to the economic stability, well being, and competitiveness of key industries in the United States;

(2) the United States should reduce reliance on the People's Republic of China for critical minerals through—

(A) strategic investments in development projects, production technologies, and refining facilities in the United States; and

(B) in partnership with strategic allies of the United States that are reliable trading partners, including members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue; and

(3) the United States Trade Representative should initiate multilateral talks among the

countries of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue to promote shared investment and development of critical minerals.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the United States Trade Representative, in consultation with the officials specified in paragraph (3), shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the work of the Trade Representative to address the national security threat posed by the People's Republic of China's control of nearly ⅔ of the global supply of critical minerals.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a description of the extent of the engagement of the United States with the other countries of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue to promote shared investment and development of critical minerals during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date of the report; and

(B) a description of the plans of the President to leverage the partnership of the countries of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue to produce a more reliable and secure global supply chain of critical minerals.

(3) OFFICIALS SPECIFIED.—The officials specified in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The Secretary of Commerce.

(B) The Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

(C) The Secretary of Energy.

(D) The Director of the United States Geological Survey.

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

(A) the Committee on Finance and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

SA 1028. Mr. LEE 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 G of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1299L. LEGAL PREPAREDNESS FOR SERVICEMEMBERS ABROAD.

(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than December 31, 2024, the Secretary of Defense, in collaboration with the Secretary of State, shall—

(1) review the 10 largest foreign countries by United States Armed Forces presence and evaluate local legal systems, protections afforded by bilateral agreements between the United States and countries being evaluated, and how the rights and privileges afforded under such agreements may differ from United States law; and

(2) brief the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate on the findings of the review.

(b) TRAINING REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall review and improve as necessary training and educational materials

for members of the Armed Forces, their spouses, and dependents, as appropriate, who are stationed in a country reviewed pursuant to subsection (a)(1) regarding relevant foreign laws, how such foreign laws may differ from the laws of the United States, and the rights of accused in common scenarios under such foreign laws.

(c) **TRANSLATION STANDARDS AND READINESS.**—The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall review foreign language standards for servicemembers and employees of the Department of Defense and Department of State who are responsible for providing foreign language translation services in situations involving foreign law enforcement where a servicemember may be being detained, to ensure such persons maintain an appropriate proficiency in the legal terminology and meaning of essential terms in a relevant language.

SA 1029. Mr. PADILLA 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 C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1240A. REPORT ON WAIVERS UNDER SECTION 907 OF THE FREEDOM FOR RUSSIA AND EMERGING EURASIAN DEMOCRACIES AND OPEN MARKETS SUPPORT ACT OF 1992 AND REPORT ON ACCESS TO THE LACHIN CORRIDOR.

(a) **WAIVERS UNDER SECTION 907 OF THE FREEDOM FOR RUSSIA AND EMERGING EURASIAN DEMOCRACIES AND OPEN MARKETS SUPPORT ACT OF 1992.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress on United States security assistance provided to the Government of Azerbaijan pursuant to the waiver of section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511; 22 U.S.C. 5812 note).

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required by subparagraph (A) shall address the following:

(A) Documentation of the consideration by the Secretary of State, during the 5-year period ending on the date of the enactment of this Act, of all requirements relating to the waiver of section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act (Public Law 102-511; 22 U.S.C. 5812 note).

(B) Program-level detail and end-use monitoring reports of security assistance provided to the Government of Azerbaijan under such a waiver during such 5-year period.

(C) An assessment of the impact of United States security assistance provided to Azerbaijan on—

(i) the negotiation of a peaceful settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan over all disputed regions during such 5-year period; and

(ii) the military balance between Azerbaijan and Armenia during such 5-year period.

(D) An assessment of Azerbaijan's use of offensive force against Armenia or violations of Armenian sovereign territory during the period beginning on November 11, 2020, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) **ACCESS TO THE LACHIN CORRIDOR.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the en-

actment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the Nagorno-Karabakh region that includes—

(1) an assessment of the humanitarian impact of Azerbaijan's blockade of the Lachin Corridor, which connects Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh; and

(2) an assessment of the blockade's long-term impacts on—

(A) regional food, water, and energy security;

(B) local civilians' ability to access basic medical care and other necessities;

(C) the region's most vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and individuals with disabilities; and

(D) the overall Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and prospects for de-escalating and avoiding a humanitarian crisis.

(3) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term "appropriate committees of Congress" means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

SA 1030. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. MERKLEY) 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, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REDUCTION IN MILITARY SPENDING.

The total amount of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act is hereby reduced by 10 percent, with the amount of such reduction to be applied on a pro rata basis among the accounts and funds for which amounts are authorized to be appropriated by this Act, excluding accounts and funds relating to military personnel, the Defense Health Program, and assistance to Ukraine. The amount of reduction for each account and fund subject to such requirement shall be applied on a pro rata basis across each program, project, and activity funded by such account or fund.

SA 1031. Mr. SANDERS 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, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . CONDITION ON PROVISION OF FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING TO ISRAEL.

On the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, \$3,300,000,000 in foreign military financing for Israel, excluding missile defense programs, shall be un-

available for such purpose unless the Secretary of State certifies that the Government of Israel is taking sustained and effective steps to halt all tenders for settlement construction and cease construction and expansion of Israeli-controlled settlements outside Israel's international-recognized borders.

SA 1032. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WARREN) 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, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO ADDRESS HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN GAZA AND THE WEST BANK.

There is authorized to be appropriated—

(1) an additional \$200,000,000 for the Migration and Refugee Account, to be allocated to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees to make up the funding shortfall for such organization and to ensure the continuity of basic services to Palestinian refugees; and

(2) an additional \$50,000,000 in Economic Support Funds for assistance to the West Bank and Gaza.

SA 1033. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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 ____ . BRIEFING ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE LABORATORY INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION.

(a) **BRIEFING REQUIRED.**—Not later than February 1, 2024, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering shall provide the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a briefing assessing the feasibility, merits, and potential impediments for modernizing Department of Defense laboratory infrastructure.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The briefing provided pursuant to subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Identification and discussion of possible new mechanisms to support modernization of Department laboratories, such as consideration of enhanced use leases, innovative financing mechanisms, or other public-private partnership arrangements to provide modernized laboratory capabilities on or near facilities of the Department.

(2) Identification of promising commercial or academic infrastructure, services, and technology that might facilitate an infrastructure-as-a-service business model.

(3) Discussion of how each mechanism identified under paragraph (1) might affect the sustainment cost of research facilities of the Department, as well as the ability to

execute the research and development mission of the Department.

(4) Identification of potential impediments to the utilization of each mechanism identified under paragraph (1).

(5) Such other matters as the Under Secretary considers appropriate.

SA 1034. Mr. KENNEDY 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 G of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1299L. PROHIBITION ON ALLOCATIONS OF SPECIAL DRAWING RIGHTS AT INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND FOR PERPETRATORS OF GENOCIDE AND STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION.

Section 6 of the Special Drawing Rights Act (22 U.S.C. 286q) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) Unless Congress by law authorizes such action, neither the President nor any person or agency shall on behalf of the United States vote to allocate Special Drawing Rights under article XVIII, sections 2 and 3, of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund to a member country of the Fund, if the government of the member country has—

“(1) committed genocide at any time during the 10-year period ending with the date of the vote; or

“(2) been determined by the Secretary of State, as of the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, to have repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism, for purposes of—

“(A) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)(1)(A)(i));

“(B) section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371);

“(C) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)); or

“(D) any other provision of law.”.

SA 1035. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) 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 XVI, insert the following:

SEC. 16. IMPROVEMENTS RELATING TO CYBER PROTECTION SUPPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL IN POSITIONS HIGHLY VULNERABLE TO CYBER ATTACK.

Section 1645 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 10 U.S.C. 2224 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “and personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(ii) by inserting “and shall provide such support to any such personnel who request the support” after “in paragraph (2)”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(B), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or personal accounts” after “personal technology devices”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and networks” and inserting “, personal networks, and personal accounts”; and

(3) by striking subsections (d) and (e) and inserting the following new subsection (d):

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘personal accounts’ means accounts for online and telecommunications services, including telephone, residential internet access, email, text and multimedia messaging, cloud computing, social media, health care, and financial services, used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department.

“(2) The term ‘personal technology devices’ means technology devices used by Department of Defense personnel outside of the scope of their employment with the Department and includes networks to which such devices connect.”.

SEC. 16. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON EFFORTS TO PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL FROM EXPLOITATION BY FOREIGN ADVERSARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on Department of Defense efforts to protect personal information of its personnel from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The briefing required under subsection (a) shall include any observations on the following elements:

(1) An assessment of efforts by the Department of Defense to protect the personal information, including location data generated by smart phones, of members of the Armed Forces, civilian employees of the Department of Defense, veterans, and their families from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

(2) Recommendations to improve Department of Defense policies and programs to meaningfully address this threat.

(c) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall publish on its website an unclassified report, which may contain a classified annex submitted to the congressional defense and intelligence committees, on the elements described in subsection (b) at a time mutually agreed upon.

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

(1) the congressional defense committees;

(2) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(3) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SA 1036. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. KENNEDY) 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 G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1083. PROHIBITION OF DEMAND FOR BRIBE.
Section 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) the term ‘foreign official’ means—

“(A)(i) any official or employee of a foreign government or any department, agency, or instrumentality thereof; or

“(ii) any senior foreign political figure, as defined in section 1010.605 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation;

“(B) any official or employee of a public international organization;

“(C) any person acting in an official capacity for or on behalf of—

“(i) a government, department, agency, or instrumentality described in subparagraph (A)(i); or

“(ii) a public international organization; or

“(D) any person acting in an unofficial capacity for or on behalf of—

“(i) a government, department, agency, or instrumentality described in subparagraph (A)(i); or

“(ii) a public international organization; and

“(5) the term ‘public international organization’ means—

“(A) an organization that is designated by Executive order pursuant to section 1 of the International Organizations Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288); or

“(B) any other international organization that is designated by the President by Executive order for the purposes of this section, effective as of the date of publication of such order in the Federal Register.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) PROHIBITION OF DEMAND FOR A BRIBE.—

“(1) OFFENSE.—It shall be unlawful for any foreign official or person selected to be a foreign official to corruptly demand, seek, receive, accept, or agree to receive or accept, directly or indirectly, anything of value personally or for any other person or non-governmental entity, by making use of the mails or any means or instrumentality of interstate commerce, from any person (as defined in section 104A of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (15 U.S.C. 78dd-3), except that that definition shall be applied without regard to whether the person is an offender) while in the territory of the United States, from an issuer (as defined in section 3(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78c(a))), or from a domestic concern (as defined in section 104 of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (15 U.S.C. 78dd-2)), in return for—

“(A) being influenced in the performance of any official act;

“(B) being induced to do or omit to do any act in violation of the official duty of such foreign official or person; or

“(C) conferring any improper advantage, in connection with obtaining or retaining business for or with, or directing business to, any person.

“(2) PENALTIES.—Any person who violates paragraph (1) shall be fined not more than \$250,000 or 3 times the monetary equivalent of the thing of value, imprisoned for not more than 15 years, or both.

“(3) JURISDICTION.—An offense under paragraph (1) shall be subject to extraterritorial Federal jurisdiction.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act, and annually thereafter, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of State as relevant, shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary

and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and post on the publicly available website of the Department of Justice, a report—

“(A) focusing, in part, on demands by foreign officials for bribes from entities domiciled or incorporated in the United States, and the efforts of foreign governments to prosecute such cases;

“(B) addressing United States diplomatic efforts to protect entities domiciled or incorporated in the United States from foreign bribery, and the effectiveness of those efforts in protecting such entities;

“(C) summarizing major actions taken under this section in the previous year, including enforcement actions taken and penalties imposed;

“(D) evaluating the effectiveness of the Department of Justice in enforcing this section; and

“(E) detailing what resources or legislative action the Department of Justice needs to ensure adequate enforcement of this section.

“(5) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—This subsection shall not be construed as encompassing conduct that would violate section 30A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78dd-1) or section 104 or 104A of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (15 U.S.C. 78dd-2; 15 U.S.C. 78dd-3) whether pursuant to a theory of direct liability, conspiracy, complicity, or otherwise.”.

SA 1037. 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 ACTIVE INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE LAUNCH FACILITY OR CONTROL CENTER.**—Section 183a of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “or any active 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, in the case of a geographic area of concern related to an active intercontinental ballistic missile launch facility or control center, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment”; and

(2) in subsection (e)(1)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “(A) The Secretary”; and

(ii) by inserting “or antenna structure project” after “energy project”;

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “The Secretary of Defense’s finding of unacceptable risk to national security” and inserting the following:

“(C) Any finding of unacceptable risk to national security by the Secretary of Defense under this paragraph”; and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A), as designated by subparagraph (A)(i) of this paragraph, the following new subparagraph:

“(B)(i) In the case of any energy project or antenna structure project with proposed structures more than 200 feet above ground level located within two nautical miles of an active 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 identified pursuant to this section do not include removal of all such proposed structures from such project after receiving notice of presumed risk from the Clearinghouse under subsection (c)(2).

“(ii) Clause (i) does not apply to structures approved before the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 or to structures that are re-powered with updated technology in the same location as previously approved structures.”.

(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 subsections (e)(1) and (h)(2)).

(2) **ANTENNA STRUCTURE PROJECT DEFINED.**—Section 183a(h) of such title is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (10), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) 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 1038. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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. 9/11 RESPONDER AND SURVIVOR HEALTH FUNDING CORRECTION ACT OF 2023.

(a) **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ARMED FORCES, OR OTHER FEDERAL WORKER RESPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.**—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3306 (42 U.S.C. 300mm-5)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (11) and paragraphs (12) through (17) as paragraphs (6) through (12) and paragraphs (14) through (19), respectively;

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) The term ‘Federal agency’ means an agency, office, or other establishment in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Federal Government.”; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (12), as so redesignated, the following:

“(13) The term ‘uniformed services’ has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”; and

(2) in section 3311(a) (42 U.S.C. 300mm-21(a))—

(A) in paragraph (2)(C)(i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subclause (II), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(III) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Pentagon site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; or

“(IV) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Shanksville, Pennsylvania, site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; and”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(i) by striking “(A) IN GENERAL.—The” and inserting the following:

“(A) LIMIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

(ii) by inserting “or subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i)” after “or (2)(A)(ii)”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) **CERTAIN RESPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.**—The total number of individuals who may be enrolled under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i) shall not exceed 500 at any time.”.

(b) **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM.**—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 3353. SPECIAL FUND.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund (referred to in this section as the ‘Special Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) **AMOUNT.**—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024

\$443,000,000 for deposit into the Special Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) USES OF FUNDS.—Amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator as needed at the discretion of such Administrator, for carrying out any provision in this title (including sections 3303 and 3341(c)).

“(d) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Any amounts that remain in the Special Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

“SEC. 3354. PENTAGON/SHANKSVILLE FUND.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania (referred to in this section as the ‘Pentagon/Shanksville Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) AMOUNT.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024 \$257,000,000 for deposit into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) USES OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator for the purpose of carrying out section 3312 with regard to WTC responders enrolled in the WTC Program based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of section 3311(a)(2)(C)(i).

“(2) LIMITATION ON OTHER FUNDING.—Notwithstanding sections 3331(a), 3351(b)(1), 3352(c), and 3353(c), and any other provision in this title, for the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2033, no amounts made available under this title other than those amounts appropriated under subsection (b) may be available for the purpose described in paragraph (1).

“(d) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Any amounts that remain in the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3311(a)(4)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21(a)(4)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(2) in section 3321(a)(3)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–31(a)(3)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(3) in section 3331 (42 U.S.C. 300mm–41)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “the World Trade Center Health Program Fund and the World Trade Center Health Program Supplemental Fund” and inserting “(as applicable) the Funds established under sections 3351, 3352, 3353, and 3354”; and

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353” after “section 3351”;

(ii) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(iii) in paragraph (2), in the flush text following subparagraph (C), by inserting “or

the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(4) in section 3351(b) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–61(b))—

(A) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end.

(d) PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND.—Section 4002(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–11(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9), by striking “\$1,725,000,000; and” and inserting “\$1,568,000,000;”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (10) and inserting the following:

“(10) for fiscal year 2030, \$1,783,000,000;

“(11) for fiscal year 2031, \$1,784,000,000; and

“(12) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal year thereafter, \$2,000,000,000.”.

SA 1039. Mr. CASEY 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, insert the following:

SEC. ____ REVIEW BY DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE REGARDING INFORMATION COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS WITH RESPECT TO ECONOMIC COMPETITION.

(a) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall complete a review of the requirements and access to commercial information used by elements of the intelligence community for analysis of capital flows, investment security, beneficial ownership of entities, and other transactions and functions related to identifying threats, gaps, and opportunities with respect to economic competition with foreign countries, including the People’s Republic of China.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The review required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The length and expiration of licenses of elements of the intelligence community for access to commercial information.

(B) The number of such licenses permitted for each element of the intelligence community.

(b) REPORT; BRIEFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the review required by subsection (a)(1) is completed, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report and provide a briefing to Congress on the findings of the review.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report and briefing required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The findings of the review required by subsection (a)(1).

(B) Recommendations of the Director on whether and how the standardization of access to commercial information, the expansion of licenses for such access, the lengthening of license terms beyond 1 year, and the issuance of intelligence community-wide (as opposed to agency-by-agency) licenses would advance the open-source collection and analytical requirements of the intelligence community with respect to economic competition with foreign countries, including the People’s Republic of China.

(C) An assessment of cost savings or increases that may result from the standardization described in subparagraph (B).

(3) FORM.—The report and briefing required by paragraph (1) may be classified.

(c) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “intelligence community” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

SA 1040. Ms. ROSEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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 ____ STUDIES AND REPORTS ON TREATMENT OF SERVICE OF CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO SERVED IN FEMALE CULTURAL SUPPORT TEAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2010, the Commander of United States Special Operations Command established the Cultural Support Team Program to overcome significant intelligence gaps during the Global War on Terror.

(2) From 2010 through 2021, approximately 310 female members, from every Armed Force, passed and were selected as members of female cultural support teams, and deployed with special operations forces.

(3) Members of female cultural support teams served honorably, demonstrated commendable courage, overcame such intelligence gaps, engaged in direct action, and suffered casualties during the Global War on Terror.

(4) The Federal Government has a duty to recognize members and veterans of female cultural support teams who volunteered to join the Armed Forces, to undergo arduous training for covered service, and to execute dangerous and classified missions in the course of such covered service.

(5) Members who performed covered service have sought treatment from the Department of Veterans Affairs for traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress, and disabling physical trauma incurred in the course of such covered service, but have been denied such care.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the Sense of Congress that—

(1) individuals who performed covered service performed exceptional service to the United States; and

(2) the Secretary of Defense should ensure that the performance of covered service is included in the military service record of each individual who performed covered service so that those with service-connected injuries can receive proper care and benefits for their service.

(c) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 31, 2024, the Secretary of Defense shall—

(A) carry out a study on the treatment of covered service for purposes of retired pay under laws administered by the Secretary; and

(B) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the findings of the Secretary with respect to the study carried out under paragraph (1).

(2) LIST.—The report submitted under paragraph (1)(B) shall include a list of each individual who performed covered service whose military service record should be modified on account of covered service.

(d) SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS STUDY AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 31, 2024, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall—

(A) carry out a study on the treatment of covered service for purposes of compensation under laws administered by the Secretary; and

(B) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the findings of the Secretary with respect to the study carried out under paragraph (1).

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1)(B) shall include the following:

(A) A list of each veteran who performed covered service whose claim for disability compensation under a law administered by the Secretary was denied due to the inability of the Department of Veterans Affairs to determine the injury was service-connected.

(B) An estimate of the cost that would be incurred by the Department to provide veterans described in subparagraph (A) with the health care and benefits they are entitled to under the laws administered by the Secretary on account of their covered service.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED SERVICE.—The term “covered service” means service—

(A) as a member of the Armed Forces;

(B) in a female cultural support team;

(C) with the personnel development skill identifier of R2J or 5DK, or any other validation methods, such as valid sworn statements, officer and enlisted performance evaluations, training certificates, or records of an award from completion of tour with a cultural support team; and

(D) during the period beginning on January 1, 2010, and ending on August 31, 2021.

SA 1041. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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. ____. 9/11 RESPONDER AND SURVIVOR HEALTH FUNDING CORRECTION ACT OF 2023.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ARMED FORCES, OR OTHER FEDERAL WORKER RE-

SPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3306 (42 U.S.C. 300mm–5)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (11) and paragraphs (12) through (17) as paragraphs (6) through (12) and paragraphs (14) through (19), respectively;

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) The term ‘Federal agency’ means an agency, office, or other establishment in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Federal Government.”; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (12), as so redesignated, the following:

“(13) The term ‘uniformed services’ has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”; and

(2) in section 3311(a) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21(a))—

(A) in paragraph (2)(C)(i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subclause (II), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(III) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Pentagon site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; or

“(IV) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Shanksville, Pennsylvania, site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; and”;

(B) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(i) by striking “(A) IN GENERAL.—The” and inserting the following:

“(A) LIMIT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The”;

(ii) by inserting “or subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i)” after “or 2)(A)(ii)”;

and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) CERTAIN RESPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.—The total number of individuals who may be enrolled under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i) shall not exceed 500 at any time.”.

(b) ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM.—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 3353. SPECIAL FUND.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund (referred to in

this section as the ‘Special Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) AMOUNT.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024 \$443,000,000 for deposit into the Special Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) USES OF FUNDS.—Amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator as needed at the discretion of such Administrator, for carrying out any provision in this title (including sections 3303 and 3341(c)).

“(d) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Any amounts that remain in the Special Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

“SEC. 3354. PENTAGON/SHANKSVILLE FUND.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania (referred to in this section as the ‘Pentagon/Shanksville Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) AMOUNT.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024 \$257,000,000 for deposit into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) USES OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator for the purpose of carrying out section 3312 with regard to WTC responders enrolled in the WTC Program based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of section 3311(a)(2)(C)(i).

“(2) LIMITATION ON OTHER FUNDING.—Notwithstanding sections 3331(a), 3351(b)(1), 3352(c), and 3353(c), and any other provision in this title, for the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2033, no amounts made available under this title other than those amounts appropriated under subsection (b) may be available for the purpose described in paragraph (1).

“(d) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Any amounts that remain in the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3311(a)(4)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21(a)(4)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(2) in section 3321(a)(3)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–31(a)(3)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(3) in section 3331 (42 U.S.C. 300mm–41)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “the World Trade Center Health Program Fund and the World Trade Center Health Program Supplemental Fund” and inserting “(as applicable) the Funds established under sections 3351, 3352, 3353, and 3354”;

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353” after “section 3351”;

(ii) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353” after “section 3351”;

(iii) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353” after “section 3351”;

(ii) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(iii) in paragraph (2), in the flush text following subparagraph (C), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(4) in section 3351(b) (42 U.S.C. 300mm-61(b))—

(A) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end.

(d) PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND.—Section 4002(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-11(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (9), by striking “\$1,725,000,000; and” and inserting “\$1,568,000,000;”; and

(2) by striking paragraph (10) and inserting the following:

“(10) for fiscal year 2030, \$1,783,000,000;

“(11) for fiscal year 2031, \$1,784,000,000; and

“(12) for fiscal year 2032 and each fiscal year thereafter, \$2,000,000,000.”

SA 1042. Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) 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 G of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1083. GLOBAL COOPERATIVE FRAMEWORK TO END HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN SOURCING CRITICAL MINERALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall seek to convene a meeting of foreign leaders to establish a multilateral framework to end human rights abuses, including the exploitation of forced labor and child labor, related to the mining and sourcing of critical minerals.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—The Secretary shall lead the development of an annual global report on the implementation of the framework under subsection (a), including progress and recommendations to fully end human rights abuses, including the exploitation of forced labor and child labor, related to the extraction of critical minerals around the world.

(c) CONSULTATIONS.—The Secretary shall consult closely on a timely basis with the following with respect to developing and implementing the framework under subsection (a):

(1) The Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force established under section 741 of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act (19 U.S.C. 4681); and

(2) Congress.

(d) RELATIONSHIP TO UNITED STATES LAW.—Nothing in the framework under subsection (a) shall be construed—

(1) to amend or modify any law of the United States; or

(2) to limit any authority conferred under any law of the United States.

(e) EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE AND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE DODD-FRANK WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT.—Nothing in this section shall—

(1) affect the authority of the President to take any action to join and subsequently comply with the terms and obligations of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI); or

(2) affect section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 78m note), or subsection (q) of section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m), as added by section 1504 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111-203; 124 Stat. 2220), or any rule prescribed under either such section.

(f) CRITICAL MINERAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term “critical mineral” has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

SA 1043. Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. SINEMA, and Ms. ROSEN) 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, add the following:

DIVISION I—COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
TITLE LXIX—FEDERAL DATA AND INFORMATION SECURITY
Subtitle A—Federal Data Center Enhancement Act of 2023

SEC. 11001. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Federal Data Center Enhancement Act of 2023”.

SEC. 11002. FEDERAL DATA CENTER CONSOLIDATION INITIATIVE AMENDMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The statutory authorization for the Federal Data Center Optimization Initiative under section 834 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (44 U.S.C. 3601 note; Public Law 113-291) expired at the end of fiscal year 2022.

(2) The expiration of the authorization described in paragraph (1) presents Congress with an opportunity to review the objectives of the Federal Data Center Optimization Initiative to ensure that the initiative is meeting the current needs of the Federal Government.

(3) The initial focus of the Federal Data Center Optimization Initiative, which was to consolidate data centers and create new efficiencies, has resulted in, since 2010—

(A) the consolidation of more than 6,000 Federal data centers; and

(B) cost savings and avoidance of \$5,800,000,000.

(4) The need of the Federal Government for access to data and data processing systems has evolved since the date of enactment in 2014 of subtitle D of title VIII of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015.

(5) Federal agencies and employees involved in mission critical functions increasingly need reliable access to secure, reliable, and protected facilities to house mission critical data and data operations to meet the immediate needs of the people of the United States.

(6) As of the date of enactment of this subtitle, there is a growing need for Federal agencies to use data centers and cloud applications that meet high standards for cybersecurity, resiliency, and availability.

(b) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DATA CENTERS.—Section 834 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (44 U.S.C. 3601 note; Public Law 113-291) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) NEW DATA CENTER.—The term ‘new data center’ means—

“(A)(i) a data center or a portion thereof that is owned, operated, or maintained by a covered agency; or

“(ii) to the extent practicable, a data center or portion thereof—

“(I) that is owned, operated, or maintained by a contractor on behalf of a covered agency on the date on which the contract between the covered agency and the contractor expires; and

“(II) with respect to which the covered agency extends the contract, or enters into a new contract, with the contractor; and

“(B) on or after the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Data Center Enhancement Act of 2023, a data center or portion thereof that is—

“(i) established; or

“(ii) substantially upgraded or expanded.”;

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DATA CENTERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Federal Data Center Enhancement Act of 2023, the Administrator shall establish minimum requirements for new data centers in consultation with the Administrator of General Services and the Federal Chief Information Officers Council.

“(2) CONTENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The minimum requirements established under paragraph (1) shall include requirements relating to—

“(i) the availability of new data centers;

“(ii) the use of new data centers;

“(iii) uptime percentage;

“(iv) protections against power failures, including on-site energy generation and access to multiple transmission paths;

“(v) protections against physical intrusions and natural disasters;

“(vi) information security protections required by subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, and other applicable law and policy; and

“(vii) any other requirements the Administrator determines appropriate.

“(B) CONSULTATION.—In establishing the requirements described in subparagraph (A)(vi), the Administrator shall consult with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Cyber Director.

“(3) INCORPORATION OF MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS INTO CURRENT DATA CENTERS.—As soon as practicable, and in any case not later than 90 days after the Administrator establishes the minimum requirements pursuant to paragraph (1), the Administrator shall issue guidance to ensure, as appropriate, that covered agencies incorporate the minimum requirements established under that paragraph into the operations of any data center of a

covered agency existing as of the date of enactment of the Federal Data Center Enhancement Act of 2023.

“(4) REVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services and the Federal Chief Information Officers Council, shall review, update, and modify the minimum requirements established under paragraph (1), as necessary.

“(5) REPORT ON NEW DATA CENTERS.—During the development and planning lifecycle of a new data center, if the head of a covered agency determines that the covered agency is likely to make a management or financial decision relating to any data center, the head of the covered agency shall—

“(A) notify—

“(i) the Administrator;

“(ii) Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

“(iii) Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives; and

“(B) describe in the notification with sufficient detail how the covered agency intends to comply with the minimum requirements established under paragraph (1).

“(6) USE OF TECHNOLOGY.—In determining whether to establish or continue to operate an existing data center, the head of a covered agency shall—

“(A) regularly assess the application portfolio of the covered agency and ensure that each at-risk legacy application is updated, replaced, or modernized, as appropriate, to take advantage of modern technologies; and

“(B) prioritize and, to the greatest extent possible, leverage commercial cloud environments rather than acquiring, overseeing, or managing custom data center infrastructure.

“(7) PUBLIC WEBSITE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall maintain a public-facing website that includes information, data, and explanatory statements relating to the compliance of covered agencies with the requirements of this section.

“(B) PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES.—In maintaining the website described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall—

“(i) ensure covered agencies regularly, and not less frequently than biannually, update the information, data, and explanatory statements posed on the website, pursuant to guidance issued by the Administrator, relating to any new data centers and, as appropriate, each existing data center of the covered agency; and

“(ii) ensure that all information, data, and explanatory statements on the website are maintained as open Government data assets.”; and

(3) in subsection (c), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The head of a covered agency shall oversee and manage the data center portfolio and the information technology strategy of the covered agency in accordance with Federal cybersecurity guidelines and directives, including—

“(A) information security standards and guidelines promulgated by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

“(B) applicable requirements and guidance issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to section 3614 of title 44, United States Code; and

“(C) directives issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 3553 of title 44, United States Code.”.

(c) EXTENSION OF SUNSET.—Section 834(e) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (44 U.S.C. 3601 note; Public Law 113-291) is amended by striking “2022” and inserting “2026”.

(d) GAO REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this subtitle, and annually thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall review, verify, and audit the compliance of covered agencies with the minimum requirements established pursuant to section 834(b)(1) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (44 U.S.C. 3601 note; Public Law 113-291) for new data centers and subsection (b)(3) of that section for existing data centers, as appropriate.

TITLE LXX—STEMMING THE FLOW OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS

Subtitle A—Enhancing DHS Drug Seizures Act

SEC. 11101. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Enhancing DHS Drug Seizures Act”.

SEC. 11102. COORDINATION AND INFORMATION SHARING.

(a) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—

(1) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop a strategy to strengthen existing and establish new public-private partnerships with shipping, chemical, and pharmaceutical industries to assist with early detection and interdiction of illicit drugs and precursor chemicals.

(2) CONTENTS.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall contain goals and objectives for employees of the Department of Homeland Security to ensure the tactics, techniques, and procedures gained from the public-private partnerships described in paragraph (1) are included in policies, best practices, and training for the Department.

(3) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after developing the strategy required under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop an implementation plan for the strategy, which shall outline departmental lead and support roles, responsibilities, programs, and timelines for accomplishing the goals and objectives of the strategy.

(4) BRIEFING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide annual briefings to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives regarding the progress made in addressing the implementation plan developed pursuant to paragraph (3).

(b) ASSESSMENT OF DRUG TASK FORCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct an assessment of the counterdrug task forces in which the Department of Homeland Security, including components of the Department, participates in or leads, which shall include—

(A) areas of potential overlap;

(B) opportunities for sharing information and best practices;

(C) how the Department’s processes for ensuring accountability and transparency in its vetting and oversight of partner agency task force members align with best practices; and

(D) corrective action plans for any capability limitations and deficient or negative findings identified in the report for any such task forces led by the Department.

(2) COORDINATION.—In conducting the assessment required under paragraph (1), with respect to counterdrug task forces that include foreign partners, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall coordinate with the Secretary of State.

(3) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall sub-

mit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that contains a summary of the results of the assessment conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

(B) FOREIGN PARTNERS.—If the report submitted under subparagraph (A) includes information about counterdrug forces that include foreign partners, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit the report to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(4) CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

(A) implement the corrective action plans described in paragraph (1)(D) immediately after the submission of the report pursuant to paragraph (2); and

(B) provide annual briefings to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives regarding the progress made in implementing the corrective action plans.

(c) COMBINATION OF BRIEFINGS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may combine the briefings required under subsections (a)(4) and (b)(3)(B) and provide such combined briefings through fiscal year 2026.

SEC. 11103. DANGER PAY FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PERSONNEL DEPLOYED ABROAD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 881 the following:

“SEC. 881A. DANGER PAY ALLOWANCE.

“(a) AUTHORIZATION.—An employee of the Department, while stationed in a foreign area, may be granted a danger pay allowance, not to exceed 35 percent of the basic pay of such employee, for any period during which such foreign area experiences a civil insurrection, a civil war, ongoing terrorist acts, or wartime conditions that threaten physical harm or imminent danger to the health or well-being of such employee.

“(b) NOTICE.—Before granting or terminating a danger pay allowance to any employee pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary, after consultation with the Secretary of State, shall notify the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives of—

“(1) the intent to make such payments and the circumstances justifying such payments; or

“(2) the intent to terminate such payments and the circumstances justifying such termination.”.

SEC. 11104. IMPROVING TRAINING TO FOREIGN-VETTED LAW ENFORCEMENT OR NATIONAL SECURITY UNITS.

The Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, provide training to foreign-vetted law enforcement or national security units and may waive reimbursement for salary expenses of such Department of Homeland Security personnel, in accordance with an agreement with the Department of Defense pursuant to section 1535 of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 11105. ENHANCING THE OPERATIONS OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Section 411(f) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(f)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and other customs officers designated in accordance with the authorities granted to officers and agents of Air and Marine Operations may, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, provide the support described in subparagraph (B) to authorities of the government of a foreign country if an arrangement has been entered into between the Government of the United States and the government of such country that permits such support by such employees and officers.

“(B) SUPPORT DESCRIBED.—The support described in this subparagraph is support for—

“(i) the monitoring, locating, tracking, and deterrence of—

“(I) illegal drugs to the United States;

“(II) the illicit smuggling of persons and goods into the United States;

“(III) terrorist threats to the United States; and

“(IV) other threats to the security or economy of the United States;

“(ii) emergency humanitarian efforts; and

“(iii) law enforcement capacity-building efforts.

“(C) PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clauses (ii) and (iv), the Secretary, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, may expend funds that have been appropriated or otherwise made available for the operating expenses of the Department to pay claims for money damages against the United States, in accordance with the first paragraph of section 2672 of title 28, United States Code, which arise in a foreign country in connection with U.S. Customs and Border Protection operations in such country.

“(ii) SUBMISSION DEADLINE.—A claim may be allowed under clause (i) only if it is presented not later than 2 years after it accrues.

“(iii) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the expenditure authority under clause (i) expires pursuant to clause (iv), the Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives that describes, for each of the payments made pursuant to clause (i)—

“(I) the foreign entity that received such payment;

“(II) the amount paid to such foreign entity;

“(III) the country in which such foreign entity resides or has its principal place of business; and

“(IV) a detailed account of the circumstances justify such payment.

“(iv) SUNSET.—The expenditure authority under clause (i) shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of the Enhancing DHS Drug Seizures Act.”.

SEC. 11106. DRUG SEIZURE DATA IMPROVEMENT.

(a) STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall conduct a study to identify any opportunities for improving drug seizure data collection.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The study required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) include a survey of the entities that use drug seizure data; and

(2) address—

(A) any additional data fields or drug type categories that should be added to U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s SEACATS, U.S. Border Patrol’s e3 portal, and any other systems deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protec-

tion, in accordance with the first recommendation in the Government Accountability Office’s report GAO-22-104725, entitled “Border Security: CBP Could Improve How It Categorizes Drug Seizure Data and Evaluates Training”;

(B) how all the Department of Homeland Security components that collect drug seizure data can standardize their data collection efforts and deconflict drug seizure reporting;

(C) how the Department of Homeland Security can better identify, collect, and analyze additional data on precursor chemicals, synthetic drugs, novel psychoactive substances, and analogues that have been seized by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

(D) how the Department of Homeland Security can improve its model of anticipated drug flow into the United States.

(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF FINDINGS.—Following the completion of the study required under subsection (a)—

(1) the Secretary of Homeland Security, in accordance with the Office of National Drug Control Policy’s 2022 National Drug Control Strategy, shall modify Department of Homeland Security drug seizure policies and training programs, as appropriate, consistent with the findings of such study; and

(2) the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, in consultation with the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, shall make any necessary updates to relevant systems to include the results of confirmatory drug testing results.

SEC. 11107. DRUG PERFORMANCE MEASURES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall develop and implement a plan to ensure that components of the Department of Homeland Security develop and maintain outcome-based performance measures that adequately assess the success of drug interdiction efforts and how to utilize the existing drug-related metrics and performance measures to achieve the missions, goals, and targets of the Department.

SEC. 11108. PENALTIES FOR HINDERING IMMIGRATION, BORDER, AND CUSTOMS CONTROLS.

(a) PERSONNEL AND STRUCTURES.—Title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 274D the following:

“SECTION 274E. DESTROYING OR EVADING BORDER CONTROLS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful to knowingly and without lawful authorization—

“(1)(A) destroy or significantly damage any fence, barrier, sensor, camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control an international border of, or a port of entry to, the United States; or

“(B) otherwise construct, excavate, or make any structure intended to defeat, circumvent or evade such a fence, barrier, sensor camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control an international border of, or a port of entry to, the United States; and

“(2) in carrying out an act described in paragraph (1), have the intent to knowingly and willfully—

“(A) secure a financial gain;

“(B) further the objectives of a criminal organization; and

“(C) violate—

“(i) section 274(a)(1)(A)(i);

“(ii) the customs and trade laws of the United States (as defined in section 2(4) of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–125));

“(iii) any other Federal law relating to transporting controlled substances, agriculture, or monetary instruments into the United States; or

“(iv) any Federal law relating to border controls measures of the United States.

“(b) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection (a) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 274D the following:

“Sec. 274E. Destroying or evading border controls.”.

Subtitle B—Non-Intrusive Inspection Expansion Act

SEC. 11111. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Non-Intrusive Inspection Expansion Act”.

SEC. 11112. USE OF NON-INTRUSIVE INSPECTION SYSTEMS AT LAND PORTS OF ENTRY.

(a) FISCAL YEAR 2026.—Using non-intrusive inspection systems acquired through previous appropriations Acts, beginning not later than September 30, 2026, U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall use non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry to scan, cumulatively, at ports of entry where systems are in place by the deadline, not fewer than—

(1) 40 percent of passenger vehicles entering the United States; and

(2) 90 percent of commercial vehicles entering the United States.

(b) SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—Beginning in fiscal year 2027, U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall use non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry to reach the next projected benchmark for incremental scanning of passenger and commercial vehicles entering the United States at such ports of entry.

(c) BRIEFING.—Not later than May 30, 2026, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall brief the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives regarding the progress made during the first half of fiscal year 2026 in achieving the scanning benchmarks described in subsection (a).

(d) REPORT.—If the scanning benchmarks described in subsection (a) are not met by the end of fiscal year 2026, not later than 120 days after the end of that fiscal year, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that—

(1) analyzes the causes for not meeting such requirements;

(2) identifies any resource gaps and challenges; and

(3) details the steps that will be taken to ensure compliance with such requirements in the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 11113. NON-INTRUSIVE INSPECTION SYSTEMS FOR OUTBOUND INSPECTIONS.

(a) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a strategy to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives for increasing sustained outbound inspection operations at land ports of entry that includes—

(1) the number of existing and planned outbound inspection lanes at each port of entry;

(2) infrastructure limitations that limit the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to deploy non-intrusive inspection systems for outbound inspections;

(3) the number of additional non-intrusive inspection systems that are necessary to increase scanning capacity for outbound inspections; and

(4) plans for funding and acquiring the systems described in paragraph (3).

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—Beginning not later than September 30, 2026, U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall use non-intrusive inspection systems at land ports of entry to scan not fewer than 10 percent of all vehicles exiting the United States through land ports of entry.

SEC. 11114. GAO REVIEW AND REPORT.

(a) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the use by U.S. Customs and Border Protection of non-intrusive inspection systems for border security.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The review required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) identify—

(i) the number and types of non-intrusive inspection systems deployed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and

(ii) the locations to which such systems have been deployed; and

(B) examine the manner in which U.S. Customs and Border Protection—

(i) assesses the effectiveness of such systems; and

(ii) uses such systems in conjunction with other border security resources and assets, such as border barriers and technology, to detect and interdict drug smuggling and trafficking at the southwest border of the United States.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives containing the findings of the review conducted pursuant to subsection (a).

Subtitle C—Securing America's Ports of Entry Act of 2023

SEC. 11121. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Securing America's Ports of Entry Act of 2023”.

SEC. 11122. ADDITIONAL U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION PERSONNEL.

(a) OFFICERS.—Subject to appropriations, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall hire, train, and assign not fewer than 600 new U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers above the current attrition level during every fiscal year until the total number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers equals and sustains the requirements identified each year in the Workload Staffing Model.

(b) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Commissioner is authorized to hire, train, and assign support staff, including technicians and Enterprise Services mission support, to perform non-law enforcement administrative functions to support the new U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers hired pursuant to subsection (a).

(c) TRAFFIC FORECASTS.—In calculating the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers needed at each port of entry through the Workload Staffing Model, the Commissioner shall—

(1) rely on data collected regarding the inspections and other activities conducted at each such port of entry;

(2) consider volume from seasonal surges, other projected changes in commercial and passenger volumes, the most current com-

mercial forecasts, and other relevant information;

(3) consider historical volume and forecasts prior to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on international travel; and

(4) incorporate personnel requirements for increasing the rate of outbound inspection operations at land ports of entry.

(d) GAO REPORT.—If the Commissioner does not hire the 600 additional U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers authorized under subsection (a) during fiscal year 2024, or during any subsequent fiscal year in which the hiring requirements set forth in the Workload Staffing Model have not been achieved, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a review of U.S. Customs and Border Protection hiring practices to determine the reasons that such requirements were not achieved and other issues related to hiring by U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and

(2) submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives that describes the results of the review conducted pursuant to paragraph (1).

SEC. 11123. PORTS OF ENTRY INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENT REPORT.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, the Committee on Finance of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives that identifies—

(1) infrastructure improvements at ports of entry that would enhance the ability of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers to interdict opioids and other drugs that are being illegally transported into the United States, including a description of circumstances at specific ports of entry that prevent the deployment of technology used at other ports of entry;

(2) detection equipment that would improve the ability of such officers to identify opioids, including precursors and derivatives, that are being illegally transported into the United States; and

(3) safety equipment that would protect such officers from accidental exposure to such drugs or other dangers associated with the inspection of potential drug traffickers.

SEC. 11124. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) TEMPORARY DUTY ASSIGNMENTS.—

(1) QUARTERLY REPORT.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a quarterly report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes, for the reporting period—

(A) the number of temporary duty assignments;

(B) the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers required for each temporary duty assignment;

(C) the ports of entry from which such officers were reassigned;

(D) the ports of entry to which such officers were reassigned;

(E) the ports of entry at which reimbursable service agreements have been entered into that may be affected by temporary duty assignments;

(F) the duration of each temporary duty assignment;

(G) the cost of each temporary duty assignment; and

(H) the extent to which the temporary duty assignments within the reporting pe-

riod were in support of the other U.S. Customs and Border Protection activities or operations along the southern border of the United States, including the specific costs associated with such temporary duty assignments.

(2) NOTICE.—Not later than 10 days before redeploying employees from 1 port of entry to another, absent emergency circumstances—

(A) the Commissioner shall notify the director of the port of entry from which employees will be reassigned of the intended redeployments; and

(B) the port director shall notify impacted facilities (including airports, seaports, and land ports) of the intended redeployments.

(3) STAFF BRIEFING.—The Commissioner shall brief all affected U.S. Customs and Border Protection employees regarding plans to mitigate vulnerabilities created by any planned staffing reductions at ports of entry.

(b) REPORTS ON U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION AGREEMENTS.—Section 907(a) of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (19 U.S.C. 4451(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by striking “and an assessment” and all that follows and inserting a period;

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) through (12) as paragraphs (5) through (13), respectively;

(3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) A description of the factors that were considered before entering into the agreement, including an assessment of how the agreement provides economic benefits and security benefits (if applicable) at the port of entry to which the agreement relates.”; and

(4) in paragraph (5), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by inserting after “the report” the following: “, including the locations of such services and the total hours of reimbursable services under the agreement, if any”.

(c) ANNUAL WORKLOAD STAFFING MODEL REPORT.—As part of the Annual Report on Staffing required under section 411(g)(5)(A) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(g)(5)(A)), the Commissioner shall include—

(1) information concerning the progress made toward meeting the U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer and support staff hiring targets set forth in section 2, while accounting for attrition;

(2) an update to the information provided in the Resource Optimization at the Ports of Entry report, which was submitted to Congress on September 12, 2017, pursuant to the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (division F of Public Law 115-31); and

(3) a summary of the information included in the reports required under subsection (a) and section 907(a) of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015, as amended by subsection (b).

(d) CBP ONE MOBILE APPLICATION.—During the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall publish a monthly report on the use of the CBP One mobile application, including, with respect to each reporting period—

(1) the number of application registration attempts made through CBP One pursuant to the Circumvention of Lawful Pathways final rule (88 Fed. Reg. 31314 (May 16, 2023)) that resulted in a system error, disaggregated by error type;

(2) the total number of noncitizens who successfully registered appointments through CBP One pursuant to such rule;

(3) the total number of appointments made through CBP One pursuant to such rule that went unused;

(4) the total number of individuals who have been granted parole with a Notice to Appear subsequent to appointments scheduled for such individuals through CBP One pursuant to such rule; and

(5) the total number of noncitizens who have been issued a Notice to Appear and have been transferred to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody subsequent to appointments scheduled for such noncitizens through CBP One pursuant to such rule.

(e) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(4) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives

(5) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(6) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 11125. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subtitle—

- (1) \$136,292,948 for fiscal year 2024; and
- (2) \$156,918,590 for each of the fiscal years 2025 through 2029.

Subtitle D—Border Patrol Enhancement Act
SEC. 11131. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Border Patrol Enhancement Act”.

SEC. 11132. AUTHORIZED STAFFING LEVEL FOR THE UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL.

(a) **DEFINED TERM.**—In this subtitle, the term “validated personnel requirements determination model” means a determination of the number of United States Border Patrol agents needed to meet the critical mission requirements of the United States Border Patrol to maintain an orderly process for migrants entering the United States, that has been validated by a qualified research entity pursuant to subsection (c).

(b) **UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS DETERMINATION MODEL.**—

(1) **COMPLETION; NOTICE.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall complete a personnel requirements determination model for United States Border Patrol that builds on the 5-year United States Border Patrol staffing and deployment plan referred to on page 33 of House of Representatives Report 112-91 (May 26, 2011) and submit a notice of completion to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and

(D) the Comptroller General of the United States.

(2) **CERTIFICATION.**—Not later than 30 days after the completion of the personnel requirements determination model described in paragraph (1), the Commissioner shall submit a copy of such model, an explanation of its development, and a strategy for obtaining independent verification of such model, to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(C) the Office of Personnel Management; and

(D) the Comptroller General of the United States.

(c) **INDEPENDENT STUDY OF PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS DETERMINATION MODEL.**—

(1) **REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY.**—Not later than 90 days after the completion of the personnel requirements determination model pursuant to subsection (b)(1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall select an entity that is technically, managerially, and financially independent from the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an independent verification and validation of the model.

(2) **REPORTS.**—

(A) **TO SECRETARY.**—Not later than 1 year after the completion of the personnel requirements determination model under subsection (b)(1), the entity performing the independent verification and validation of the model shall submit a report to the Secretary of Homeland Security that includes—

(i) the results of the study conducted pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(ii) any recommendations regarding the model that such entity considers to be appropriate.

(B) **TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 30 days after receiving the report described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit such report, along with any additional views or recommendations regarding the personnel requirements determination model, to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(d) **AUTHORITY TO HIRE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL.**—Beginning on the date that is 180 days after receiving a report from a qualified research entity pursuant to subsection (c)(2) that validates the personnel requirements determination model and after implementing any recommendations to improve or update such model, the Secretary of Homeland Security may hire, train, and assign 600 or more United States Border Patrol agents above the attrition level during every fiscal year until the number of active agents meets the level recommended by the validated personnel requirements determination model.

SEC. 11133. ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGHER RATES OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED OVERTIME PAY FOR UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL AGENTS CLASSIFIED AT GS-12.

Section 5550 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) **SPECIAL OVERTIME PAY FOR GS-12 BORDER PATROL AGENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)(F), (2)(C), and (3)(C) of subsection (b), a border patrol agent encumbering a position at grade GS-12 shall receive a special overtime payment under this subsection for hours of regularly scheduled work described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii) or (3)(A)(ii) of subsection (b), as applicable, that are credited to the agent through actual performance of work, crediting under rules for canine agents under subsection (b)(1)(F), or substitution of overtime hours in the same work period under subsection (f)(2)(A), except that no such payment may be made for periods of absence resulting in an hours obligation under paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (f).

“(2) **COMPUTATION.**—The special overtime payment authorized under paragraph (1) shall be computed by multiplying the credited hours by 50 percent of the border patrol agent’s hourly rate of basic pay, rounded to the nearest cent.

“(3) **LIMITATIONS.**—The special overtime payment authorized under paragraph (1)—

“(A) is not considered basic pay for retirement under section 8331(3) or 8401(4) or for any other purpose;

“(B) is not payable during periods of paid leave or other paid time off; and

“(C) is not considered in computing an agent’s lump-sum annual leave payment under sections 5551 and 5552.”.

SEC. 11134. GAO ASSESSMENT OF RECRUITING EFFORTS, HIRING REQUIREMENTS, AND RETENTION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL.

The Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct an assessment of U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s—

(A) efforts to recruit law enforcement personnel;

(B) hiring process and job requirements relating to such recruitment; and

(C) retention of law enforcement personnel, including the impact of employee compensation on such retention efforts; and

(2) not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit a report containing the results of such assessment to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 11135. CONTINUING TRAINING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Commissioner shall require all United States Border Patrol agents and other employees or contracted employees designated by the Commissioner, to participate in annual continuing training to maintain and update their understanding of—

(1) Department of Homeland Security policies, procedures, and guidelines;

(2) the fundamentals of law, ethics, and professional conduct;

(3) applicable Federal law and regulations;

(4) precedential legal rulings, including Federal Circuit Court and United States Supreme Court opinions relating to the duty of care and treatment of persons in the custody of the United States Border Patrol that the Commissioner determines are relevant to active duty agents;

(5) applicable migration trends that the Commissioner determines are relevant;

(6) best practices for coordinating with community stakeholders; and

(7) any other information that the Commissioner determines to be relevant to active duty agents.

(b) **TRAINING SUBJECTS.**—Continuing training under this subsection shall include training regarding—

(1) non-lethal use of force policies available to United States Border Patrol agents and de-escalation strategies and methods;

(2) identifying, screening, and responding to vulnerable populations, such as children, persons with diminished mental capacity, victims of human trafficking, pregnant mothers, victims of gender-based violence, victims of torture or abuse, and the acutely ill;

(3) trends in transnational criminal organization activities that impact border security and migration;

(4) policies, strategies, and programs—

(A) to protect due process, the civil, human, and privacy rights of individuals, and the private property rights of land owners;

(B) to reduce the number of migrant and agent deaths; and

(C) to improve the safety of agents on patrol;

(5) personal resilience;

(6) anti-corruption and officer ethics training;

(7) current migration trends, including updated cultural and societal issues of nations that are a significant source of migrants who are—

(A) arriving at a United States port of entry to seek humanitarian protection; or

(B) encountered at a United States international boundary while attempting to enter without inspection;

(8) the impact of border security operations on natural resources and the environment, including strategies to limit the impact of border security operations on natural resources and the environment;

(9) relevant cultural, societal, racial, and religious training, including cross-cultural communication skills;

(10) training authorized under the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15601 et seq.);

(11) risk management and safety training that includes agency protocols for ensuring public safety, personal safety, and the safety of persons in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security;

(12) non-lethal, self-defense training; and

(13) any other training that meets the requirements to maintain and update the subjects identified in subsection (a).

(c) **COURSE REQUIREMENTS.**—Courses offered under this section—

(1) shall be administered by the United States Border Patrol, in consultation with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center; and

(2) shall be approved in advance by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to ensure that such courses satisfy the requirements for training under this section.

(d) **ASSESSMENT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that assesses the training and education provided pursuant to this section, including continuing education.

(e) **FREQUENCY REQUIREMENTS.**—Training offered as part of continuing education under this section shall include—

(1) annual courses focusing on the curriculum described in paragraphs (1) through (6) of subsection (b); and

(2) biannual courses focusing on curriculum described in paragraphs (7) through (12) of subsection (b).

SEC. 11136. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) **RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION REPORT.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) conduct a study of the recruitment and retention of female agents in the United States Border Patrol that examines—

(A) the recruitment, application processes, training, promotion, and other aspects of employment for women in the United States Border Patrol;

(B) the training, complaints system, and redress for sexual harassment and assault; and

(C) additional issues related to recruitment and retention of female Border Patrol agents; and

(2) not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit a report containing the results of such study and recommendations for addressing any identified deficiencies or opportunities for improvement to—

(A) the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(b) **IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after receiving the recruitment and retention report required under sub-

section (a), the Commissioner shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that describes the status of the Commissioner's efforts to implement any recommendations included in recruitment and retention report.

Subtitle E—END FENTANYL Act

SEC. 11141. SHORT TITLES.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Eradicating Narcotic Drugs and Formulating Effective New Tools to Address National Yearly Losses of Life Act” or the “END FENTANYL Act”.

SEC. 11142. ENSURING TIMELY UPDATES TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION FIELD MANUALS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not less frequently than triennially, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall review and update, as necessary, the current policies and manuals of the Office of Field Operations related to inspections at ports of entry to ensure the uniform implementation of inspection practices that will effectively respond to technological and methodological changes designed to disguise illegal activity, such as the smuggling of drugs and humans, along the border.

(b) **REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—Shortly after each update required under subsection (a), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that summarizes the policy and manual changes implemented by such update.

TITLE LXXI—IMPROVING LOBBYING DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

Subtitle A—Lobbying Disclosure Improvement Act

SEC. 11201. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Lobbying Disclosure Improvement Act”.

SEC. 11202. REGISTRANT DISCLOSURE REGARDING FOREIGN AGENT REGISTRATION EXEMPTION.

Section 4(b) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

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

(3) by adding at the end the following: “(8) a statement as to whether the registrant is exempt under section 3(h) of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C. 613(h)).”.

Subtitle B—Disclosing Foreign Influence in Lobbying Act

SEC. 11211. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Disclosing Foreign Influence in Lobbying Act”.

SEC. 11212. CLARIFICATION OF CONTENTS OF REGISTRATION.

Section 4(b) of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1603(b)), as amended by section 11202 of this title, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (8), as added by section 11202 of this title, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) notwithstanding paragraph (4), the name and address of each government of a foreign country (including any agency or subdivision of a government of a foreign country, such as a regional or municipal unit of government) and foreign political party, other than the client, that participates in the direction, planning, supervision, or control of any lobbying activities of the registrant.”.

TITLE LXXII—PROTECTING OUR DOMESTIC WORKFORCE AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Subtitle A—Government-wide Study Relating to High-security Leased Space

SEC. 11301. GOVERNMENT-WIDE STUDY.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **ADMINISTRATOR.**—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of General Services.

(2) **BENEFICIAL OWNER.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “beneficial owner”, with respect to a covered entity, means each natural person who, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement, understanding, relationship, or otherwise—

(i) exercises substantial control over the covered entity; or

(ii) owns or controls not less than 25 percent of the ownership interests of, or receives substantial economic benefits from the assets of, the covered entity.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “beneficial owner”, with respect to a covered entity, does not include—

(i) a minor;

(ii) a person acting as a nominee, intermediary, custodian, or agent on behalf of another person;

(iii) a person acting solely as an employee of the covered entity and whose control over or economic benefits from the covered entity derives solely from the employment status of the person;

(iv) a person whose only interest in the covered entity is through a right of inheritance, unless the person also meets the requirements of subparagraph (A); or

(v) a creditor of the covered entity, unless the creditor also meets the requirements of subparagraph (A).

(C) **ANTI-ABUSE RULE.**—The exclusions under subparagraph (B) shall not apply if, in the determination of the Administrator, an exclusion is used for the purpose of evading, circumventing, or abusing the requirements of this Act.

(3) **CONTROL.**—The term “control”, with respect to a covered entity, means—

(A) having the authority or ability to determine how the covered entity is utilized; or

(B) having some decisionmaking power for the use of the covered entity.

(4) **COVERED ENTITY.**—The term “covered entity” means—

(A) a person, corporation, company, business association, partnership, society, trust, or any other nongovernmental entity, organization, or group; or

(B) any governmental entity or instrumentality of a government.

(5) **EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—The term “Executive agency” has the meaning given the term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) **FEDERAL AGENCY.**—The term “Federal agency” means—

(A) an Executive agency; and

(B) any establishment in the legislative or judicial branch of the Federal Government.

(7) **FEDERAL LESSEE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “Federal lessee” means—

(i) the Administrator;

(ii) the Architect of the Capitol; and

(iii) the head of any other Federal agency that has independent statutory leasing authority.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—The term “Federal lessee” does not include—

(i) the head of an element of the intelligence community; or

(ii) the Secretary of Defense.

(8) **FEDERAL TENANT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “Federal tenant” means a Federal agency that is occupying or will occupy a high-security leased

space for which a lease agreement has been secured on behalf of the Federal agency.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “Federal tenant” does not include an element of the intelligence community.

(9) FOREIGN ENTITY.—The term “foreign entity” means—

(A) a corporation, company, business association, partnership, society, trust, or any other nongovernmental entity, organization, or group that is headquartered in or organized under the laws of—

(i) a country that is not the United States; or

(ii) a State, unit of local government, or Indian Tribe that is not located within or a territory of the United States; or

(B) a government or governmental instrumentality that is not—

(i) the United States Government; or

(ii) a State, unit of local government, or Indian Tribe that is located within or a territory of the United States.

(10) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” means an individual who is not a United States person.

(11) HIGH-SECURITY LEASED ADJACENT SPACE.—The term “high-security leased adjacent space” means a building or office space that shares a boundary with or surrounds a high-security leased space.

(12) HIGH-SECURITY LEASED SPACE.—The term “high-security leased space” means a space leased by a Federal lessee that—

(A) will be occupied by Federal employees for nonmilitary activities; and

(B) has a facility security level of III, IV, or V, as determined by the Federal tenant in consultation with the Interagency Security Committee, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Administrator.

(13) HIGHEST-LEVEL OWNER.—The term “highest-level owner” means an entity that owns or controls—

(A) an immediate owner of the offeror of a lease for a high-security leased adjacent space; or

(B) 1 or more entities that control an immediate owner of the offeror of a lease described in subparagraph (A).

(14) IMMEDIATE OWNER.—The term “immediate owner” means an entity, other than the offeror of a lease for a high-security leased adjacent space, that has direct control of that offeror, including—

(A) ownership or interlocking management;

(B) identity of interests among family members;

(C) shared facilities and equipment; and

(D) the common use of employees.

(15) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given the term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

(16) SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC BENEFITS.—The term “substantial economic benefits”, with respect to a natural person described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), means having an entitlement to the funds or assets of a covered entity that, as a practical matter, enables the person, directly or indirectly, to control, manage, or direct the covered entity.

(17) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means an individual who—

(A) is a citizen of the United States; or

(B) is an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States.

(b) GOVERNMENT-WIDE STUDY.—

(1) COORDINATION STUDY.—The Administrator, in coordination with the Director of the Federal Protective Service, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and any other relevant entities, as determined by the Administrator, shall carry out a Government-wide study examining options to assist

agencies (as defined in section 551 of title 5, United States Code) to produce a security assessment process for high-security leased adjacent space before entering into a lease or novation agreement with a covered entity for the purposes of accommodating a Federal tenant located in a high-security leased space.

(2) CONTENTS.—The study required under paragraph (1)—

(A) shall evaluate how to produce a security assessment process that includes a process for assessing the threat level of each occupancy of a high-security leased adjacent space, including through—

(i) site-visits;

(ii) interviews; and

(iii) any other relevant activities determined necessary by the Director of the Federal Protective Service; and

(B) may include a process for collecting and using information on each immediate owner, highest-level owner, or beneficial owner of a covered entity that seeks to enter into a lease with a Federal lessee for a high-security leased adjacent space, including—

(i) name;

(ii) current residential or business street address; and

(iii) an identifying number or document that verifies identity as a United States person, a foreign person, or a foreign entity.

(3) WORKING GROUP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in coordination with the Director of Federal Protective Service, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and any other relevant entities, as determined by the Administrator, shall establish a working group to assist in the carrying out of the study required under paragraph (1).

(B) NO COMPENSATION.—A member of the working group established under subparagraph (A) shall receive no compensation as a result of serving on the working group.

(C) SUNSET.—The working group established under subparagraph (A) shall terminate on the date on which the report required under paragraph (6) is submitted.

(4) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall ensure that any information collected pursuant to the study required under paragraph (1) shall not be made available to the public.

(5) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this subsection requires an entity located in the United States to provide information requested pursuant to the study required under paragraph (1).

(6) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in coordination with the Director of Federal Protective Service, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and any other relevant entities, as determined by the Administrator, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report describing—

(A) the results of the study required under paragraph (1); and

(B) how all applicable privacy laws and rights relating to the First and Fourth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States would be upheld and followed in—

(i) the security assessment process described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2); and

(ii) the information collection process described in subparagraph (B) of that paragraph.

(7) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this subsection authorizes a Federal entity to mandate information gathering unless specifically authorized by law.

(8) PROHIBITION.—No information collected pursuant the security assessment process described in paragraph (2)(A) may be used for law enforcement purposes.

(9) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection.

Subtitle B—Intergovernmental Critical Minerals Task Force

SEC. 11311. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Intergovernmental Critical Minerals Task Force Act”.

SEC. 11312. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) current supply chains of critical minerals pose a great risk to the national security of the United States;

(2) critical minerals are necessary for transportation, technology, renewable energy, military equipment and machinery, and other relevant sectors crucial for the homeland and national security of the United States;

(3) in 2022, the United States was 100 percent import reliant for 12 out of 50 critical minerals and more than 50 percent import reliant for an additional 31 critical mineral commodities classified as “critical” by the United States Geological Survey, and the People’s Republic of China was the top producing nation for 30 of those 50 critical minerals;

(4) as of July, 2023, companies based in the People’s Republic of China that extract critical minerals around the world have received hundreds of charges of human rights violations;

(5) on March 26, 2014, the World Trade Organization ruled that the export restraints by the People’s Republic of China on rare earth metals violated obligations under the protocol of accession to the World Trade Organization, which harmed manufacturers and workers in the United States; and

(6) the President has yet to submit to Congress the plans and recommendations that were due on the December 27, 2022, deadline under section 5(a) of the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980 (30 U.S.C. 1604(a)), which are intended to support a coherent national mineral and materials policy, including through intergovernmental and interagency coordination.

SEC. 11313. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980 (30 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK FORCE.—

“(1) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the task force established under paragraph (3)(B) are—

“(A) to assess the reliance of the United States on the People’s Republic of China, and other covered countries, for critical minerals, and the resulting national security risks associated with that reliance, at each level of the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments;

“(B) to make recommendations to the President for the implementation of this Act with regard to critical minerals, including—

“(i) the congressional declarations of policies in section 3; and

“(ii) revisions to the program plan of the President and the initiatives required under this section;

“(C) to make recommendations to secure United States and global supply chains for critical minerals;

“(D) to make recommendations to reduce the reliance of the United States, and partners and allies of the United States, on critical mineral supply chains involving covered countries; and

“(E) to facilitate cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability among each level of the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments, on a holistic response to the dependence on covered countries for critical minerals across the United States.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(i) the Committees on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Energy and Natural Resources, Armed Services, Environment and Public Works, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Finance, and Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

“(ii) the Committees on Oversight and Accountability, Natural Resources, Armed Services, Ways and Means, and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

“(B) CHAIR.—The term ‘Chair’ means a member of the Executive Office of the President, designated by the President pursuant to paragraph (3)(A).

“(C) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ‘covered country’ means—

“(i) a covered nation (as defined in section 4872(d) of title 10, United States Code); and

“(ii) any other country determined by the task force to be a geostrategic competitor or adversary of the United States with respect to critical minerals.

“(D) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ‘critical mineral’ has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

“(E) 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).

“(F) TASK FORCE.—The term ‘task force’ means the task force established under paragraph (3)(B).

“(3) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the President shall—

“(A) designate a Chair for the task force; and

“(B) acting through the Executive Office of the President, establish a task force.

“(4) COMPOSITION; MEETINGS.—

“(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Chair, in consultation with key intergovernmental, private, and public sector stakeholders, shall appoint to the task force representatives with expertise in critical mineral supply chains from Federal agencies, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments, including not less than 1 representative from each of—

“(i) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

“(ii) the Bureau of Land Management;

“(iii) the Critical Minerals Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council;

“(iv) the Department of Agriculture;

“(v) the Department of Commerce;

“(vi) the Department of Defense;

“(vii) the Department of Energy;

“(viii) the Department of Homeland Security;

“(ix) the Department of the Interior;

“(x) the Department of Labor;

“(xi) the Department of State;

“(xii) the Department of Transportation;

“(xiii) the Environmental Protection Agency;

“(xiv) the Export-Import Bank of the United States

“(xv) the Forest Service;

“(xvi) the General Services Administration;

“(xvii) the National Science Foundation;

“(xviii) the Office of the United States Trade Representative;

“(xix) the United States International Development Finance Corporation;

“(xx) the United States Geological Survey; and

“(xxi) any other relevant Federal entity, as determined by the Chair.

“(B) CONSULTATION.—The task force shall consult individuals with expertise in critical mineral supply chains, individuals from States whose communities, businesses, and industries are involved in aspects of critical mineral supply chains, including mining and processing operations, and individuals from a diverse and balanced cross-section of—

“(i) intergovernmental consultees, including—

“(I) State governments;

“(II) local governments;

“(III) territorial governments; and

“(IV) Indian Tribes; and

“(i) other stakeholders, including—

“(I) academic research institutions;

“(II) corporations;

“(III) nonprofit organizations;

“(IV) private sector stakeholders;

“(V) trade associations;

“(VI) mining industry stakeholders; and

“(VII) labor representatives.

“(C) MEETINGS.—

“(i) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which all representatives of the task force have been appointed, the task force shall hold the first meeting of the task force.

“(ii) FREQUENCY.—The task force shall meet not less than once every 90 days.

“(5) DUTIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The duties of the task force shall include—

“(i) facilitating cooperation, coordination, and mutual accountability by the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments to enhance data sharing and transparency to build more robust and secure domestic supply chains for critical minerals in support of the purposes described in paragraph (1);

“(ii) providing recommendations with respect to—

“(I) increasing capacities for mining, processing, refinement, reuse, and recycling of critical minerals in the United States to facilitate the environmentally responsible production of domestic resources to meet national critical mineral needs, in consultation with Tribal and local communities;

“(II) identifying how statutes, regulations, and policies related to the critical mineral supply chain, such as stockpiling and development finance, could be modified to accelerate environmentally responsible domestic and international production of critical minerals, in consultation with Indian Tribes and local communities;

“(III) strengthening the domestic workforce to support growing critical mineral supply chains with good-paying, safe jobs in the United States;

“(IV) identifying alternative domestic and global sources to critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People’s Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling, including the availability, cost, and quality of those domestic alternatives;

“(V) identifying critical minerals and critical mineral supply chains that the United States can onshore, at a competitive availability, cost, and quality, for those minerals

and supply chains that the United States relies on the People’s Republic of China or other covered countries to provide;

“(VI) opportunities for the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and State, local, and territorial governments to mitigate risks to the national security of the United States with respect to supply chains for critical minerals that the United States currently relies on the People’s Republic of China or other covered countries for mining, processing, refining, and recycling; and

“(VII) evaluating and integrating the recommendations of the Critical Minerals Subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council into the recommendations of the task force.

“(iii) prioritizing the recommendations in clause (ii), taking into consideration economic costs and focusing on the critical mineral supply chains with vulnerabilities posing the most significant risks to the national security of the United States;

“(iv) recommending specific strategies, to be carried out in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce, to strengthen international partnerships in furtherance of critical minerals supply chain security with international allies and partners, including a strategy to collaborate with governments of the allies and partners described in subparagraph (B) to develop advanced mining, refining, separation and processing technologies; and

“(v) other duties, as determined by the Chair.

“(B) ALLIES AND PARTNERS.—The allies and partners referred to subparagraph (A) include—

“(i) countries participating in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue;

“(ii) countries that are—

“(I) signatories to the Abraham Accords; or

“(II) participants in the Negev Forum;

“(iii) countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; and

“(iv) other countries or multilateral partnerships the task force determines to be appropriate.

“(C) REPORT.—The Chair shall—

“(i) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, and every 60 days thereafter until the requirements under subsection (a) are satisfied, brief the appropriate committees of Congress on the status of the compliance of the President with completing the requirements under that subsection.

“(ii) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report, which shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex, that describes any findings, guidelines, and recommendations created in performing the duties under subparagraph (A);

“(iii) not later than 120 days after the date on which the Chair submits the report under clause (ii), publish that report in the Federal Register and on the website of the Office of Management and Budget, except that the Chair shall redact information from the report that the Chair determines could pose a risk to the national security of the United States by being publicly available; and

“(iv) brief the appropriate committees of Congress twice per year.

“(6) SUNSET.—The task force shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the task force completes the requirements under paragraph (5)(C).”.

(b) GAO STUDY.—

(1) DEFINITION OF CRITICAL MINERALS.—In this subsection, the term “critical mineral” has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(2) **STUDY REQUIRED.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the Federal and State regulatory landscape related to improving domestic supply chains for critical minerals in the United States.

(3) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study under paragraph (2).

Subtitle C—Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Pilot Program Act of 2023

SEC. 11321. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism Pilot Program Act of 2023” or the “CTPAT Pilot Program Act of 2023”.

SEC. 11322. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(2) **CTPAT.**—The term “CTPAT” means the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism established under subtitle B of title II of the Security and Accountability for Every Port Act (6 U.S.C. 961 et seq.).

SEC. 11323. PILOT PROGRAM ON PARTICIPATION OF THIRD-PARTY LOGISTICS PROVIDERS IN CTPAT.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall carry out a pilot program to assess whether allowing entities described in subsection (b) to participate in CTPAT would enhance port security, combat terrorism, prevent supply chain security breaches, or otherwise meet the goals of CTPAT.

(2) **FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register a notice specifying the requirements for the pilot program required by paragraph (1).

(b) **ENTITIES DESCRIBED.**—An entity described in this subsection is—

(1) a non-asset-based third-party logistics provider that—

(A) arranges international transportation of freight and is licensed by the Department of Transportation; and

(B) meets such other requirements as the Secretary specifies in the Federal Register notice required by subsection (a)(2); or

(2) an asset-based third-party logistics provider that—

(A) facilitates cross border activity and is licensed or bonded by the Federal Maritime Commission, the Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, or the Department of Transportation;

(B) manages and executes logistics services using its own warehousing assets and resources on behalf of its customers; and

(C) meets such other requirements as the Secretary specifies in the Federal Register notice required by subsection (a)(2).

(c) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In carrying out the pilot program required by subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall—

(1) ensure that—

(A) not more than 10 entities described in paragraph (1) of subsection (b) participate in the pilot program; and

(B) not more than 10 entities described in paragraph (2) of that subsection participate in the program;

(2) provide for the participation of those entities on a voluntary basis;

(3) continue the program for a period of not less than one year after the date on which the Secretary publishes the Federal Register notice required by subsection (a)(2); and

(4) terminate the pilot program not more than 5 years after that date.

(d) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the termination of the pilot program under subsection (c)(4), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the findings of, and any recommendations arising from, the pilot program concerning the participation in CTPAT of entities described in subsection (b), including an assessment of participation by those entities.

SEC. 11324. REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF CTPAT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report assessing the effectiveness of CTPAT.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An analysis of—

(A) security incidents in the cargo supply chain during the 5-year period preceding submission of the report that involved criminal activity, including drug trafficking, human smuggling, commercial fraud, or terrorist activity; and

(B) whether those incidents involved participants in CTPAT or entities not participating in CTPAT.

(2) An analysis of causes for the suspension or removal of entities from participating in CTPAT as a result of security incidents during that 5-year period.

(3) An analysis of the number of active CTPAT participants involved in one or more security incidents while maintaining their status as participants.

(4) Recommendations to the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for improvements to CTPAT to improve prevention of security incidents in the cargo supply chain involving participants in CTPAT.

SEC. 11325. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this subtitle.

Subtitle D—Military Spouse Employment Act

SEC. 11331. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Military Spouse Employment Act”.

SEC. 11332. APPOINTMENT OF MILITARY SPOUSES.

Section 3330d of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4);

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) The term ‘remote work’ refers to a particular type of telework under which an employee is not expected to report to an officially established agency location on a regular and recurring basis.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) The term ‘telework’ has the meaning given the term in section 6501.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty, or a spouse of a disabled or deceased member of the Armed Forces, to a position in which the spouse will engage in remote work.”; and

(3) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “subsection (a)(3)” and inserting “subsection (a)(4)”.

SEC. 11333. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the terms “agency” means an agency described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 901(b) of title 31, United States Code;

(2) the term “employee” means an employee of an agency;

(3) the term “remote work” means a particular type of telework under which an employee is not expected to report to an officially established agency location on a regular and recurring basis; and

(4) the term “telework” means a work flexibility arrangement under which an employee performs the duties and responsibilities of such employee’s position, and other authorized activities, from an approved worksite other than the location from which the employee would otherwise work.

(b) **REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study and publish a report regarding the use of remote work by agencies, which shall include a discussion of what is known regarding—

(1) the number of employees who are engaging in remote work;

(2) the role of remote work in agency recruitment and retention efforts;

(3) the geographic location of employees who engage in remote work;

(4) the effect that remote work has had on how often employees are reporting to officially established agency locations to perform the duties and responsibilities of the positions of those employees and other authorized activities; and

(5) how the use of remote work has affected Federal office space utilization and spending.

Subtitle E—Designation of Airports

SEC. 11341. DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL PORT OF ENTRY FOR THE IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF WILDLIFE AND WILDLIFE PRODUCTS BY THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to appropriations and in accordance with subsection (b), the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service shall designate 1 additional port as a “port of entry designated for the importation and exportation of wildlife and wildlife products” under section 14.12 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) **CRITERIA FOR SELECTING ADDITIONAL DESIGNATED PORT.**—The Director shall select the additional port to be designated pursuant to subsection (a) from among the United States airports that handled more than 8,000,000,000 pounds of cargo during 2021, as reported by the Federal Aviation Administration Air Carrier Activity Information System, and based upon the analysis submitted to Congress by the Director pursuant to the Wildlife Trafficking reporting directive under title I of Senate Report 114-281.

SA 1044. Mr. CORNYN 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, insert the following:

**DIVISION _____—VIEQUES RECOVERY
AND REDEVELOPMENT**

SEC. _____ 01. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “Vieques Recovery and Redevelopment Act”.

SEC. _____ 02. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) Vieques is an island municipality of Puerto Rico, measuring approximately 21 miles long by 4 miles wide, and located approximately 8 miles east of the main island of Puerto Rico.

(2) Prior to Hurricane Maria, residents of Vieques were served by an urgent medical care facility, the Susana Centeno Family Health Center, and residents had to travel off-island to obtain medical services, including most types of emergency care because the facility did not have the basic use of x-ray machines, CT machines, EKG machines, ultrasounds, or PET scans.

(3) The predominant means of transporting passengers and goods between Vieques and the main island of Puerto Rico is by ferry boat service, and over the years, the efficiency of this service has frequently been disrupted, unreliable, and difficult for cancer patients to endure to receive treatment. Each trip to Ceiba, Puerto Rico, for the cancer patient is an additional out-of-pocket expense ranging from \$120 to \$200.

(4) The United States Military maintained a presence on the eastern and western portions of Vieques for close to 60 years, and used parts of the island as a training range during those years, dropping over 80 million tons of ordnance and other weaponry available to the United States military since World War II.

(5) The unintended, unknown, and unavoidable consequences of these exercises were to expose Americans living on the islands to the residue of that weaponry which includes heavy metals and many other chemicals now known to harm human health.

(6) According to Government and independent documentation, the island of Vieques has high levels of heavy metals and has been exposed to chemical weapons and toxic chemicals. Since the military activity in Vieques, island residents have suffered from the health impacts from long-term exposure to environmental contamination as a result of 62 years of military operations, and have experienced higher rates of certain diseases among residents, including cancer, cirrhosis, hypertension, diabetes, heavy metal diseases, along with many unnamed and uncategorized illnesses. These toxic residues have caused the American residents of Vieques to develop illnesses due to ongoing exposure.

(7) In 2017, Vieques was hit by Hurricane Maria, an unusually destructive storm that devastated Puerto Rico and intensified the existing humanitarian crisis on the island by destroying existing medical facilities.

(8) The medical systems in place prior to Hurricane Maria were unable to properly handle the health crisis that existed due to the toxic residue left on the island by the military’s activities.

(9) After Maria, the medical facility was closed due to damage and continues to be unable to perform even the few basic services that it did provide. Vieques needs a medical facility that can treat and address the critical and urgent need to get life-saving medical services to its residents. Due to legal restrictions, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (in this division referred to as “FEMA”) is unable to provide a hospital where its capabilities exceed the abilities of the facility that existed prior to Maria; therefore Vieques needs assistance to build a facility to manage the vast health needs of its residents.

(10) Every American has benefitted from the sacrifices of those Americans who have lived and are living on Vieques and it is our intent to acknowledge that sacrifice and to treat those Americans with the same respect and appreciation that other Americans enjoy.

(11) In 2012, the residents of Vieques were denied the ability to address their needs in Court due to sovereign immunity, *Sanchez v. United States*, No. 3:09-cv-01260-DRD (D.P.R.). However, the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit referred the issue to Congress and urged it to address the humanitarian crisis. This bill attempts to satisfy that request such that Americans living on Vieques have a remedy for the suffering they have endured.

**SEC. _____ 03. SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS AGAINST
THE UNITED STATES FOR CERTAIN
RESIDENTS OF THE ISLAND OF
VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—An individual claimant who has resided on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, for not less than 5 years before the date of enactment of this Act and files a claim for compensation under this section with the Special Master, appointed pursuant to subsection (c), shall be awarded monetary compensation as described in subsection (b) if—

(1) the Special Master determines that the claimant is or was a resident or an immediate heir (as determined by the laws of Puerto Rico) of a deceased claimant on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, during or after the United States Government used the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, for military readiness;

(2) the claimant filed a lawsuit or an administrative claim prior to July 25, 2023, against the United States Government for personal injury, including illness or death arising from use by the United States Government of the island of Vieques for military readiness; and

(3) the claimant produces evidence to the Special Master sufficient to show that a causal relationship exists between the claimant’s chronic, life-threatening, or physical disease or illness limited to cancer, hypertension, cirrhosis, kidney disease, diabetes, or a heavy metal poisoning and the United States Government’s use of the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, for military readiness, or that a causal relationship is at least as likely as not, which may be in the form of a sworn claimant affidavit stating the years the claimant lived on Vieques and the disease or illness with which the claimant has been diagnosed and which may be supplemented with additional information, including a medical professional certification, at the request of the Special Master.

(b) **AMOUNTS OF AWARD.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A claimant who meets the requirements of subsection (a) shall be awarded compensation as follows:

(A) \$50,000 for 1 disease described in subsection (a)(3).

(B) \$80,000 for 2 diseases described in subsection (a)(3).

(C) \$110,000 for 3 or more diseases described in subsection (a)(3).

(2) **INCREASE IN AWARD.**—In the case that an individual receiving an award under paragraph (1) of this subsection contracts another disease under subsection (a)(3) and files a new claim with the Special Master for an additional award not later than 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Special Master may award the individual an amount that is equal to the difference between—

(A) the amount that the individual would have been eligible to receive had the disease been contracted before the individual filed an initial claim under subsection (a); and

(B) the amount received by the individual pursuant to paragraph (1).

(3) **DECEASED CLAIMANTS.**—In the case of an individual who dies before making a claim under this section or a claimant who dies before receiving an award under this section, any immediate heir to the individual or claimant, as determined by the laws of Puerto Rico, shall be eligible for one of the following awards:

(A) Compensation in accordance with paragraph (1), divided among any such heir.

(B) Compensation based on the age of the deceased if the claimant produces evidence sufficient to conclude that a causal relationship exists between the United States Military activity and the death of the individual or that a causal relationship is as likely as not as follows:

(i) In the case of an individual or claimant who dies before attaining 20 years of age, \$110,000, divided among any such heir.

(ii) In the case of an individual or claimant who dies before attaining 40 years of age, \$80,000, divided among any such heir.

(iii) In the case of an individual or claimant who dies before attaining 60 years of age, \$50,000, divided among any such heir.

(c) **APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL MASTER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Attorney General shall appoint a Special Master not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act to consider claims by individuals and the municipality.

(2) **QUALIFICATIONS.**—The Attorney General shall consider the following in choosing the Special Master:

(A) The individual’s experience in the processing of victims’ claims in relation to foreign or domestic governments.

(B) The individual’s balance of experience in representing the interests of the United States and individual claimants.

(C) The individual’s experience in matters of national security.

(D) The individual’s demonstrated abilities in investigation and fact findings in complex factual matters.

(E) Any experience the individual has had advising the United States Government.

(d) **AWARD AMOUNTS RELATED TO CLAIMS BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF VIEQUES.**—

(1) **AWARD.**—The Special Master, in exchange for its administrative claims, shall provide the following as compensation to the Municipality of Vieques:

(A) **STAFF.**—The Special Master shall provide medical staff, and other resources necessary to build and operate a level three trauma center (in this section, referred to as “medical facility”) with a cancer center and renal dialysis unit and its equipment. The medical facility shall be able to treat life-threatening, chronic, heavy metal, and physical and mental diseases. The medical facility shall be able to provide basic x-ray, EKG, internal medicine expertise, medical coordination personnel and case managers, ultrasound, and resources necessary to screen claimants described in subsection (a) who are receiving treatment for the diseases or illnesses described in paragraph (3) of that subsection for cancer and the other prevailing health problems.

(B) **OPERATIONS.**—The Special Master shall fund the operations of the medical facility to provide medical care for pediatric and adult patients who reside on the island of Vieques, allowing the patients to be referred for tertiary and quaternary health care facilities when necessary, and providing the transportation and medical costs when traveling off the island of Vieques.

(C) **INTERIM SERVICES.**—Before the medical facility on the island of Vieques is operational, the Special Master shall provide to claimants described in subsection (a) who are receiving treatment for the diseases or

illnesses described in paragraph (3) of that subsection—

(i) urgent health care air transport to hospitals on the mainland of Puerto Rico from the island of Vieques;

(ii) medical coordination personnel and case managers;

(iii) telemedicine communication abilities; and

(iv) any other services that are necessary to alleviate the health crisis on the island of Vieques.

(D) SCREENING.—The Special Master shall make available, at no cost to the patient, medical screening for cancer, cirrhosis, diabetes, and heavy metal contamination on the island of Vieques.

(E) ACADEMIC PARTNER.—The Special Master shall appoint an academic partner, with appropriate experience and an established relationship with the Municipality of Vieques, that shall—

(i) lead a research and outreach endeavor on behalf of the Municipality of Vieques;

(ii) select the appropriate scientific expertise and administer defined studies, conducting testing and evaluation of the soils, seas, plant and animal food sources, and the health of residents; and

(iii) determine and implement the most efficient and effective way to reduce the environmental toxins to a level sufficient to return the soils, seas, food sources, and health circumstances to a level that reduces the diseases on the island of Vieques to the average in the United States.

(F) DUTIES.—The Special Master shall provide amounts necessary for the academic partner and medical coordinator to carry out the duties described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

(G) PROCUREMENT.—The Special Master shall provide amounts necessary to compensate the Municipality of Vieques for—

(i) contractual procurement obligations and additional expenses incurred by the municipality as a result of the enactment of this section and settlement of its claim; and

(ii) any other damages and costs to be incurred by the municipality, if the Special Master determines that it is necessary to carry out the purpose of this section.

(H) POWER SOURCE.—The Special Master shall determine the best source of producing independent power on the island of Vieques that is hurricane resilient and can effectively sustain the needs of the island and shall authorize such construction as an award to the Municipality of Vieques.

(2) SOURCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts awarded under this division shall be made from amounts appropriated under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the “Judgment Fund”, as if claims were adjudicated by a United States District Court under section 1346(b) of title 28, United States Code.

(B) LIMITATION.—Total amounts awarded under this division shall not exceed \$1,000,000,000.

(3) DETERMINATION AND PAYMENT OF CLAIMS.—

(A) ESTABLISHMENT OF FILING PROCEDURES.—The Attorney General shall establish procedures whereby individuals and the municipality may submit claims for payments under this section to the Special Master.

(B) DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS.—The Special Master shall, in accordance with this subsection, determine whether each claim meets the requirements of this section. Claims filed by residents of the island of Vieques that have been disposed of by a court under chapter 171 of title 28, United

States Code, shall be treated as if such claims are currently filed.

(e) ACTION ON CLAIMS.—The Special Master shall make a determination on any claim filed under the procedures established under this section not later than 150 days after the date on which the claim is filed.

(f) PAYMENT IN FULL SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS BY INDIVIDUALS AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF VIEQUES AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.—The acceptance by an individual or the Municipality of Vieques of a payment of an award under this section shall—

(1) be final and conclusive;

(2) be deemed to be in full satisfaction of all claims under chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code; and

(3) constitute a complete release by the individual or municipality of such claim against the United States and against any employee of the United States acting in the scope of employment who is involved in the matter giving rise to the claim.

(g) CERTIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF PAYMENTS UNDER OTHER LAWS.—Amounts paid to an individual under this section—

(1) shall be treated for purposes of the laws of the United States as damages for human suffering; and

(2) may not be included as income or resources for purposes of determining eligibility to receive benefits described in section 3803(c)(2)(C) of title 31, United States Code, or the amount of such benefits.

(h) LIMITATION ON CLAIMS.—A claim to which this section applies shall be barred unless the claim is filed within 15 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(i) ATTORNEY’S FEES.—Notwithstanding any contract, a representative may not receive, for services rendered in connection with any claim under this division—

(1) more than 17 percent of a payment made under this division for a previously filed lawsuit; or

(2) more than 12 percent for an administrative claim.

SA 1045. Mr. MARSHALL 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 G of title X, add the following:

SEC. _____ . PROHIBITION ON FLAGS OTHER THAN THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as provided in subsection (b), no flag that is not the flag of the United States (as defined in section 700(b) of title 18, United States Code) may be flown, draped, or otherwise displayed at a military installation (as defined in section 2801(c) of title 10, United States Code).

(b) EXCEPTIONS.—The prohibition under subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(1) a National League of Families POW/MIA flag (as designated by section 902 of title 36, United States Code);

(2) any flag that represents the nation of a visiting diplomat;

(3) any flag that represents a unit or branch of the Armed Forces;

(4) any flag that represents an Indian Tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)); or

(5) any flag that represents the State, territory, county, city, or local jurisdiction in which the military installation is located.

SA 1046. Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CARDIN) 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 I, insert the following:

SEC. _____ . LIMITATION ON TERMINATION OF FIGHTER SQUADRONS.

(a) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of the Air Force may not terminate the fighter flying mission of any fighter squadron of the Air National Guard until a period of 180 days has elapsed following the date on which the Secretary submits the plan required under subsection (b).

(b) PLAN REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Air Force, in coordination with the Director of the Air National Guard, shall develop a notional plan for the recapitalization of all fighter squadrons of the Air National Guard.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) provide options for the modernization of fighter squadrons of the Air National Guard and the replacement of the aircraft of such squadrons at a rate that ensures recapitalization of such squadrons with relevant and more capable replacement fighter aircraft;

(B) ensure that each fighter squadron of the Air National Guard has the required minimum of primary mission assigned fighter aircraft to meet force presentation requirements of geographic combatant commanders for both steady-state and operational contingency planning and execution;

(C) include consideration for the temporary reassignment of aircraft to such squadrons from other components of the Air Force, as necessary to meet the requirements of the plan; and

(D) include the Secretary of the Air Force’s assessment of any effects of the force presentation on—

(i) combatant commanders;

(ii) aircrew accession absorption capacity;

(iii) industrial capacity to support any additional production above programmed quantities; and

(iv) costs aside from normal training and personnel costs of unit mission transitions.

(3) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of the Air Force shall submit to the congressional defense committees the plan required under paragraph (1) together with an explanation of—

(A) any programmatic funding required to implement such plan; and

(B) how the plan differs from other plans of the Secretary of the Air Force with respect to fighter aircraft squadrons of the Air National Guard (including any such plans in effect as of the date of the submittal of the plan under paragraph (1)); and

(C) any effects of the plan on operations and efforts to recapitalize or transition existing fighter aircraft squadrons of the Air National Guard as proposed in the future-years defense program submitted to Congress under section 221 of title 10, United States Code, for fiscal year 2024.

SA 1047. Mr. WHITEHOUSE (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 X, insert the following:

SEC. _____. AMENDMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE REWARDS PROGRAM.

Section 36(b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(15) the identification, location, arrest, or conviction of any person that—

“(A) knowingly, directly or indirectly, imports, exports, or reexports to, into, or from any country any good, service, or technology controlled for export by the United States because of the use of such good, service, or technology in contravention of a sanction imposed by the United States, resulting in a criminal violation; or

“(B) knowingly, directly or indirectly, provides training, advice, or other services or assistance, or engages in significant financial transactions, relating to any such good, service, or technology in contravention of such sanction, resulting in a criminal violation.”.

SA 1048. Ms. SINEMA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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 of division A, add the following:

Subtitle H—Combating Cartels on Social Media Act of 2023

SEC. 1091. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Combating Cartels on Social Media Act of 2023”.

SEC. 1092. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) **COVERED OPERATOR.**—The term “covered operator” means the operator, developer, or publisher of a covered service.

(3) **COVERED SERVICE.**—The term “covered service” means—

(A) a social media platform;

(B) a mobile or desktop service with direct or group messaging capabilities, but not including text messaging services without other substantial social functionalities or electronic mail services, that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines is being or has been used by transnational criminal or-

ganizations in connection with matters described in section 1093; and

(C) a digital platform, or an electronic application utilizing the digital platform, involving real-time interactive communication between multiple individuals, including multi-player gaming services and immersive technology platforms or applications, that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines is being or has been used by transnational criminal organizations in connection with matters described in section 1093.

(4) **CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE.**—The term “criminal enterprise” has the meaning given the term “continuing criminal enterprise” in section 408 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 848).

(5) **ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.**—The term “illicit activities” means the following criminal activities that transcend national borders:

(A) A violation of section 401 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841).

(B) Narcotics trafficking, as defined in section 808 of the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (21 U.S.C. 1907).

(C) Trafficking of weapons, as defined in section 922 of title 18, United States Code.

(D) Migrant smuggling, defined as a violation of section 274(a)(1)(A)(ii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii)).

(E) Human trafficking, defined as—

(i) a violation of section 1590, 1591, or 1592 of title 18, United States Code; or

(ii) engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons, as defined in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

(F) Cyber crime, defined as a violation of section 1030 of title 18, United States Code.

(G) A violation of any provision that is subject to intellectual property enforcement, as defined in section 302 of the Prioritizing Resources and Organization for Intellectual Property Act of 2008 (15 U.S.C. 8112).

(H) Bulk cash smuggling of currency, defined as a violation of section 5332 of title 31, United States Code.

(I) Laundering the proceeds of the criminal activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (H).

(6) **TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION.**—The term “transnational criminal organization” means groups, networks, and associated individuals who operate transnationally for the purposes of obtaining power, influence, or monetary or commercial gain, wholly or in part by certain illegal means, while advancing their activities through a pattern of crime, corruption, or violence, and while protecting their illegal activities through a transnational organizational structure and the exploitation of public corruption or transnational logistics, financial, or communication mechanisms.

SEC. 1093. ASSESSMENT OF ILLICIT USAGE.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint assessment describing—

(1) the use of covered services by transnational criminal organizations, or criminal enterprises acting on behalf of transnational criminal organizations, to engage in recruitment efforts, including the recruitment of individuals, including individuals under the age of 18, located in the United States to engage in or provide support with respect to illicit activities occurring in the United States, Mexico, or otherwise in proximity to an international boundary of the United States;

(2) the use of covered services by transnational criminal organizations to en-

gage in illicit activities or conduct in support of illicit activities, including—

(A) smuggling or trafficking involving narcotics, other controlled substances, precursors thereof, or other items prohibited under the laws of the United States, Mexico, or another relevant jurisdiction, including firearms;

(B) human smuggling or trafficking, including the exploitation of children; and

(C) transportation of bulk currency or monetary instruments in furtherance of smuggling activity; and

(3) the existing efforts of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State, and relevant government and law enforcement entities to counter, monitor, or otherwise respond to the usage of covered services described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

SEC. 1094. STRATEGY TO COMBAT CARTEL RECRUITMENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ONLINE PLATFORMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint strategy, to be known as the National Strategy to Combat Illicit Recruitment Activity by Transnational Criminal Organizations on Social Media and Online Platforms, to combat the use of covered services by transnational criminal organizations, or criminal enterprises acting on behalf of transnational criminal organizations, to recruit individuals located in the United States to engage in or provide support with respect to illicit activities occurring in the United States, Mexico, or otherwise in proximity to an international boundary of the United States.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(A) A proposal to improve cooperation and thereafter maintain cooperation between the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State, and relevant law enforcement entities with respect to the matters described in subsection (a).

(B) Recommendations to implement a process for the voluntary reporting of information regarding the recruitment efforts of transnational criminal organizations in the United States involving covered services.

(C) A proposal to improve intragovernmental coordination with respect to the matters described in subsection (a), including between the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of State, and State, Tribal, and local governments.

(D) A proposal to improve coordination within the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of State and between the components of those Departments with respect to the matters described in subsection (a).

(E) Activities to facilitate increased intelligence analysis for law enforcement purposes of efforts of transnational criminal organizations to utilize covered services for recruitment to engage in or provide support with respect to illicit activities.

(F) Activities to foster international partnerships and enhance collaboration with foreign governments and, as applicable, multilateral institutions with respect to the matters described in subsection (a).

(G) Activities to specifically increase engagement and outreach with youth in border communities, including regarding the recruitment tactics of transnational criminal organizations and the consequences of participation in illicit activities.

(H) A detailed description of the measures used to ensure—

(i) law enforcement and intelligence activities focus on the recruitment activities of transitional criminal organizations not individuals the transnational criminal organizations attempt to or successfully recruit; and

(ii) the privacy rights, civil rights, and civil liberties protections in carrying out the activities described in clause (i), with a particular focus on the protections in place to protect minors and constitutionally protected activities.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall not include legislative recommendations or elements predicated on the passage of legislation that is not enacted as of the date on which the strategy is submitted under subsection (a).

(c) **CONSULTATION.**—In drafting and implementing the strategy required under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall, at a minimum, consult and engage with—

(1) the heads of relevant components of the Department of Homeland Security, including—

(A) the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis;

(B) the Under Secretary for Strategy, Policy, and Plans;

(C) the Under Secretary for Science and Technology;

(D) the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection;

(E) the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

(F) the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties;

(G) the Privacy Officer; and

(H) the Assistant Secretary of the Office for State and Local Law Enforcement;

(2) the heads of relevant components of the Department of State, including—

(A) the Assistant Secretary for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs;

(B) the Assistant Secretary for Western Hemisphere Affairs; and

(C) the Coordinator of the Global Engagement Center;

(3) the Attorney General;

(4) the Secretary of Health and Human Services; and

(5) the Secretary of Education; and

(6) as selected by the Secretary of Homeland Security, or his or her designee in the Office of Public Engagement, representatives of border communities, including representatives of—

(A) State, Tribal, and local governments, including school districts and local law enforcement; and

(B) nongovernmental experts in the fields of—

(i) civil rights and civil liberties;

(ii) online privacy;

(iii) humanitarian assistance for migrants; and

(iv) youth outreach and rehabilitation.

(d) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the strategy required under subsection (a) is submitted to the appropriate congressional committees, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall commence implementation of the strategy.

(2) **REPORT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the strategy required under subsection (a) is implemented under paragraph (1), and semiannually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint report describing the efforts of the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State to implement the strategy required under subsection (a) and the

progress of those efforts, which shall include a description of—

(i) the recommendations, and corresponding implementation of those recommendations, with respect to the matters described in subsection (b)(1)(B);

(ii) the interagency posture with respect to the matters covered by the strategy required under subsection (a), which shall include a description of collaboration between the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of State, other Federal entities, State, local, and Tribal entities, and foreign governments; and

(iii) the threat landscape, including new developments related to the United States recruitment efforts of transnational criminal organizations and the use by those organizations of new or emergent covered services and recruitment methods.

(B) **FORM.**—Each report required under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(3) **CIVIL RIGHTS, CIVIL LIBERTIES, AND PRIVACY ASSESSMENT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date on which the strategy required under subsection (a) is implemented under paragraph (1), the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and the Privacy Office of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a joint report that includes—

(A) a detailed assessment of the measures used to ensure the protection of civil rights, civil liberties, and privacy rights in carrying out this section; and

(B) recommendations to improve the implementation of the strategy required under subsection (a).

SEC. 1095. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to expand the statutory law enforcement or regulatory authority of the Department of Homeland Security or the Department of State.

SA 1049. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. BRAUN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her 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. ____ . 9/11 RESPONDER AND SURVIVOR HEALTH FUNDING CORRECTION ACT OF 2023.

(a) **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ARMED FORCES, OR OTHER FEDERAL WORKER RESPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.**—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3306 (42 U.S.C. 300mm-5)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (11) and paragraphs (12) through (17) as paragraphs (6) through (12) and paragraphs (14) through (19), respectively;

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) The term ‘Federal agency’ means an agency, office, or other establishment in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Federal Government.”; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (12), as so redesignated, the following:

“(13) The term ‘uniformed services’ has the meaning given the term in section 101(a) of title 10, United States Code.”; and

(2) in section 3311(a) (42 U.S.C. 300mm-21(a))—

(A) in paragraph (2)(C)(i)—

(i) in subclause (I), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(ii) in subclause (II), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(III) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Pentagon site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; or

“(IV) was an employee of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, worked during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 18, 2001, for a contractor of the Department of Defense or any other Federal agency, or was a member of a regular or reserve component of the uniformed services; and performed rescue, recovery, demolition, debris cleanup, or other related services at the Shanksville, Pennsylvania, site of the terrorist-related aircraft crash of September 11, 2001, during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on the date on which the cleanup of the site was concluded, as determined by the WTC Program Administrator; and”;

(B) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(i) by striking “(A) IN GENERAL.—The” and inserting the following:

“(A) **LIMIT.**—

“(i) **IN GENERAL.**—The”;

(ii) by inserting “or subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i)” after “or (2)(A)(ii)”;

and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) **CERTAIN RESPONDERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS AT THE PENTAGON AND SHANKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.**—The total number of individuals who may be enrolled under paragraph (3)(A)(ii) based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of paragraph (2)(C)(i) shall not exceed 500 at any time.”.

(b) **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEALTH PROGRAM.**—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 3353. SPECIAL FUND.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund (referred to in this section as the ‘Special Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) **AMOUNT.**—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024 \$443,000,000 for deposit into the Special Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) **USES OF FUNDS.**—Amounts deposited into the Special Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator as needed at the discretion of such Administrator, for carrying out any provision in this title (including sections 3303 and 3341(c)).

“(d) **REMAINING AMOUNTS.**—Any amounts that remain in the Special Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

“SEC. 3354. PENTAGON/SHANKSVILLE FUND.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established a fund to be known as the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania (referred to in this section as the ‘Pentagon/Shanksville Fund’), consisting of amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b).

“(b) AMOUNT.—Out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, there is appropriated for fiscal year 2024 \$257,000,000 for deposit into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund, which amounts shall remain available in such Fund through fiscal year 2033.

“(c) USES OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts deposited into the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund under subsection (b) shall be available, without further appropriation and without regard to any spending limitation under section 3351(c), to the WTC Program Administrator for the purpose of carrying out section 3312 with regard to WTC responders enrolled in the WTC Program based on eligibility criteria described in subclause (III) or (IV) of section 3311(a)(2)(C)(i).

“(2) LIMITATION ON OTHER FUNDING.—Notwithstanding sections 3331(a), 3351(b)(1), 3352(c), and 3353(c), and any other provision in this title, for the period of fiscal years 2024 through 2033, no amounts made available under this title other than those amounts appropriated under subsection (b) may be available for the purpose described in paragraph (1).

“(d) REMAINING AMOUNTS.—Any amounts that remain in the Pentagon/Shanksville Fund on September 30, 2033, shall be deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300mm et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3311(a)(4)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–21(a)(4)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(2) in section 3321(a)(3)(B)(i)(II) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–31(a)(3)(B)(i)(II)), by striking “sections 3351 and 3352” and inserting “this title”;

(3) in section 3331 (42 U.S.C. 300mm–41)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “the World Trade Center Health Program Fund and the World Trade Center Health Program Supplemental Fund” and inserting “(as applicable) the Funds established under sections 3351, 3352, 3353, and 3354”; and

(B) in subsection (d)—

(i) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353” after “section 3351”;

(ii) in paragraph (1)(B), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(iii) in paragraph (2), in the flush text following subparagraph (C), by inserting “or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” after “section 3352”; and

(4) in section 3351(b) (42 U.S.C. 300mm–61(b))—

(A) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, the World Trade Center Health Program Special Fund under section 3353, or the World Trade

Center Health Program Fund for Certain WTC Responders at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania under section 3354” before the period at the end.

(d) MEDICAID IMPROVEMENT FUND.—Section 1941(b)(3)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396w–1(b)(3)(A)) is amended by striking “\$7,000,000,000” and inserting “\$6,300,000,000”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. BROWN, Madam President, I have one request for committee to meet during today’s session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BROWN, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the following interns in Senator KELLY’s office be granted floor privileges today, July 25: Andras Deak, Ayden Clytus, Eden Wein, Tony Ruan, Keiko Tani, Melissa Moreno, Samara Klotz, Soyun Cho, Violet Barnett.

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

Mr. TESTER, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following law clerks of the Senate Judiciary Committee be granted floor privileges until August 1, 2023: Alexandra Hough, Cristina Morrison, Melissa Immel, and Jazmin Alvarez.

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

Mr. CASEY, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Paul Katsarelis from my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today’s proceedings.

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

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL

Mr. SCHUMER, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to H. Con. Res. 57.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SMITH). The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 57) expressing the sense of Congress supporting the State of Israel.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate

proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 57) was agreed to.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. SCHUMER, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 308, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 308) recognizing the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 308) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

NATIONAL BLUEBERRY MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 309, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 309) recognizing the importance of the blueberry industry to the United States and designating July 2023 as “National Blueberry Month”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 309) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY
26, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume the consideration of Calendar No. 119, S. 2226; further, that at 12:15 p.m., the Senate vote on the Warnock amendment No. 199, as under the previous order; that the Senate recess following the vote on the Warnock amendment until 2:15 to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; and finally, that the Senate recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. to allow for the all-Senators briefing.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:10 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, July 26, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

JON M. HOLLADAY, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, VICE JON M. HOLLADAY.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEREK H. CHOLLET, OF NEBRASKA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR POLICY, VICE COLIN HACKETT KAHL, RESIGNED.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

J. TODD INMAN, OF KENTUCKY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2027, VICE BRUCE LANDSBERG, TERM EXPIRED.

MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL
FOUNDATION

RION J. RAMIREZ, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE MORRIS K. UDALL AND STEWART L. UDALL FOUNDATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING MAY 26, 2025, VICE CHARLES P. ROSE, TERM EXPIRED.

UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON
PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

ELLIOTT ABRAMS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2024, VICE PENNE PERCY KORTH, TERM EXPIRED.

ELLIOTT ABRAMS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ADVISORY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC DIPLOMACY FOR A TERM EXPIRING JULY 1, 2027. (RE-APPOINTMENT)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STEPHAN A. LANG, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE U.S. COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION POLICY, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

JOANN M. LOCKARD, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO BURKINA FASO.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

HARRY COKER, JR., OF KANSAS, TO BE NATIONAL CYBER DIRECTOR, VICE CHRIS INGLIS, RESIGNED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, AND 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., SECTIONS 601 AND 9033:

To be general

GEN. DAVID W. ALLVIN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. LISA J. HOU

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JACKIE A. HUBER
BRIG. GEN. WARNER A. ROSS II

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. PAUL W. DAHLEN
COL. HUBERT L. DAVIDSON, JR.
COL. SHAWN M. FUELLENBACH
COL. ERIC L. GAGNON
COL. JOY L. GRIMES
COL. JOHN C. KINTON
COL. SCOTT J. LEWIS
COL. JASON A. SALSGIVER
COL. DARIN D. SCHUSTER
COL. PAUL T. SELLARS
COL. GEOFFREY G. VALLEE

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8044:

To be general

LT. GEN. CHRISTOPHER J. MAHONEY

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AND APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 601 AND 8033:

To be admiral

ADM. LISA M. FRANCHETTI

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 admiral

VICE ADM. STEPHEN T. KOEHLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS AND 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., SECTIONS 601 AND 8035:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. JAMES W. KILBY

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 admiral

ADM. SAMUEL J. PAPARO, JR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

HEATHER A. BODWELL
STEVEN R. CUNEIO
RALPH T. ELLIOTT, JR.
JAMES M. HENDRICK
JOSHUA N. PAYNE
STEVEN L. SURVANCE
CHRISTIAN L. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

EGLON AUBYN ANGEL
JAMMIE D. BIGBEY
DAMON ARIN BOUCHER

QUANIKA J. BYNUM
TIMOTHY L. DAHL
ANTHONY M. DAVY
GREGORY LEWIS DUBOW
EMMANUEL UWEM ENOH
JOSHUA E. FLYNN
BRYAN JAMES ALLEN FOX
PAUL V. HARRIS
MARK LYNN HILL
JOSEPH O. IDOMELE
VALDON STEVE JENSEN
HOLLY A. JONES
ALAN KAHAN
RONALD N. LAWRENCE, JR.
BRENDAN MBAGWU
KEVIN P. MOUNT
NELSON O. OGWUEGBU
BENJAMIN QUINTANILLA, JR.
LAMAR DASHAUN REECE
JOHN F. REUTEMANN
LARRY M. SPENCER
JERRY DAVID ST PIERRE
TIMOTHY J. THURBER
BRICE WILLIAM ULLMAN
THOMAS H. WEST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MATTHEW T. BALLANCO
ANDREW D. DUBOIS
MATTHEW BODELL GARVIN
JOSHUA M. HALLADA
KENNETH B. HOWELL
MELODY R. JONES
VICTOR ALAN KENT
JOHN M. LEGER
DALLAS P. MIKAELSEN
HEIDI ANNETTE PLUMMER
PAMELA TAN STEIN
MERIDEJ J. TRIMBLE
JASON L. TUCKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MARTIN J. SLOVINSKY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

ADAM D. AASEN
ALPHANSO R. ADAMS
ANDREW JAMES ADAMS
ROBERT JAMES ANDREE
KELLY BORUKHOVICH
MACY W. BOZARTH
KYLE BENJAMIN BRESSETTE
JOSEPH W. BROWN
NICOLE MARIE BURNSIDE
KEVIN M. CARLSON
PATRICK S. CHAPIN
STACI N. COLEMAN
MATTHEW T. DAVIS
NICHOLAS MICHAEL DEANGELIS
GEORGE H. DELONG
JONATHAN M. FRENCH
SETH IM GILPIN
PETER GRUTERS
JONATHAN R. GUERRERO
THOMAS C. HAMLYN
DAVID R. HERNDON
CLARENCE C. HOUSTON, JR.
RYAN T. HUDSON
CARLOS B. JAYME
JASON K. JOHNSON
ROBERT JOSEPH JOHNSON
SHELLA N. JOHNSTON
PABLO RAUL JUAREZ
JARRAD E. KNAPP
MICHAEL P. KREUZER
KARSON KUHLMAN
DEWITT TALMADGE LATIMER IV
CHARLES D. LAUBACH
DARRICK B. LEE
ROBERT L. LIDOWSKI
BRIAN P. LIGHTSLEY
STEPHEN D. MADDOX
ZARINE E. MALESRA
VICTORIA J. MAYO
JASON BRUCE MCCLURE
RYAN MICHAEL MCGUIRE
AMBER E. MCVEIGH
HERBERT F. MILLET III
BRYAN DANIEL MUNDHENK
STEPHANIE ANNY MURPHY
ROBERT A. NELSON
KALEB CRAIG NORDGREN
JEFFREY DAVID NUNEZ
SCOTT A. OLSON
PAOLA S. ONDINA
LISA JOE PAGANO WALLACE
LUIS F. PALACIOS
CHRISTINA P. PEREZ
MATTHEW M. PERRIE
SAMUEL J. RUYAL
JAMES T. RUBY
JONATHAN SAWTELLE
RYAN F. SCHFFNER
DONALD A. SEABLUM
PATRICK S. SMITH
BRYAN THOMAS SPARKMAN

CHARLES C. SPAULDING
SCOTT W. SPICER
JEREMY E. ST LOUIS
STEVEN C. TORRES
TASHA E. VICK
LIM DINH VU
JOHN SILAS WALLACE
SCOTT T. WALLACE
MICHAEL ROY WELCH
MICHAEL C. WILLIAMS
VICTORIA CAROLINE WILLIAMS
CHRISTOPHER S. WIREMAN
SARAH J. ZIMMERMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

AARON C. BAUM
MATTHEW J. CROSMAN
JANET D. DEWESE
KATHERINE C. MACK
JEFFREY M. PARRISH
TROY T. STAUTER
ANDREW J. SWARTZER
RAYMUNDO M. VANN, JR.
MARY C. YELNICKER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

MICHAEL A. ARGUELLO
NEIL BRYAN BARNAS
THOMAS N. BELLAIRS
BENNET ALAN BURTON
GREGORY JULIEN CAMERON
AARON CAPIZZI
JOSEPH A. CHRISTENSEN
ALEX N. CONSTANTINE
WESLEY M. CRAWLEY
MATTHEW W. DOLAN
JARED M. EKHOLM
COLIN Q. HANSON
ANIL HARIHARAN
MARIBEL HARMON
ROBERSON O. HILL
RICARDO JAIME
MICHAEL A. JOHNSON
NICHOLAS B. JORDAN
DANIEL A. KENAN
TED TAE WOO KIM
STEPHEN VINCENT LANCE
ALAN KEVAN LOUIE
JOSEPH L. MAGUADOG
JENNIFER P. MASSETT
CHARLES MANLEY MCNIEL
SCOTT E. MEARS
ERIC DWAYNE MOWLES
SUNIL K. NAIR
TOMOYUKI D. ONO
CHRISTIAN J. PIERCE
JAMES R. T. PINSON
MATTHEW THOMAS POPE
JOSHUA D. RASMUSSEN
JOHN C. RICE, JR.
EDWARD FRANCIS RICHARDS
SCOTT J. ROBERTSON
CHRISTOPHER M. RONDEAU
GARY EDWARD ROOS
SCOTT T. RUPPEL
CHRISTINA F. E. RUSNOCK
KEVIN WALTER SCHMAEMAN
DALBERT R. SHAW
JASON WILLIAM SHIRLEY
GREGORY GERALD SMITH
CHERONDA V. SPANN
GRANT ERIC SPEAR
EDWARD W. TALLEY
NATHAN WILLIAM TAYLOR
PAUL W. TINKER
CHAD C. TOSSELL
JAMES D. TOWNSEND
KARLOS GL TUNGOL
ROMAN TIMOTHY UNDERWOOD
DAVID ODIS WALKER
JENNIFER M. WARREN
MICHAEL L. WEBBER
ALEX R. WHITE
TIMOTHY W. ZENS
MICHAEL D. ZOLLARS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

JOSH R. ALDRED
RYAN R. ARCHAMBAULTMILNER
TIFFANY L. ARNOLD
MICHAEL D. ASKEGREN
ROBERT J. BARNES
JOHN M. BARRY
DONALD F. BARTHOLOMEW III
JOSEPH A. BINCAROUSKY, SR.
TRAVIS R. BOHANAN
MATTHEW R. BORAWSKI
ANDRE R. BRADLEY
ALLEN GEORGE BRANCO III
OLGA H. BRANDT
BRADY P. BUCHOLZ
CLARENCE E. BURTON, JR.
MATTHEW G. BUTLER
GERARD J. CARISIO
MARTITZEL G. CASTRELLON
HARVEY CATCHINGS, JR.

GARY W. CHARLAND, JR.
PETER M. CHOI
WOO SUK CHUN
ALAN W. CONDR
JOHN PAUL CONNER
DIAMOND D. COOKSON
REBECCA SUE CORBIN
LERIA M. DIAZ
ROSS E. DOTZLAF
RAYMOND J. ELMORE
JOHN C. FARMER
BRYAN M. FLORIO
TIMOTHY E. FRANK
DANE GEORGE FRANTA
RICARDO RAUL GARZA
DREW L. GEHLER
RUSSELL H. GHEESLING
MYLES HAROLD GILBERT
JUSTIN M. GILBRETH
JESSE ALAN GOENS
STEVEN R. GREEN, JR.
CHONG H. GREGORY
LUCAS HALL
MEGAN F. HALL
ERICKA L. HERNANDEZ
TYLER J. HESS
JASON M. HOLMAN
BENJAMIN A. JANS
RYAN LOUIS LEBLANC
GEOFFREY LEVINE
JUSTIN L. LONG
BRIAN R. LOW
TYRONE C. MANEGDEG
DORINDA MUSITANO MAZZA
JENNIFER A. MCGINNISS
JARED L. MITCHELL
JASON M. NEWCOMER
NATHAN P. OLSEN
SHANNON E. ONEAL
DAVID FRANKLIN OSTERHAUS
KRIS A. OSTROWSKI
KELLY A. PADDEEN
SHAUN C. PARKER
WILLIAM EVERETT PARKER IV
MIKE A. PEREZ
NICHOLAS J. PETREN
FAITH K. POSEY
VINCENT A. REA
ERIC D. ROEHRKASSE
MARION M. RUSSELL
MARIETTA ELIZABETH SANDERS
JASON LEE SCHENCK
SCOTT PAUL SCHLEGELMILCH
ETHEL N. SEABROOKHENNESSY
JEREMY W. SHEPPARD
CHRISTOPHER C. SMITH
KATRINA E. SMITH
LUKE R. STOVER
DAVID A. SULHOFF
JACOB P. SULLIVAN
DENNIS TRUTWIN
JASON W. WARE
KIMBERLY ANN KUHN WATSON
MICHAEL PATRICK WEEKS
JASON O. WILLIAMS
NATHAN A. WILLIAMS
JOHN M. YORK
SCOTT A. ZARBO
RICHARD W. ZEIGLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

WILLIAM JOHN ACKMAN
PAUL S. ALBUQUERQUE
CHRISTOPHER A. ALLIE
RUBEN R. AMEZAGA
CLIFFORD WALDO ANDERSON
KEVIN S. ANDERSON
PAUL B. ANDREWS, JR.
ROCCO J. ANGOLELLI
MARCUS C. ANTONINI
ROBERT C. ARNETT
CHAD A. BACKES
STEVEN A. BAILEY
JONATHAN B. BAIZE
STEPHEN L. BARBOUR
CHRISTOPHER LEE BARNETT
ROBERT O. BECKENHAUER
JONATHAN MICHAEL BEHA
ERIC EDWARD BEIN
CLIFTON M. BELL
DYLAN A. BELL
MATTHEW BRENT BELOTE
DAVID M. BENNETT
TYLER A. BERGE
BENJAMIN C. BERGREN
CHRISTOPHER W. BEST
CHRISTOPHER J. BILLAU
JOSHUA P. BLAKEMAN
GREGORY MICHAEL BLOM
DANA L. BOHTE
ANDREW J. BOGUSKY
STACILEY LYNN BORTZ
JONATHAN W. BOTT
PAMELA A. BOYARSKI
DAVID T. BREDESEN
DAMEION DAWAYNE BRIGGS
MARCUS W. BRYAN
CHARLES F. BUEKER
JOEL B. BUELOW
KENNETH WILSON BURGI
SEAN PATRICK BURKE
CHARLES C. BURSI
SCOTT D. BUTLER

JEFFREY S. CAMERON
JAMES L. CAPRA
CATALEYA CARLSON
CHRISTOPHER S. CARLSON
JAMES S. CARROLL
AARON B. CAVAZOS
JUSTIN W. CHANDLER
SAMUEL C. CHIPMAN
THOMAS CHOU
MARC L. CHURCH
BRANDON J. CIELOHA
MATTHEW A. CISAR
JOSHUA M. COAKLEY
CHRISTOPHER M. CONANT
JUSTIN MICHAEL CONELLI
BROOKS R. CONN
JASON B. CONSTANTINE
ROLLY G. COOPER
AARRON S. CORNINE
MAXWELL COVER
RYAN DARELL COX
BENJAMIN P. CRAYCRAFT
JESSICA RYAN CRITCHER
CRAIG J. CUDE
SEAN P. CULLEN
JASON B. CURTIS
ADAM C. DALSON
DAVID J. DAMRON
DAVID C. DAVIDSON
BRIAN SANDERS DAVIS
SCOTT P. DAVIS
CINDY D. DAWSON
MICHAEL L. DECKARD
DAVID DELMAGE
BRIAN L. DESAUTELS
CHRISTOPHER A. DIETER
NEIL W. DIMMITT
MELISSA L. DOMBROCK
JAINA L. DONBERG
TIMOTHY J. DOWLING, JR.
JEFFREY L. DOWNING
CHRISTOPHER F. DUFF
EAD M. DVORAK
JOHN DOMENIC EASTON
DARIN S. ELGERSMA
JUSTIN J. ELLIOTT
TRAVIS T. ELLIOTT
RYAN W. ELLIS
JONATHAN JOSIAH ESSES
MICHAEL FAZIO
RYAN E. FERDINANDSEN
JESSE L. FLENER
ROBERT W. FOWLER
KYLE K. FRANS DAL
JOHN D. FREDERICK
JOSHUA B. FRY
JUSTIN L. GAMEL
BRIAN J. GARRETT
JENNIFER RAYE GARRISON
VIRNON S. GARRISON
JOHN DAVID GARVIN
BRENTON R. GAYLORD
DANE J. GEHRMANN
KEVIN P. GEORFFROY
EUGENE J. GEORGESCU
WILLIAM R. GERY
MATTHEW A. GIDLEY
AJAY K. GIRI
ANTHONY E. GLESSNER
BRENT FAIRS GOLDEN
JOSEPH W. GOLDSMITH
JOSEPH C. GORMAN
JOSEPH R. GROSS, JR.
JESSICA A. GUARINI
JASON ROBERT GUYETTE
ERIK J. HABUPTLE
MICHAEL J. HARDWICK
MICHAEL E. HAYEK
JOSEPH J. HAYES, JR.
THOMAS E. HAYES
BRAD L. HAYNES
KEVIN M. HEATH
ANDREW M. HEIDEL
RYAN L. HERMAN
DAWN L. HILDEBRAND
KENNETH J. HILLS
TERRY WARREN HJERPE
JASON R. HOCK
JOSHUA E. HOLIDAY
MICHAEL B. HOLL
BRENDAN P. HOPKINS
CHRISTOPHER J. HOWELL
MATTHEW THOMAS HOYT
SHANE D. HUGHES
MATTHEW A. HUMPHREY
RANDY ALLEN JACOBSON
JOSHUA DAVID JENSEN
STEPHEN P. JOCA
CLIFTON H. JOHNSON
SEAN M. JONES
DANIEL JOSEPH JOYCE
NICHOLAS JURIEWICZ
GREGORY F. KANTZ
MARYANN L. KARLEN
JUSTIN D. KEATING
ADAM T. KEITH
COLLEEN BROOKE KELLAM
JONATHAN SAMUEL KINARD
BERNARD ROBERT KING
JONATHAN D. KING
MICHAEL H. KINGRY
JOSHUA MICHAEL KIRKUM
NATHAN H. KITZKE
JASON T. KNAB
SCOTT M. KONZEM
SCOTT S. KORELL
NICHOLAS P. LAPLANT

DONAVAN S. LASKEY
 JEFFREY J. LEDEBOER
 NATHAN P. LEWIS
 ULYSSES LINARES
 JACOB L. LINDAMAN
 WILLIAM GREGORY LITTLE
 JAMES S. LONG II
 SUSANNE L. LONSBERRY
 BRANDON T. LOSACKER
 ANDREW J. LUECKENHOFF
 DARIN E. LUPINI
 JOHN V. LYFORD
 CHRISTOPHER R. MACDONALD
 BRANDON K. MACKAY
 DAVID T. MADSON
 ANDREW J. MAGUIRE
 CHRISTOPHER R. MARSLENDER
 BRAD R. MATHERNE
 MATTHEW F. MATIS
 ANDREW J. MAUS
 DAVID M. MCALROY
 SEAN W. MCCURDY
 KRISTI MCCLMURRY
 KALY M. MCKENNA
 MICHAEL K. MCKINNEY
 TROY ANDREW MCLAIN
 AMY L. MCQUITTY
 DANIEL P. MCVAY
 JEFFERY M. MILLER
 RYAN S. MILLER
 JOSEPH S. MIRANDA
 RYAN P. MITTELSTET
 GENTRY L. MOBLEY
 NICHOLAS L. MORGANS
 JACK A. NELSON
 JOSHUA B. NUCCIO
 JONATHAN C. ODELL
 JOHN P. OMEARA
 SEAN V. ORME
 RYAN M. PEARCE
 JAMES E. PIKE III
 DAVID F. PINA
 CHRISTOPHER A. PRENTISS
 NATHAN W. PREUSS
 NELSON J. PROUTY
 DOUGLAS M. PRUITT
 LEVI A. RAINS
 JACK W. RHODES III
 GREGORY A. RILEY
 NATHAN A. RIVINIUS
 TYLER W. ROBARGE
 ANDREW JAMES ROBERTS
 DAVID M. ROBERTSON
 ERIC H. ROBINSON
 MATTHEW H. ROBINSON
 KRISTOPHER W. ROBERG
 JAMES M. ROWLAND
 JOHN D. RYAN
 THOMAS M. RYAN, JR.
 MICHAEL J. SACKENHEIM
 AARON R. SANDERS
 RICK G. SCHUESSLER
 CLAYTON W. SCHUETZ
 JOHN REBER SCOTT
 KEVIN A. SEAY
 MICHAEL J. SHIRLEY
 ADAM JOSEPH SHOCKLEY
 AARON W. SICK
 NICHOLAS D. SIGLER
 JONATHAN ALEXANDER SIRARD
 JAMES C. SLAYTON
 IAN M. SLAZINIK
 MATTHEW N. SLUSHER
 MARK H. SMITH
 MELISSA R. SMITH
 ANTHONY T. ST AUBYN
 BRIAN J. STANISZEWSKI
 CHRISTOPHER R. STAPENHORST
 SEAN DANIEL STAVELY
 BRIAN K. STEINKE
 ANDREW J. STEWART
 ANDREW T. STOLEE
 JEREMY L. STOVER
 JOHN ROBERT STRIPLING
 JESPER R. STUBBENDORFF
 JOSHUA S. SULLIVAN
 CHRISTOPHER D. SWEENEY
 JARED B. TANNER
 JUSTIN M. TARLTON
 MATTHEW E. TARNOWSKI
 BRIAN J. TAYLOR
 SCOTT ALAN TAYLOR
 THOMAS M. TAYLOR
 BRIAN C. THOMASSON
 JARED D. THOMPSON
 SCOTT MICHAEL THOMPSON
 TIMOTHY A. THOREN
 MATTHEW E. TIPTON

MATTHEW K. TROMANS
 MATTHEW W. TULL
 PETER J. USHER
 ORION Q. VAIL
 CRAIG J. VAN BEUSEKOM
 JOHN F. VANDENBEMDEN
 MICAH B. VANDERVEEN
 MICHAEL J. VYN
 NICKLAUS M. WALKER
 GREGORY J. WALSH
 KURT CARL WAMPOLE, JR.
 RYAN R. WARD
 JUSTIN J. WARNAAR
 AARON M. WEBB
 CHRISTOPHER K. WEE
 CHRISTOPHER SCOTT WEIR
 BRIAN M. WELDE
 DALE J. WELLER
 JASON THOMAS WHITE
 THOMAS D. WHITE
 JARED M. WILLIAMS
 RYAN E. WILMES
 KEVIN D. WILSON
 MATTHEW C. WUNDERLICH
 MICHAUN ANQUIN YUVIENCO
 ANDREAS ZIEGLER
 TODD M. ZIELINSKI

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS CHAPLAINS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

MATTHEW C. AILSTOCK
 BRIAN J. BAILEY
 DAIRUS M. BARNES
 DANIEL T. BRASWELL
 SEAN R. CALLAHAN
 BRYAN P. CHILDS
 JASON R. DECHENNE
 SHAWN A. DROGE
 BARTON J. ESKIND
 AARON D. FILLMORE
 JASON V. GARLOCK
 MICHAEL J. HALE
 LUKE G. HEIBEL
 REX E. HIPPE
 JOONKI HONG
 BENJAMIN N. HUME
 DAVID L. KEMP II
 CHEONCHONG KIM
 DANIEL Y. KIM
 EDWARD D. KIM
 JOZEF KOLEK
 ROBERT E. KRAFT
 JACOB L. LAWRENCE
 YANDY N. LEYVA
 SCOTT A. LOVEJOY
 RONALD C. MARSHALL
 JERRY MCCARLEY
 JASON B. MCKINNEY
 KRISTAL MCKOY
 EREN J. MCNEAL
 BRYCE D. MITCHELL
 TRAVIS W. MOEN
 TIANN S. MORGNER
 MATTHEW C. MORTENSON
 ANDREW C. MULLENBURG
 CHASE H. MUSICK
 ALVIN D. OWENS
 RYAN C. PEARSE
 JOSEPH A. PERTICONE
 PETER A. POMPOSELLO
 CRAIG M. POOLE
 JOSHUA L. PORTER
 JONATHAN M. PRICE
 KYU H. RO
 STEPHEN L. ROBERTS
 GARY D. SANDS
 MIKOLAJ L. SCIBIOR
 CLINTON R. SHEETS
 PAUL K. SHIN
 PATRICK G. STEFAN
 DENNIS R. STENE
 JERRY M. TROUTT
 GREGORY D. TRUJILLO
 JAMES R. UPDEGRAFF
 ANDY M. VAUGHN
 JUSTIN T. WAX
 NICHOLAS A. WRIGHT
 BRADLEY A. WYSOMIERSKI
 0002350680

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

RUSSELL W. FORKIN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY NURSE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 7064:

To be major

JESSICA L. GODSEY

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

KYLE L. ABBATTISTA, OF NEW YORK
 TAYLOR JADE ADAMS, OF MARYLAND
 MOHIB ULLAH AHMED, OF VIRGINIA
 DAVID M. ARNETT, OF FLORIDA
 JENNIFER A. BALDWIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 MARGARET ROSE BENAVENTE, OF HAWAII
 BETH A. BROWNSON, OF VIRGINIA
 BRIAN YUNG-PAU CHANG, OF CALIFORNIA
 MARVIN CRESPIN-GAMEZ, OF CALIFORNIA
 SARAH JANE CRITES, OF CALIFORNIA
 EMMA HENRIETTE DIN, OF GEORGIA
 STEPHANIE DORMAN, OF WISCONSIN
 ANNE A. FLAKER, OF MISSOURI
 ARVIL ANTONIO GONZALEZ, OF NEW YORK
 ELI DAVID GROENER, OF MASSACHUSETTS
 PARKER BENNETT GUEY, OF MARYLAND
 ADRIANA L. HARVEY, OF VIRGINIA
 MARIA DELORES (LOLA) HERMOSILLO, OF CALIFORNIA
 CHE-LING MAUREEN HSIA, OF WASHINGTON
 DAVID SAMUEL JACKSON, OF MARYLAND
 MATTHEW D. JIRA, OF ARKANSAS
 REGINA S. JUN, OF CALIFORNIA
 YOEL KIRSCHNER, OF CALIFORNIA
 LISA WELSH KOVACK, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
 AMITA A. KULKARNI, OF CALIFORNIA
 JENNIFER LAAKSO, OF FLORIDA
 TRACEY LAM, OF CALIFORNIA
 CICELY CORNELIA LEWIS, OF VIRGINIA
 KELLY KOEPL MACK, OF WISCONSIN
 KENNETH W. MACLEAN, OF FLORIDA
 DAVID RICARDO MANN, OF FLORIDA
 D. BRUCE MCPHERSON, OF VIRGINIA
 JEREMY DANIEL MEADOWS, OF VIRGINIA
 ANTHONY MEDDEIROS III, OF MASSACHUSETTS
 JEFFREY ALLEN MEYERS, OF FLORIDA
 NYALAMBI DEREK MULWANDA, OF ALASKA
 ELIZABETH (LIZ) NYAGA, OF MINNESOTA
 ANNE JUDITH ONGONO BISSO, OF FLORIDA
 APRIL L. PEETZ, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 KEVIN DAVID PIETERS, OF FLORIDA
 BARTON MCLAIN POGUE, OF ILLINOIS
 MATTHEW FRANCIS PROTACIO, OF MONTANA
 SOFIA E. QUESADA, OF WASHINGTON
 DOUGLAS W. QUIGGLE, OF MINNESOTA
 RASA SIMINKAS KENT, OF FLORIDA
 ROBERT E. RENO, OF WASHINGTON
 MELINDA ANN ROBERTS, OF CALIFORNIA
 DENNIS RYAN RUSSELL, OF UTAH
 BRIANNE BROWN SANFORD, OF TEXAS
 JUSTIN LOUIS SELB, OF TEXAS
 NADIA ADEEL SHAH, OF TEXAS
 RABAB SHAMAYLEH, OF VIRGINIA
 MICHELLE J. SHIRLEY, OF MICHIGAN
 KRISTIN NICHOLSON SHOUBA, OF MAINE
 SUSAN E. B. SKOLNIK, OF MARYLAND
 NATHAN K. STRAND, OF WEST VIRGINIA
 RODNEY JOEL STUBINA, OF FLORIDA
 JASON SWANTEK, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 CARRIE TEIKEN, OF ILLINOIS
 CHRISTOPHER CHARLES THURLOW, OF RHODE ISLAND
 CAITLIN M. UNITES, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 AMANDA J. VAN DEN DOOL, OF NEVADA
 MICHAEL T. WEAVER, OF ILLINOIS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

RACHEL MARIE HOLUB, OF ILLINOIS
 EVE CONCINA JOSEPH, OF FLORIDA
 KAYLA YUEN-JI MA, OF CALIFORNIA
 MAIWAND NAWID, OF TEXAS
 KRISTOPHER MARK NORDEEN, OF MINNESOTA
 ADAM SCOTT ROBERTS, OF OREGON
 ANDRIAN MANFRED SMITH, OF VIRGINIA

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MARY LECLAIR AND THE GROUNDBREAKING OF LECLAIR VILLAGE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mary LeClair and the groundbreaking of LeClair Village.

Born in Ogdensburg, New York LeClair first came to Cape Cod in the late 1950s, after her husband was stationed at Otis Air Force Base. Soon after moving to the Cape, she began working at the Barnstable County National Bank as a teller in the Hyannis office. In 1966, LeClair moved over to the newly opened New Seabury branch, and a few years later, she was named 1 of the bank's first female branch managers.

Using her experience in the banking industry, LeClair was named Barnstable County Treasurer in 1978. She served in this for 18 years, before being elected as a county commissioner in 1996. LeClair was elected for 3 4-year terms, stepping down from the role in 2008. She additionally served as an aide to former Congressman Bill Delahunt for 2 years and worked in the Cape Cod Housing Assistance Corporation's resource development department for 5 years.

Throughout her career, LeClair has always been deeply involved in the Cape Cod community. She has served on the board of Gosnold Inc. for nearly 3 decades and has worked closely with the women at Emerson House, Gosnold's all-female facility. LeClair has also worked with the Children's Cove—the Cape and Islands Child Advocacy Center—for close to 25 years, after playing a pivotal role in creating the organization. She has additionally been a board member and volunteer with the Housing Assistance Corporation, as well as several other organizations for many years.

LeClair's efforts across Cape Cod have not gone unnoticed, as she has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the 2007 Mercy Otis Warren Cape Cod Woman of the Year Award and the Philanthropy Partners of the Cape and Islands 2019 Outstanding Volunteer Award. She has established herself as a pillar of the Cape Cod community, and through her work, she has inspired many others to get involved in local government and the community.

Over the years, LeClair has remained an active advocate for increasing affordable housing. This is why when the Housing Assistance Corporation and Preservation of Affordable Housing, Inc. partnered to build a new affordable housing complex in Mashpee, Massachusetts, there was no question as to who they would name the complex after. Built on town land, LeClair Village will house 39 families, offering affordable housing to low- and moderate-income households. After an 8-year effort between the Town of Mashpee, the Housing Assistance Corporation, Preservation of

Affordable Housing, Inc., and many other local non-profits and stakeholders, the project broke ground on May 31, 2023. LeClair Village is expected to complete construction in the summer of 2024. LeClair looks forward to all the children who will soon be able to go to school and say that they live in LeClair Village.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mary LeClair. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mary LeClair and all the work that she has done for the Cape Cod community.

IN MEMORY OF RONALD "KARTOON" ARTWINE

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, Kartoon was a special human being. He could have been another unfortunate statistic in Watts but Kartoon was determined that his life could, and would, be better. He was also determined to be a change agent in his community, making the lives of others better as well. He helped negotiate the crucial gang truce between Bloods and Crips and would assist local residents find housing and get into rehab, changing their lives forever.

I first met Kartoon through his friend Greg Brown at Project Build, an important social services organization I helped found many years ago. Kartoon was a larger-than-life, grassroots community activist who always had a positive outlook, a contagious laugh and could "spit a poem" better than most. With the right assistance, he got his life together and became both a substance abuse counselor, a successful Hollywood location scout and a supportive father who dearly loved his entire family.

Kartoon left a lasting impression on everyone who met him. When attending an important community meeting or rally and blessing us with a poem, you knew Kartoon was in the room, and we were glad he was there.

Kartoon blessed us with poetry. Here is my poem to Kartoon:

To the family & friends
of my friend Kartoon
I join with you today
To honor and remember
The very special one
Known to everyone as Kartoon
Kartoon our dear friend
And loved one who has left us way too soon.
Kartoon the Poet with
The great big smile
It seems Kartoon was
Only with us for a short while
Our Kartoon was well known
By so many in Watts,
And all over Los Angeles and many more
He has left us to grieve and
Wonder as he closed the door
I suppose the heavenly one up above knows
best
But now its time to let Kartoon rest.
Kartoon lived a life of

Fun, woes, and uncertainty
He experienced both the good and the bad
times

But he sure loved life and people of all kinds
Oh Kartoon and how he laughed
He was full of jokes, he bluffed and he played
But he always stayed

I have been wondering and thinking,
Now how is Kartoon going to conduct him-
self up yonder

But we really don't have to worry, speculate
or ponder

One thing we know for sure
Kartoon will be the center of attention with
his rhymes so pure

Kartoon always showed up
Whenever we called

And he never missed he helped us all
There is much more that I could say
But I think Kartoon would say let's leave all
of that for another day

Goodbye goodbye, my dear Kartoon,
Now it is your time to soar, to lift your
wings

It is your time to fly
You go on and, on in your glory,
And don't you look back
I've told you why.

You've got it! You are the man!
You, go on up there,
And give God a hand.

RECOGNIZING THE AMHERST PO- LICE DEPARTMENT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today we take a moment to recognize 100 years of the Amherst Police Department's steadfast commitment to community service and public safety. As Chief Scott Chamberlain notes, their success is a consequence of their commitment to go above and beyond for the residents of Amherst, New York.

In 1819, the first supervisor in the Town of Amherst, Timothy Hopkins, was elected to office. Following his election, he would appoint two constables tasked with patrolling the present boundaries of Amherst. By 1924, The Town of Amherst Police and the Village of Williamsville Police merged, and as the years continued, the number of officers grew. Today, the Amherst Police Department currently consists of 169 sworn officers and 54 civilian employees.

By virtue of effective and dedicated law enforcement officials, Amherst developed a reputation as one of the safest communities in the United States. This police department's stature has undoubtedly been a result of its partnerships with school officials, neighborhood organizations, and the residents that it serves. Their objective is to provide safety and be a positive resource to the 129,000 residents of Amherst. It remains vital to the public interest that our police work tirelessly to keep our streets and neighborhoods safe, and I know the success seen with the Amherst Police Department is owed to its collaborative

• 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.

and inclusive process with countless members of our own community. As the Amherst Police Department keeps an eye to the future, its residents can look back at the last 100 years of selfless service as a testament to the devoted men and women who serve their neighbors every day.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINA ASHJIAN
GARABEDIAN—30TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF
THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my congressional district. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Dr. Christina Ashjian Garabedian of Glendale, California.

Born in Hollywood, California, Dr. Christina Ashjian Garabedian attended Mekhitarist Fathers Armenian School and later, Providence High School in Burbank, California. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of the Pacific, completed her post-graduate residency at Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, and then began her career at Providence Holy Cross Medical Center as a clinical pharmacist. After several years of practice, Dr. Ashjian Garabedian became a Board Certified Pharmacotherapy Specialist, a certification held by a small percentage of pharmacists, and became Providence Holy Cross Medical Center's Medication Safety Officer, working with the executives and leadership of the hospital to ensure safe medication practices.

Dr. Ashjian Garabedian's extraordinary efforts extend beyond her career as a pharmacist. From a very young age, she has been passionate about volunteering to make a positive impact in the community and throughout her time in school volunteered at local hospitals, pharmacies, and health fairs.

Over a decade ago, Dr. Ashjian Garabedian began volunteering for the Armenian Bone Marrow Donor Registry (ABMDR), a nonprofit organization which helps individuals survive blood-related illnesses by recruiting and matching donors to those who require bone marrow stem cell transplants. She joined ABMDR's Board of Directors in 2016, became the organization's Walkathon Committee Chair, leading successful walkathons, and is part of the donor recruitment team and outreach committee.

In addition to her selfless dedication to ABMDR, Dr. Ashjian Garabedian strives to make a positive impact on future generations by participating as a judge for local high school science fairs, serving on the Board of Regents at Providence High School, her alma mater, and serving as a member of the Nerouj committee, a program under the leadership of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of North America.

Dr. Ashjian Garabedian currently resides in Glendale, California with her husband, Hovig

Garabedian. The newlyweds enjoy traveling and hosting family and friends in their new home.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Dr. Christina Ashjian Garabedian.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN
TOM WIMBERLY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of retired Navy veteran and fighter pilot Captain Tommy Charles Wimberly, who passed away on July 1, 2023, at the age of 92. For 31 years, Captain Wimberly dedicated his life to serving our country in the Navy as a fighter pilot, and he leaves behind a lasting legacy of patriotism and duty.

Captain Wimberly was born on November 16, 1930, in Coushatta, Louisiana. In 1951, he earned his degree from Northwestern State College of Louisiana and enlisted in the Navy. His college education allowed him to go to Officer Candidate School and earn a commission as Ensign, USNR. He went to flight training in Pensacola and received his Naval Aviator wings of gold in Kingsville. Tom flew 7 different aircrafts and operated off 10 different aircraft carriers.

Throughout his 31-year career, Tom was held in extremely high regards to everyone who knew him. He was a decorated pilot, earning the Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, and other awards for his extraordinary efforts. He served our country honorably in the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War. Tom retired in July 1982 with the rank of Navy Captain and finished his active service in DynCorp, a diversified services contractor specializing in aircraft maintenance, in Corpus Christi.

He stayed in Corpus Christi after retiring, living in the same house for the last 45 years. He was extremely active in many non-profit organizations and was a founding member of Landing Force 16, a group of businessmen who brought the USS *Lexington* to Corpus Christi in 1992.

Captain Wimberly was highly decorated and dedicated his life to serving our country, and it is my honor to recognize his remarkable service and dedication to this country. His distinguished service record stands as a testament to his dedication to our country and the legacy he leaves. Our Nation is forever in the debt of his many years of service to our country.

HONORING CATESBY WOODFORD
CLAY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an exceptional man, Catesby

Woodford Clay, of Paris, Kentucky, who today is celebrating his 100th birthday and a lifetime of leadership in the fields of natural resources and Thoroughbred racehorses. A staunch philanthropist, Mr. Clay has devoutly practiced his Catholic faith with his wife, Elizabeth "Biz" Clay, while raising 8 children and shepherding 15 grandchildren into the future.

Although known by friends for his mischievous levity and penchant for boldly-colored clothes, Mr. Clay has been a most serious achiever. For over 73 years, he served Kentucky River Coal Corp, and its successor, Kentucky River Properties, in many roles, including president and board chairman. Kentucky River Properties has risen as a major regional operation with extensive coal reserves and more than 140,000 acres of Appalachian hardwood forests.

Yet it is the welfare of people that has always been a top priority for Mr. Clay. He championed corporate charitable efforts that resulted in millions of dollars in contributions and scholarships for Kentucky colleges and public school systems, in addition to the establishment of an endowment fund for nursing scholarships and funding for drug addiction treatment.

As the scion of a prominent family whose roots extend throughout the annals of Kentucky, he was the third generation to run historic Runnymede Farm, birthplace of 4 Kentucky Derby winners including this year's victor Mage. Mr. Clay bred top racehorses over 7 decades that won major races in Europe and Asia in addition to North America.

Beyond forging an international reputation for elite horses, Mr. Clay served as a member of the Kentucky Racing Commission and as a 45-year stalwart on Churchill Downs' board of directors. He was feted as the 2009 Honored Guest by the Thoroughbred Club of America.

A graduate of Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., and a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, Mr. Clay has generously supported Catholic missions from Kentucky to Africa and Asia. His son, Catesby "Chris" Jr., followed his spiritual path to become an ordained priest.

Thus, I am honored to recognize Catesby Woodford Clay on his 100th birthday for his gentlemanly stewardship of a unique family heritage, his devotion to charitable causes, and his lifetime of success while committed to faith and family.

TRIBUTE TO MARIA HERRERA—
30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Maria Herrera of the Elysian Valley neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Born in 1965 in Jalisco, Mexico, Maria moved to the United States in the mid-1990's, settling in the Los Angeles neighborhood of

Elysian Valley, and since that time, she has spent many years building and improving her community.

Ms. Herrera's first civic engagement began while her three children attended Allesandro Elementary School, where she joined the Parent Council Board, which granted a space for guardians and parents to raise concerns directly with the school's administration. The council also attended to the needs of the community along with being a place of learning, and for Spanish speaking parents like herself, the council offered the opportunity to be involved with their children's education. This was extremely important to Maria—having only finished middle school in Mexico, she was adamant that her children and their classmates receive the high-quality education that she was denied.

Because of her work on the Parent Council Board, Ms. Herrera became aware of other like-minded justice and educational inclusion organizations, one of which was the Coalition for Educational Justice (CEJ), now Students Deserve. In conjunction with a coalition of Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) students, parents, teachers and other stakeholders, Maria was one of the parent organizers that developed grassroots strategies to improve LAUSD for students from underserved backgrounds through actions such as canvassing, telephone banking, meetings with LAUSD officials and school board members, walkouts, and protests. As a CEJ leader, Maria was often seen pushing her children in a stroller while holding up a picket sign during a protest. The organization achieved many victories in making student learning more inclusive and equitable, including increases in funding for the most marginalized of LAUSD students and schools.

After Maria's children grew up, she began volunteering at the Northeast LA (NELA) Mercadito, a food bank that was created because of community members' need for fresh produce during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the last few years, Ms. Herrera has assisted in the distribution of healthy produce to over 200 residents. Selfless, kind-hearted, and generous, Maria takes care of her elderly neighbors by checking in on them, preparing and making food, finding and delivering necessary resources—even physically cleaning up their yards if needed. She also enjoys beautifying her entire block by planting flowers, plants, and cacti along the sidewalks.

Maria and her husband, Armando, have 3 children, Dario, Mariana, and Armando, and two grandchildren, Sophia and Ruben.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Maria Herrera.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR KATHLEEN KING ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathleen King who is retiring as CEO of the Healthier Kids Foundation, a non-profit foundation focused on the health needs of underserved children and youth in Silicon Valley.

She served the Foundation and the children of Santa Clara County for 15 highly productive years.

Kathleen King is a native Californian. She attended public schools in San Jose and graduated from West Valley College and Santa Clara University. She is married to Mark Stark and has 5 children: Marie, Allyssa, Nick, Matthew, and Robert.

Kathleen worked for nearly 20 years at Applied Materials and was a member of the Saratoga City Council and twice the City's Mayor. She is also a member of several other state and community boards including the Valley Medical Center Foundation, Lincoln Law School Silicon Valley and the California State Dental Board. She also served on the Housing Trust Board and is a member of the American Leadership Forum. She was a founding member of Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative. She was described by Mark Pearl, M.D., a professor at Stanford University and former CEO of The Permanente Medical Group, as dynamic, visionary and highly effective.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Kathleen King on her retirement from the Healthier Kids Foundation and in thanking her for her extraordinary service to the children of our community. She is a national treasure.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CAPE COD BASEBALL LEAGUE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Cape Cod Baseball League's 100th anniversary.

Now 1 of the country's top collegiate summer baseball leagues, the Cape Cod Baseball League was founded in 1923. At its inception, the league consisted of 4 teams: Chatham, Falmouth, Hyannis, and Osterville. During the early years, teams were not limited to only playing other teams within the league. Falmouth even played the major league Boston Braves, who later became the Atlanta Braves, in 1929 and lost by only 1 point in the exhibition game.

Recovering from the Great Depression and with World War II on the horizon, the Cape League shutdown in 1940. However, when the league reopened in 1946, fans and players quickly came back. The league continued to grow and was divided into the Upper Cape and Lower Cape divisions. When the Cape Cod Baseball League returned after the war, the league also implemented a new rule that teams could no longer hire professional or semi-professional baseball players who received a salary. Previously, teams consisted of a mix of local, semipro, and college players, but as the Cape Cod Baseball League grew in popularity, teams like the Sagamore Clouters began to recruit college baseball players. This strategy helped the Clouters to secure 4 championship titles in the 1950s. With more college players being recruited, the Cape Cod Baseball League was sanctioned by the NCAA as a summer collegiate league on March 9, 1965.

Today, the Cape Cod Baseball League is an elite collegiate baseball league made up of 10

teams: the Bourne Braves, Brewster Whitecaps, Chatham Anglers, Cotuit Kettleers, Falmouth Commodores, Harwich Mariners, Hyannis Harbor Hawks, Orleans Firebirds, Wareham Gatemen, and Yarmouth-Dennis Red Sox. The Cape Cod Baseball League has more than 350 alumni playing in the major leagues each year. Since the league's inception in 1923, over 1,600 Cape Cod Baseball League players have gone on to play in the major leagues.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the Cape Cod Baseball League. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing the league continued success and all the best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOANNA CHIKWE—30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Dr. Joanna Chikwe of the Hollywood Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

After studying art for two years in Italy, Dr. Chikwe studied medicine at Oxford University and completed her cardiac surgery residency in the United Kingdom, where she was awarded Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons. She was the recipient of the 2006 Society of Cardiac and Thoracic Surgeons Cardiac Scholarship, to assume a fellowship in mitral and aortic surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York, where she then joined the faculty until 2019.

Just prior to the pandemic, Dr. Chikwe moved west, and is currently the Irina and George Schaeffer Distinguished Chair in Cardiac Surgery and Chairman of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. Dr. Chikwe is also Professor of Clinical Surgery at the Department of Surgery for the David Geffen School of Medicine at University of California, Los Angeles. She is Editor-in-Chief of The Annals of Thoracic Surgery, editor of Annals of Thoracic Surgery Short Reports, co-Chair of the American Heart Association Scientific Sessions, and an editorial board member of Journals of the American College of Cardiology and the Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery.

Dr. Chikwe's clinical focus is robotic mitral repair. She leads a cardiac surgery program that is rated among the top three on a national scale by U.S. News and World Report, and she also directs three affiliate cardiac surgery programs within the Cedars-Sinai Health System. The robotic cardiac surgery program, the heart and lung transplant programs, and the structural heart program are among the largest in the country. In terms of research, Dr. Chikwe concentrates on therapies for valvular heart disease, with more than 250 peer reviewed publications including contributions in the Journal of the American Medical Association and the New England Journal of Medicine.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Dr. Joanna Chikwe.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF KAREN MANGINI

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Karen Mangini.

Karen was born and raised in Concord, California, as a fourth-generation native of Contra Costa County. Throughout her life, Karen dedicated herself to serving the students and families of the East Bay. After earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University at Hayward, she began her 43-year teaching career at St. Michael's Catholic School in Livermore. She later taught at Emma C. Smith School for 15 years in the Livermore School District while earning her California State Teaching Credential, her Master's Degree in education, and her Administrative Services Credential.

Following an accomplished teaching career, Karen began a new role as a school administrator. In 1986, she became the Dean of Students at Presentation High School in Berkeley. She went on to become the Principal of St. Cyril School in Oakland, and in 1990, became the Principal of St. Agnes School in Concord.

After retiring in 2010, Karen continued to serve her community as a devoted supporter of multiple charities, including the Office for Mission Advancement, Operation Smile Train. St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and St. Bonaventure Church Food Pantry.

Sadly, Karen passed away at the age of 80 last month. She will be remembered by the community for her outstanding character, and I will personally remember her for being a delightful neighbor. Please join me in recognizing the life and service of Karen Mangini.

IN MEMORY OF QUINCY DARNELL
REESE, JR.

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, Quincy Darnell Reese, Jr. was tragically killed by gunfire on Saturday, June 10, 2023. At only 16 years old, Quincy had already distinguished himself in the community. He excelled in his studies, maintaining a 3.4 grade point average. He was also a talented athlete who was recognized as a star basketball player and who had plans to try out for the football team in his senior year. To his closest friends, Quincy was described as a "jokester" who had a welcoming personality.

I include in the RECORD the following remarks I delivered at Quincy's services, and today offer this to him, and his family and friends:

Take some of the sadness from your hearts and gently replace it with the warmth of shared memories and the promise of peace to

come. May you find some measure of comfort in knowing that extended family, friends, teachers, fellow students, and the community humbly join you in honoring Quincy as a loving son, a cherished brother, and beloved grandson, who represented his family and community with honor as a young African American man. He will be remembered as an exceptional student athlete, dedicated to his family, church, community and Crenshaw High. My son, Ed, who coached Quincy at Crenshaw, described him as a very gifted, hardworking, admired, and respected student who was senselessly taken from us much too soon. Quincy will be deeply missed by all who love him.

May God bless you, give you strength, and keep you in His care always.

With sympathy,
Maxine Waters

TRIBUTE TO ISABEL OMER—30TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Isabel Omero of Burbank, California.

Isabel has lived in or around the City of Burbank for over four decades and has been a proud homeowner in Burbank for the past 28 years. An out and proud transgender woman for the last four years, Isabel chose to call Burbank home, because it reminded her of her small-town birthplace in Ohio.

Long before her transition, Isabel attended the University of Cincinnati. She then had a 40-year career as a television script supervisor for music and comedy series, including all seven seasons of "The Golden Girls." Isabel also produced and hosted music, art, dance, and fashion events. Her volunteer productions for the non-profit organization, Downtown Los Angeles Art Walk, led her to curate live performances for Art Walk's block at Los Angeles's "Night on Broadway."

An avid supporter of non-profit organizations, Isabel was part of the founding advisory board for Trans Can Work, which is dedicated to advancing workplace inclusion through workforce development training strategies, where she also wrote material to help transgender employees and educate employers about workplace policies. She also wrote public service messages for The Trevor Project, an organization committed to ending suicide among LGBTQ youth. Isabel has been a speaker at the Burbank Community YMCA Social Impact Center, which offers a wide range of LGBTQIA+ programs and services, and has volunteered at multicultural events for Elevate Burbank, an organization which promotes the appreciation and understanding of cultural diversity through events and partnerships with the community.

Last year, Isabel spearheaded "Family Pride in the Park," Burbank's first ever LGBTQIA+ celebration, where people gathered in a powerful display of support for the city's

LGBTQIA+ community. In addition to being its sponsorship chair, Isabel worked with law enforcement, city government, and businesses to help create a safe and meaningful experience.

Isabel is a lifelong baseball fan and enjoys traveling the world and exploring the neighborhoods of Southern California with her partner, Susan.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Isabel Omero.

RECOGNIZING STEVIE WILCOX ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of Stevie Wilcox's retirement from the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Agency, family, friends, and colleagues gathered on Friday, July 21, 2023, to recognize his dedication, commitment, and professionalism in the defense of a grateful Nation.

Stevie Wilcox's service in the U.S. Air Force ended in 2005 as a senior non-commissioned officer (E-7 MSgt). He served the first 10 years at Andrews Air Force Base until he transferred to Okinawa, Japan from 1994 to 1998.

He was later transferred to Bitburg, Germany, where he served from 1998–2002. Stevie's dedication to the armed services began early, as he grew up as a military dependent. Prior to his service, he moved to Camps Springs, Maryland in the summer of 1976 and graduated from Central High School in 1979.

After retiring from military service, Stevie Wilcox decided to work at TSA because he experienced 9–11 in real time while on Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.

Stevie Wilcox embodied the agency motto, "The Work of a Nation. The Center of Intelligence." Because of his efforts, lives were preserved—missions accomplished—hope restored. And I thank him for his service to the United States of America.

Stevie Wilcox was recruited to the TSA Travel Protocol Office to help establish assistance for the wounded warriors who traveled through the Nation's airports along with the Military One Source.

Stevie Wilcox Worked for TSA from 2005 to 2023 during which time he distinguished himself as a person of merit, intellect, diplomacy, and professionalism in all matters under his responsibility.

I would like to commend him for taking this path to government service. As President Kennedy once said, "The cost of freedom is always high, but Americans have always paid it. And one path we shall never choose, and that is the path of surrender or submission."

On behalf of the constituents of the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas, I take great pride in recognizing Stevie Wilcox on his retirement, for his commitment and dedication to serving the citizens of the United States, and he is most deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of the United States Congress.

HONORING REVEREND DR.
GREGORY A. SUTTON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding mentor, dedicated servant leader, faithful servant of God and dear friend of longstanding, the Reverend Dr. Gregory A. Sutton. Dr. Sutton was honored for his 53 years of faithful service at Jackson Memorial Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at 10:30 am.

Dr. Sutton was born in Atlanta, Georgia. He was raised among great educators, philosophers, and theologians. Dr. Sutton was always concerned about the welfare of others and used his voice to speak out on pressing issues of the day. He began to preach the Gospel at the young age of 16. This would lay the foundation for his ministry and his destiny—the boy, the preacher, the man and the visionary.

Dr. Sutton began preaching the Gospel while he was still in high school and accepted the calling to pastor a growing church called Jackson Memorial at the age of 18, where he has labored for 53 years. Through his leadership, the church has continued to expand its membership and physical footprint. Dr. Sutton has seen the expansion of the church's membership to over 6,000 members and he has overseen the construction of two new edifices for the church. Dr. Sutton's ministry is indeed a global ministry and reaches people where they are across the world.

The scripture tells us in Proverbs that "Where there is no vision the people perish . . ." Dr. Sutton is indeed a visionary and has used his ministry to reach people beyond the church walls. He has dedicated himself to the awareness, protection, and spiritual development of youth. Dr. Sutton was the originator of the phrase, "Stop the Violence, Save the Youth." Cementing his commitment to young people and their spiritual futures, Pastor Sutton was the first pastor in the Atlanta area to open his church to students for prayer before school. He also reaches out and incorporates the needs of his elderly parishioners in his ministry. Dr. Sutton has a complete ministry that attempts to reach many different groups for Christ to include those that are in prison, the homebound, the homeless, the low income and the disenfranchised. He uses his weekly television broadcast, "Now Is The Time," to reach those who would not otherwise be reachable.

Dr. George Washington Carver once said that "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young; compassionate with the aged; sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong, because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Dr. Sutton is acutely aware that for the Kingdom of God to be manifested in this world, it is imperative that people from all walks of life be brought into the fold and be made to feel that they matter and that Jesus Loves them. Dr. Sutton's ministry is truly a Matthew 25 ministry.

Even amid his various ministerial duties, Dr. Sutton finds time to serve his community at large. It has been said that "Service is the rent

that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Dr. Sutton has paid his rent and he has paid it well. He serves on the board of directors of many social and civic organizations to include the Board of Ministers of Morehouse College.

Reverend Dr. Gregory Sutton has achieved much in life, but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his wife, First Lady Gail Sutton; his children, Theresa, Tony, Keisha and LaQuay; his three grandchildren and other family members.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the people of Georgia and this nation in honoring and commending the Reverend Dr. Gregory A. Sutton for 53 years of dedicated service to his God, Jackson Memorial Baptist Church and humankind. Moreover, we pray God's continued blessings upon him, his ministry, and his family in the weeks, months, and years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA
MONDERINE-WILLIAMS—30TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Barbara Monderine-Williams of the Atwater Village neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Barbara was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, raised in La Mirada, California, and has been living in Los Angeles since attending the University of California, Los Angeles, from which she graduated in 1987. After years of working in the music industry, including for Virgin Records and Warner Records, Barbara decided that her hobby as a self-taught home baker could possibly be turned into a full-time profession. With her mother's recipes coupled with her dream of having a bakery, she and her husband, Richard Williams, opened The Village Bakery and Café, where Barbara is the co-owner and head baker.

Over the years, The Village Bakery and Café has grown into a flourishing neighborhood mainstay serving breakfast, lunch, pastries, and freshly baked bread. During the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Village Bakery and Café changed gears and provided the community with provisions that were difficult to source, including eggs, flour, sugar, and yeast, and turned into a family meal delivery location overnight, serving up to 300 meals every day during the height of the pandemic.

Barbara has made a tremendous impact in her community and beyond through her "One Cookie At A Time" bakery drives, raising thousands of dollars throughout the years for the Santé D'Or Foundation, an animal adoption and rescue center in Los Angeles, American Civil Liberties Union, Black Voters Matter, and most recently, CARE's Ukraine Crisis Fund.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Barbara Monderine-Williams.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN JACK WALTER, A LOCAL WAR HERO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Captain Jack Walter, a remarkable Vietnam Veteran whose dedication to serving our country deserves our recognition.

As a forward observer and artillery specialist, Captain Jack Walter played a crucial role in ensuring the accuracy of military operations. His responsibility to relay enemy coordinates during calls for fire and confirm the impacts of artillery rounds demonstrated his skill, precision, and commitment to the mission at hand. Today, we celebrate Captain Jack Walter's life and express our gratitude for his selflessness and bravery. May his memory serve as a powerful reminder of the sacrifices made by our veterans and the importance of honoring their service.

Lieutenant Jack Walter served with the 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division of the U.S. Army. His actions during an intense battle in the Vietnamese bunker complex in early 1970 highlighted his bravery and dedication to his duties. Despite being under constant enemy fire, he ensured the safety of his fellow soldiers. His courageous actions did not go unnoticed, and he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with a "V" device for valor. Lieutenant Jack Walter humbly expressed surprise at receiving the recognition, stating that he believed he was simply doing his job. Due to his exceptional leadership and skills, Lieutenant Jack Walter was later promoted to the important role of Artillery Liaison, a position typically held by a Captain. In this role, he was responsible for coordinating fire support for an entire infantry battalion comprising nearly one thousand soldiers.

In June of 1970, Lieutenant Jack Walter bravely took part in a daring rescue mission to save a group of soldiers who were stranded, injured, and surrounded by enemy forces. Lieutenant Jack Walter, understanding the importance of reassuring the troops that they had not been abandoned, personally flew multiple resupply missions to aid them. The enemy fire was so intense that he had to switch helicopters three times. This close encounter with death and his unwavering determination to complete the mission led to Lieutenant Jack Walter being awarded the Silver Star Medal, one of the nation's highest honors for bravery.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering and appreciating Captain Jack Walter's courageous service to our country during the Vietnam War. It is through the dedication and sacrifice of individuals like him that we are able to enjoy the freedom and security we have today. May their service continue to inspire and remind us of the values we hold dear as Americans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SANDRA IRBY FOR HER RETIREMENT FROM JPL NASA DEEP SPACE NETWORK

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sandra Irby as she retires from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory NASA's Goldstone Deep Space Communications Complex after 24 years of service supporting the United States space program. She began her career working with the Marine Corps in Barstow, California during Operation Desert Storm and is a valuable member of our community.

Sandi began her career at NASA Goldstone working in logistics as a warehouse worker. Her hard work and commitment led to expanded responsibilities as she was promoted to Property Administrator. In this role she was responsible for asset tracking, property movement, government reporting, and inventory of NASA property. Sandi assisted with the development of advanced hierarchical systems for determining locations and specifying the condition of assets. This information was critical in ensuring the continued operation of telecommunications equipment across the Goldstone complex.

Sandi's 24 years of service have been an important contribution to the success of JPL NASA's Deep Space Network. Goldstone has played a critical role in NASA's robotic and human-crewed spaceflight mission, landing, and planetary encounters. We honor Sandi for her commitment and contributions towards our mission to expand humankind's understanding of the solar system and beyond.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA HOWELL—
30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Barbara Howell of the Los Feliz neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Born in Ogden, Utah, Barbara is the eldest of three children and the only daughter of the late Joyce and Clyde Howell. Due to her father's work obligations, the family moved quite often, living in Utah, Colorado, Nevada, and Minnesota. After graduating from high school in Minnesota, Barbara attended Brigham Young University in Utah, and earned a bachelor's degree in communications and marketing. While a student at the university, she served as an intern with Utah Easter Seals, which ignited her passion and interest in working for non-profit organizations. She went on to work for the organization in several states for seventeen years and later spent three years with the Greater Los Angeles Leukemia

and Lymphoma Society as the organization's executive director.

In 2004, Ms. Howell joined the Burbank Temporary Aid Center (BTAC) as its executive director, and over the years has been instrumental in raising money to fund the renovation of BTAC. Immediately after assuming this position, Barbara enrolled in Leadership Burbank, an organization that offers a leadership training program for individuals who work or reside in the City of Burbank, which helped Barbara develop appreciation and a better understanding of the community. While at BTAC, she fulfilled a lifelong dream of continuing her education and pursued a master's degree in organizational leadership at Woodbury University, graduating in 2010. Expanding her knowledge has been especially important to Barbara when leading the organization through challenging years.

Dedicated to giving back to the community, Barbara served as a board member for Leadership Burbank, and held various leadership roles, including past president, in the Burbank Noon Rotary Club. She also served as treasurer for the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council. Ms. Howell has received several honors and awards including the Woman of the Year Award from the Zonta Club of Burbank Area and the Citizen of the Year award from the Burbank Association of REALTORS.

Barbara enjoys traveling and has visited Canada, England, France, Ireland, Iceland, Kazakhstan, Germany, Wales, Mexico, and Italy. She learned to play the piano at a young age, often accompanying her father when he would sing, and developed an appreciation for all types of music. Ms. Howell has sung with the Southern California Mormon Choir and plays the organ for her congregation.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Barbara Howell.

HONORING FRANK SMITH

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, alongside my esteemed colleagues Senators MIKE CRAPO and JIM RISCH, to pay tribute to the extraordinary life of Frank F. Smith. It is with great sadness that we mourn his passing on July 7th of this year. Frank was a man of unwavering integrity, dedicating his life to serving his country and his fellow veterans.

Frank was raised in a home that instilled in him the values of patriotism, hard work, and compassion. His father was a former Lt. Colonel of the Army Air Corps and U.S. Air Force. Frank went on to follow in his father's footsteps and served in the U.S. Air Force.

During the Vietnam War, from 1964 to 1968, Frank proudly served in the Air Force at Edwards Air Force Base in Kern County, California. His contributions were instrumental in the development of experimental aircraft, many of which would later be utilized in the Vietnam War.

Frank's distinguished military career garnered him numerous accolades, including the National Defense Service Medal, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Lon-

gevity Service Award Ribbon, and Air Force Good Conduct Medal. In recognition of his exceptional service, he was honored with the Spirit of Freedom Award in 2017.

Following his retirement from the Air Force, Frank dedicated 16 years of his life as the Information Technology Director for the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center. Additionally, he established his own business providing IT services in Eastern Idaho.

Frank actively engaged with several meaningful organizations, serving as a lifetime member of the American Legion and the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA). Notably, he held prominent leadership roles, including President of the VVA-972, Idaho Falls Bob Taylor Memorial Chapter, and he played a pivotal role in establishing the American Legion Riders in Idaho, where he served as director for the Department of Idaho and the Idaho Falls Chapter. Furthermore, he wholeheartedly contributed to the Idaho Falls and Pocatello Idaho military affairs committees.

Frank saw his role as a founding member and the driving force of the Veterans Mobility Corporation (VMC) as his greatest achievement. Established in 2015, the VMC tirelessly endeavors to provide electric wheelchairs to veterans, their spouses, and children. To date, the VMC has furnished 378 electric wheelchairs, significantly improving the lives of veterans and their families.

Frank's unwavering dedication to assisting others, particularly his fellow veterans, leaves an indelible mark. He exemplified a life of compassion and selflessness. Frank will be remembered by many as a man who made a profound difference in their lives. His memory and legacy will forever inspire us and shall never fade away.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF
JOHN D. LEMES

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of an extraordinary constituent, John D. Lemes, who died in Los Altos, California on May 15, 2023.

John was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, on December 30, 1936, and he attended Punahou School where he excelled in track and football, and was key to Punahou winning Hawaii's state football championship in 1953.

He attended Colgate University and shortly thereafter moved to California. He met and married Karen Lemes and spent a lifetime devoted to her. Together they had five children; Lucia Nicholson, Renee Seligman, John (Ocean) Lemes, Jennifer Springer, and Frank Lemes, and 14 beloved grandchildren who brought him great joy.

John spent 26 years as Chief Internal Auditor for the County of Santa Clara. He was also active in his community, serving on the Santa Clara Federal Credit Union Board, coaching soccer, and serving his church in various positions.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of John Lemes, and in extending our condolences to his wife Karen, and his entire family. He was a great and good man, a patriot and

a citizen who served his community. We are a better Nation because of him.

TRIBUTE TO RHONDA REYNOLDS—
30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our Nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Rhonda Reynolds of the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles, California.

Born and raised in Indiana, Rhonda attended Indiana University Bloomington, where she met her future husband, Rob Rowe. After graduation, she moved to Chicago, Illinois, where she was a founding member of a theater company. In 1993, Rhonda moved from Chicago to Los Angeles, and she and her husband first settled in Silver Lake, and then in 2000, into their home in Echo Park.

In 2004, Rhonda and Rob opened Masa of Echo Park Bakery and Cafe, a family-owned restaurant that specializes in Chicago-style pizza. Masa is a beloved community-minded restaurant that "feels like home" for employees and customers, a place for friendship and food. Rhonda is honored and grateful to share in the lives of the Masa family. Through first dates and chance meetings at the restaurant that have turned into engagements and marriages, the people at Masa bring her great joy and have become her extended family.

Crediting her teacher parents' philosophy of embracing a larger sense of community, Ms. Reynolds is actively involved in her neighborhood, working to nurture growth and foster relationships with fellow business owners, schools, and neighborhood groups. She has devoted countless hours volunteering on local committees and non-profit organizations. Rhonda is President of the Echo Park Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Rampart Community Advisory Board, a member of the Preserve Echo Park Lake group, and a Board Member of a children's literacy/animal welfare non-profit, Reading to the Rescue.

Past involvement includes serving on the Dodgers Neighborhood Community Advisory Board, the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council's Governmental and External Affairs Committee, the Echo Park Film District Planning Committee, the FILM LA Community Relations Subcommittee representing Echo Park, and a block captain for the UNTAG—Uniting Neighborhoods to Abolish Graffiti—program. In addition, Rhonda and her husband donate food and supplies from their restaurant to numerous nonprofit events. Rhonda and Rob have 2 mixed-breed rescue dogs, Mimi and Marty.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Rhonda Reynolds.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGE GLEN PRIETTO

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and celebrate the life and legacy of George Glen Prietto, Kumeyaay Native and Sycuan Tribal Elder from the 48th District of California.

Mr. Prietto was born on January 26, 1931, at the Soboba Indian Hospital. He moved to the Sycuan Reservation and attended Dehesa School and Grossmont High School.

Before he was 18, Mr. Prietto joined the U.S. Army as an infantryman and served with distinction during the Korean War. He was honorably discharged after 4 years of service.

After his military service, Mr. Prietto became a proud farmworker in Yuma—picking lettuce in the sun and train-hopping to Lodi to pick grapes. After years of painstaking labor, he transitioned to driving big-rig trucks.

Mr. Prietto eventually returned to the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation and co-founded the Sycuan Fire Department with Hank Murphy. He served as a dedicated firefighter on the reservation, including transporting patients for the Southern Indian Health Clinic, for which he was celebrated upon retirement.

Mr. Prietto dedicated himself to preserving and teaching the Kumeyaay language. He taught hundreds of children, stressing the importance of family values and celebrating their culture.

Mr. Prietto loved spending time with his lifelong friends, including Kenny Meza, Leroy Elliott, Paul Cuero, Jr., Steve Banegas and Bobby Wallace. His family meant everything—especially his marriage to Terri and spending time with his nephews Raymond and Joe Sandoval.

While we mourn the loss of a great leader, tribal elder, family man, and veteran, we can find solace in the fact that Mr. Prietto's legacy will continue to enrich the lives of generations to come.

HONORING SGT./REV. JESSE C.
TULL, SR.

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Jesse Commasel Tull, Sr. Mr. Tull fought for freedom as a soldier in the United States Colored Troops as a member of Company C, 119th U.S. Colored Infantry. Tull's Company C was 1 of 8 U.S. Colored Troops regiments assigned to various locations in Kentucky, including Camp Nelson, located in Jessamine County near the Kentucky River. Attaining the rank of Sergeant, Tull performed guard, garrison, and recruitment duties at various points across Kentucky. He helped to enlist and emancipate many men and their families and thus aided his country to ultimate victory in the Civil War.

In addition to his important military service, Mr. Tull became a Reverend in Jessamine

County, ministering to many believers. He organized the Historic First Baptist Church of Camp Nelson, Ky. This church, located at the Camp Nelson Refugee Camp where soldiers' wives and children lived, was 1 of 3 African American churches organized in the area to minister to African Americans in their transition from slavery to freedom.

Sgt./Rev. Jesse C. Tull served his country as a soldier and served God as a preacher. His descendants include his great grandson the Rev. R.P. Gates, Sr., current pastor of the Historic First Baptist Church at Camp Nelson. Rev. Gates has helped keep the story of Jesse C. Tull alive as he is remembered as an important part of our Nation's history.

I am humbled to honor the memory of Sgt./Rev. Jesse C. Tull, Sr. before the United States Congress.

TRIBUTE TO ALEXA ILES
SKARPELOS—30TH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF
THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women during Women's History Month. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Alexa Iles Skarpelos of Hollywood, California.

Born and raised in Seattle, Washington, Alexa studied design at Western Washington University and spent the next two decades working as a Design Director for global brands such as Guess and Levis. In 2000, she and her husband, George moved to Hollywood and welcomed their daughter, Athena a few months later.

Ms. Skarpelos is dedicated to creating opportunities for civic engagement by developing meaningful partnerships between the community and government officials, and providing space for productive and candid communication. A tireless volunteer, she is the organizer of many successful annual community events. For several years, she has led the Hollywood Dell Summer Block Party and Pet Parade, now in its 17th year, and the Hollywood National Night Out event. Alexa has also coordinated an annual neighborhood Halloween celebration, a Hollywood Dell Art Show and neighborhood cleanup days. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she encouraged her neighbors to create and display artwork in front of their homes made from materials on hand for the "Hollywood Dell Shows the LOVE" campaign and shared some of her "Recipes for Disaster" in neighborhood email news updates.

Alexa belongs to several civic organizations, including the Hollywood Dell Civic Association, where she served as Secretary for eight years, and currently serves as President. She also served as Secretary for several years and was recently appointed as the Civilian Co-Chair for the Hollywood Community-Police Advisory Board.

Among her numerous community achievements, Ms. Skarpelos led the grassroots effort

to preserve a beloved neighborhood trail that was slated for development. As Co-Chair of the Friends of La Rocha Trail, she raised awareness and funds to preserve it as a dedicated green space under the supervision of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. Alexa also joined in the effort to establish the Franklin Ivar Park located on a former neglected empty lot.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring this exceptional, well-respected woman of California's 30th Congressional District, Alexa Iles Skarpelos.

HONORING THE SANTA MARIA
MADDALENA SOCIETY ON THE
OCCASION OF ITS 125TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, for generations, the Wooster Square neighborhood of the City of New Haven has been the cornerstone of its Italian American community, and Wooster Street has been its heart. Along this street you will find many icons of the community—Sally's Apizza, Libby's Italian Pastry Shop, Frank Pepe Pizzeria Napoletana, and the Society of Santa Maria Maddalena. Often referred to as simply "the club", the Society remains a gathering place where members can meet, share a meal, discuss community issues, and build lifelong friendships.

This year the Santa Maria Maddalena Society celebrates its 125th Anniversary—a remarkable milestone for this very special organization. Founded on May 1, 1898, the Society of Santa Maria Maddalena is the oldest Italian American fraternal organization in Connecticut—whose purpose is all about the community. Named for the patron saint of Atrani, the Society of Maria Maddalena was originally established to assist fellow Atrani immigrants with housing, employment, English translating, and legal matters. In a time when such government assistance did not yet exist, the Society acted as the original social safety net for the community.

The Society of Santa Maria Maddalena has preserved the traditions, heritage, and culture of our members' ancestors—while also maintaining the ties from the town of Atrani—in the Salerno Province of Italy—who settled in Wooster Square. During the week of July 22, a replica of the original statue of the saint, which was brought to the United States in 1914, is carried through the streets of Wooster Square. The saint is adorned with jewelry provided by the original members of the society. The feast procession culminates at St. Michael's Catholic Church where a high mass is celebrated. The feast celebration extends for 4 days with Italian music and food, and on Saturday evening, Neapolitan music is featured. The holiday is a time for reuniting with friends and providing younger generations with opportunities to learn about their culture. Year after year, for 125 years, Society members have ensured that the special tradition of the procession and celebration of Saint Maria Maddalena continues—that we continue to gather to celebrate our rich history and strengthen the bonds of our community.

Since its founding, the Society has been a place where families faced with the many challenges of starting a new life in a new country could turn for support, comfort, and friendship. Over the years, the Society's purpose has become even more community oriented, helping any worthwhile cause or individual regardless of ethnic background. It has donated tens of thousands of dollars to numerous charities and organizations in New Haven and across the State. St. Michael's Church in New Haven, the Salvation Army, Columbus House, Connecticut Hospice, and Iwo Jima Survivors are just a few of those organizations who have benefitted from their generosity. The Society provides scholarships to inner city youths—as well as assistance to the church in Italy.

People across the country struggle to create a sense of community—a sense of belonging. Over the course of its 125 years, the Society of Maria Maddalena has helped the families of Wooster Square do just that. The bonds of community that the Society has helped to shape will continue to impact generations to come. The Society over the years, have aided multiple generations—and have become more integrated and more mobile in our community. I applaud the Society's role in the Italian American community, particularly those from Atrani, for pursuing a simple mission to make sure that this new generation is aware of their past as well as their responsibility to the future.

For their many invaluable contributions as well as their continued support and friendship, I am proud to stand today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the members, past and present, of the Society of Maria Maddalena. As we say in Italian—C'ent Anni!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the chamber on July 20, 2023 due to official travel with President Biden to the Philadelphia Shipyard. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted:

"Yes" on Roll Call No. 361, on the question of agreeing to the Amendments En Bloc No. 4 offered by Mr. GRAVES (OH);

"No" on Roll Call No. 362, on the question of agreeing to amendment No. 76 offered by Mr. PERRY; "No" on Roll Call No. 363, on the question of agreeing to amendment No. 77 offered by Mr. PERRY; and

"Yes" on Roll Call No. 364, on the question of passage of H.R. 3935, the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act. This bipartisan bill will improve safety, travel experience, and consumer protections for passengers and contribute to our economic recovery by addressing workforce shortages in the aviation sector.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, of which I am a member, was meeting for official committee business when the vote series on 7/20/23 began. Chairman JIM JORDAN kept the committee in order despite votes being called. The committee eventually recessed but the vote was held open long enough for me to cast my vote on the first 2 votes of the series, through no fault of my own.

For Roll Call No. 361, I would have voted NO, and for Roll Call No. 362 I would have voted NO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GABE VASQUEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote No. 323 on H.R. 2670, I mistakenly recorded my vote as No when I should have voted Yea.

RECOGNIZING MASTER GUNNERY
SERGEANT SCOTT STALKER FOR
HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Master Gunnery Sergeant Scott Howard Stalker of the United States Marine Corps for his extraordinary dedication to duty and service to our Nation. After 31 years of service to the United States Marine Corps, Master Gunnery Sergeant Scott Stalker is retiring from active service culminating as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader of United States Space Command.

A native of Lebanon, New Hampshire, Master Gunnery Sergeant Stalker earned the title "Marine" on January 20, 1993. As a Command Senior Enlisted Leader, in addition to his current assignment, he has serviced for the Defense Intelligence Agency, United States Cyber Command, the National Security Agency, and as the Intelligence Chief for Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command.

He has completed a total of 5 combat deployments to Somalia (1) and Iraq (4), and several deployments to Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos as an assistant team leader for the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

Master Gunnery Sergeant Stalker earned his B.A. in Intelligence Studies from American Military University, and his M.S. in Cybersecurity from American Public University. He also attended certificate programs at Harvard Kennedy School of Government and John Hopkins University.

Mr. Speaker, Master Gunnery Sergeant Scott Stalker has dedicated his life to the service of our Nation and to the United States Marine Corps. On behalf of a grateful Nation, it is my honor to recognize the selfless sacrifice of "Team Stalker," his wife Malerie, and their children, Olivia, Grace, and Scarlett. I wish them the very best in this next chapter.

MOUNT SALEM AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCH CELEBRATES 151 YEARS

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mount Salem American Baptist Church on its remarkable 151st anniversary this year. This amazing milestone is a true testament to God's grace toward his people, as well as the unwavering faith, fellowship, and dedication of the congregation and its leaders throughout the years.

Founded in 1872, the church began in Indianola as the Mount Salem American Baptist Free Mission Church. Soon after its founding, the church was sadly hit by 2 major hurricanes in 1875 and 1886, destroying the church's building. Yet with faith in God's providence, the congregation endured and continued the ministry. Led by Reverend Robert Greer, 20 church members moved to Victoria, bringing with them the pulpit, bell, and some of the salvaged lumber from the original church building to start anew—where the congregation reestablished and pressed forward in the mission. With that perseverance came God's guidance and blessing. The church continued to grow over the years and was eventually renamed as Mount Salem American Baptist Church in 1939. In 1962, the church moved to another new building, where they still prominently display the original bell and pulpit used by the founding members.

To this day, Mount Salem American Baptist Church has touched countless lives in the Victoria community through its selfless acts of service. Through outreach programs, compassionate ministries, and social initiatives, the church has been a steadfast advocate for the greater community, serving their neighbors for over a century.

But more than any building, program, or person, Mount Salem's anniversary milestone is a testament to God's enduring faithfulness toward his people. Through both triumph and trial, it is clear that the Lord has provided the path and made clear His purpose.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Mount Salem American Baptist Church on this incredible day. May God continue to bless and keep them in the days and years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I inadvertently missed the second vote in the first vote series on July

18, 2023 due to a constituent meeting. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call No. 332.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOSEPH SHERIDAN

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my warmest congratulations on the occasion of Mr. Joseph "Joe" Sheridan's retirement from Wakefern Food Corporation based in Keasbey, New Jersey.

Joe's impressive 47-year career with Wakefern has been nothing short of remarkable, and his dedication to the company's success has been truly exemplary. Throughout his tenure as President, he has displayed exceptional leadership, vision, and a commitment to excellence.

Under his guidance, Wakefern Food Corporation has thrived, becoming a pillar in the food retail industry and a source of pride for the community.

His contributions to Wakefern and the broader business community have not gone unnoticed. He has left an indelible mark on the industry, inspiring countless individuals with his passion and determination. His commitment to fostering a positive work environment and promoting the well-being of Wakefern employees is truly commendable.

I have had the privilege of witnessing firsthand the positive impact Wakefern has had on New Jersey, and I can attribute much of that success to Joe's steadfast leadership. His dedication to the company's values and principles has set a high standard for the industry to follow.

As Joe transitions into retirement, I do not doubt that his legacy will endure, and his guidance will continue to be an inspiration to those who have had the honor of working alongside him. His exceptional leadership and integrity have earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues, business partners, and the community at large.

On behalf of the constituents of New Jersey's 7th Congressional District, please accept my sincerest congratulations once again. May his retirement be filled with joy, good health, and the opportunity to enjoy special times with your loved ones.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Marine Corps League. The Congressionally Chartered Veteran Service Organization over the past century has been critical in the care and welfare of our military, its Veterans, and their families.

The Marine Corps League was established in 1923 by World War I hero, then Com-

mandant of the Marine Corps Maj. Gen. John A. Lejeune. On August 4, 1937, it was Congressionally Chartered by the 75th Congress of the United States and signed and approved by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Marine Corps League provides millions of hours annually in service to the community, represents thousands of Veterans in cases with the Department of Veterans Affairs, performs tens of thousands of funeral honors annually for our passing Veterans, and provides millions of toys to the youth of America through the Toys for Tots Foundation and Marine Corps Reserves. This volunteer work directly and positively impacts force readiness for the Marine Corps Reserves allowing additional focus on training and preparation.

As a retired Lt. General and the former Commander of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and Marine Forces North, I deeply understand the importance of strong and battle-ready reserve units and will continue to support their mission here in Congress. The work of the Marine Corps League and the impact of their advocacy on behalf of our servicemembers, Veterans, and their families cannot be overstated.

It is an honor to recognize the Marine Corps League for 100 years of service to our country. I look forward to assisting in fulfilling their mission to support our Servicemen and women. Please join me in congratulating the Marine Corps League for this historic achievement.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YOUGHIOGHENY RIVER LAKE

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Youghiogheny River Lake on its 75th anniversary. Located in Pennsylvania's Fayette and Somerset Counties, the lake provides flood protection for the upper Ohio River and the Youghiogheny and lower Monongahela River Valleys.

The flood control reservoir was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938. Since its completion in 1943, the dam is estimated to have saved more than \$569 million by preventing upstream flood damage.

The benefits of the Youghiogheny River Lake don't stop there. Alongside its support staff, the lake also alleviates pollution, improves water quality, and enhances the navigability of nearby rivers. A hydroelectric plant along the dam generates enough power for approximately 8,000 homes per year.

Visitors can camp, fish, swim, picnic, and boat on the Youghiogheny River Lake. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission regularly stocks the lake with trout and operates a boat launch along the shoreline. The Youghiogheny Outflow Campground offers a nearby camping experience that allows even more visitors to enjoy the lake's beautiful scenery and recreational opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate the Youghiogheny River Lake on its 75th anniversary. I thank the staff, volunteers, and community members who support

the lake's success, and I look forward to seeing their continued dedication to the community over the next 75 years.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER JAMES HUTCHINS' CAREER OF SERVICE

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement and commend the service of Officer James Hutchins, who has honorably served with the Los Angeles Police Department for 35 years. For nearly his entire life, Officer Hutchins has consistently and bravely put his life on the line in service of our Nation and in defense of our communities, and is now taking his well-deserved retirement to spend time with his loving family.

Officer Hutchins first began his career of service by enlisting in the United States Army in 1984. Serving for 4 years, he received an honorable discharge as an Airborne Ranger. It was at this time, in 1988 that he graduated from the LAPD Training Academy and joined the force, accruing time and experience in the Van Nuys, Pacific, and Venice Beach divisions.

By 1995, Officer Hutchins became a Los Angeles motorcycle officer assigned to the Central Traffic Division, and quickly set himself apart for his dedication and professionalism. Upon returning to the Valley Traffic Division later that year, Officer Hutchins became a mentor to his fellow motorcycle officers, a legacy carried until his retirement as "Most Senior Motor Cop in the City". He additionally earned a Police Star in 2005 for bravely evacuating Los Angeles residents during a catastrophic fire. This commendation was just one of over 200 accolades accrued over the course of his 35 years of service, marking his end of watch in June 2023.

I cannot commend Officer Hutchins enough for his service to California's 27th Congressional District and the City of Los Angeles. We thank him for his tireless work to keep our community safe, and wish him the best in his retirement and the opportunity to spend more time with friends and loved ones, as is certainly deserved after such a long and successful career.

HONORING THE VASILOFF FAMILY FOR THEIR DEVOTION TO VETERANS

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a Livingston County, Michigan, family that has quietly, and without fanfare, devoted themselves over the past decade to the service of their community, their Nation, and veterans in need.

Kathy and Steve Vasiloff of Green Oak Township have long enjoyed throwing parties in their lakeside home, making their backyard a popular gathering place for friends, family,

and neighbors. But when their son David joined the United States Marine Corps in 2007, those parties took on a different tone: sending him off and welcoming him home from training, and then from multiple deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hit twice by improvised explosive devices during his tours of duty, David came home in 2011 a changed man, and as a result, his family changed direction as well. Seeking to honor their son's service, and the stories he told of his brothers and sisters in arms, many of whom did not come home, the Vasiloff family decided to combine their love of throwing parties with a purpose. Ten years ago they opened up their home for a summer soiree, this time asking for donations for wounded veterans, and raised an impressive \$3,000 in one evening. The next summer, the party grew, and so did the funds raised. And so a tradition was born, one that has blossomed into an annual extravaganza featuring live music, raffles, gift baskets, hundreds of attendees, and tens of thousands of dollars in donations for the Fallen and Wounded Soldiers Fund, a Michigan non-profit supporting injured servicemen and the families of heroes in our state. In fact, over the decade the Vasiloff family has been holding these fundraisers, they've become the largest private donors to the organization, with total donations closing in on \$200,000.

Planning and holding a fundraiser of this magnitude is a huge team effort, and a major undertaking for the Vasiloffs. As such, the Vasiloff family has decided that 2023 will be their final event. But it certainly won't be the end of their service. David, the proud Marine who helped inspire the fundraisers, continues to inspire, serve, and protect his hometown community of Green Oak Township, where he is now a police officer. And Kathy and Steve will never stop supporting the brave men and women like their son who come home with visible and invisible scars of war, as well as the service families whose lives are forever shattered by loss.

Service to one's country takes many forms, and that includes contributing to our collective goal of moving toward a more perfect union. Mr. Speaker, the Vasiloff family has never sought praise or publicity for their efforts, instead directing all attention to the cause so close to their hearts. But as they prepare for their tenth and final summer event, I thank them for their faithful service.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MORSE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Morse Manufacturing Company, Inc. as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year.

Morse Manufacturing was incorporated on August 15, 1923. It was first located at 402 S. Franklin Street in the City of Syracuse, New York, and then quickly relocated to Dickerson Street. Ralph Andrews joined Morse Manufacturing in 1943, developed a product to safely handle drums, and purchased the company

from the founder in 1948. In 1953 the company was moved to East Syracuse.

Robert Andrews, son of Ralph Andrews, joined Morse Manufacturing in 1969. Robert continued to grow and enhance a product offering to safely handle drums that was initiated by his father, and also expanded the building several times at the East Syracuse location.

Nathan Andrews, grandson of Ralph Andrews, joined Morse Manufacturing in 2002 and continued the family tradition of commitment and dedication through developing new international distribution and modernizing the operations at a new facility in the Town of Salina in 2019.

Today, Morse Manufacturing offers the most extensive line of high-quality drum handling equipment anywhere in the world and markets its products through an elite worldwide dealer network. The longstanding success of Morse Manufacturing is largely because of the quality of its employees. It has provided hundreds of employees and their families with careers and job security over its history. Morse Manufacturing and its employees have continued to give back to the Central New York Community through volunteer work and contributions.

Morse Manufacturing takes pride in sourcing as much as possible from local suppliers with long established relationships. This makes Morse Manufacturing a net revenue generator for the Central New York Economy, bringing revenues from products sold around the country and world to spend locally through wages, taxes, and local suppliers.

On behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Morse Manufacturing on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary. I wish them continued success for many years to come.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BILL ROCKWOOD, JR. TO FLORIDA'S NINTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND THE OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE DARREN SOTO

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize Bill Rockwood, Jr. for his contributions to Florida's Ninth Congressional District as the office's Deputy Legislative Director. During his time in the office, Bill also served as the Executive Director of the Future Forum.

As part of Team Soto, Bill originated and drafted a variety of bills, amendments, and appropriations requests with a particular focus on issues related to technology, finance, and the environment. Bill worked on seven bills that passed the House of Representatives, including three that were signed into law; he worked on 25 amendments that passed the House of Representatives, including 13 that were signed into law; and worked on over 200 report language requests and programmatic funding requests that were included in the final FY18–FY23 appropriation packages.

Bill is a graduate of Rollins College with an undergraduate degree in philosophy, the Crummer School of Business Administration with a Masters of Business Administration, and the Georgetown University Law Center

with a Juris Doctorate and a Masters of Laws (LL.M.) in Securities and Financial Regulation. Bill also played four-years of collegiate tennis and was a professional tennis instructor prior to attending law school.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS SUPPORTING THE STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution expressing the sense of Congress Supporting the State of Israel.

As the only vibrant, progressive, and inclusive democracy in the Middle East, Israel is a beacon of hope—a country where pluralism flourishes. Efforts to delegitimize the Jewish State and claims that the country has abandoned the democratic principles on which it was founded are unfair and false. In Israel,

Arab parties serve in the Knesset, women serve at the highest levels of the military, and the country remains an oasis for LGBTQ+ people in a region hostile toward the community.

The U.S.-Israel alliance is strong for a reason. Our nations were founded on these shared values, and those ideals keep our partnership ironclad to this day.

Israeli security is critical to America's national security. Our bilateral defense and intelligence cooperation makes our two countries safer and plays a key role in the global fight against terror, I am proud to champion this relationship in Congress. We have no better partner in the region than the State of Israel and I will remain committed to ensuring that Israel has the resources it needs to defend itself.

I have traveled to Israel twice this year alone, alongside Democrats and Republicans, and have many times visited the country to meet with senior level officials and civil society leaders. Each time I am reminded of the resolve and passion of the Israeli people. I am also reminded of the importance of the Jewish State.

The United States was the first country to recognize Israel's independence 75 years ago, just eleven minutes after its founding. It has since become the "Start Up Nation", a leader in high-tech, sustainability, and innovation. The United States has stood with Israel every step of the way.

Over the last 75 years, bipartisan support for the U.S.-Israel relationship has proven vital to protecting our national security, fighting terror, and intelligence collaboration.

I look forward to celebrating Israel's next 75 years, and furthering the vital U.S.-Israel relationship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, 2023, I was unavoidably detained addressing important matters to my district. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on H.R. 1338, and yea on H.R. 4470.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3503–S3560

Measures Introduced: Forty bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1, 2458–2496, S. Res. 307–310, and S. Con. Res. 17.

Pages S3521–22

Measures Reported:

S. 931, to improve the visibility, accountability, and oversight of agency software asset management practices, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–73)

S. 1858, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to establish a deadline for applying for disaster unemployment assistance. (S. Rept. No. 118–74)

S. 1260, to release the reversionary interest of the United States in certain non-Federal land in Salt Lake City, Utah, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 118–75)

S. 1466, to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor. (S. Rept. No. 118–76)

S. 1540, to amend the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to provide for circumstances under which reinitiation of consultation is not required under a land and resource management plan or land use plan under those Acts, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 118–77)

S. Res. 20, condemning the coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained, promoting accountability and justice for those killed by the Burmese military, and calling for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 75, reaffirming the state of Arunachal Pradesh as Indian territory and condemning the People's Republic of China's provocations in South Asia,

with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and with an amended preamble.

S. 38, to amend the Small Business Act to codify the Boots to Business Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 416, to designate the Russian-based mercenary Wagner Group as a foreign terrorist organization, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 490, to require the President to remove the extension of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices if Hong Kong no longer enjoys a high degree of autonomy from the People's Republic of China, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 673, to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration.

S. 822, to terminate the Department of Defense memorandum relating to access to abortions, to prohibit the use of travel and transportation allowances, medical convalescent leave, and administrative absences to travel to obtain abortions, with an amendment.

S. 847, to establish the International Children with Disabilities Protection Program within the Department of State, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 936, to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women's business centers, with an amendment.

S. 943, to increase the minimum disaster loan amount for which the Small Business Administration may require collateral, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1156, to establish an Office of Native American Affairs within the Small Business Administration, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1203, to amend the Peace Corps Act by reauthorizing the Peace Corps, providing better support for current, returning, and former volunteers.

S. 1345, to amend the Small Business Act to enhance the Office of Credit Risk Management, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules relating to environmental

obligations of certified development companies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1352, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to improve the loan guaranty program, enhance the ability of small manufacturers to access affordable capital, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1396, to improve commercialization activities in the SBIR and STTR programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1457, to authorize negotiation and conclusion and to provide for congressional consideration of a tax agreement between the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2006, to foster Tunisia's democratic institutions, to limit funds until Tunisia restores checks and balances, and to authorize the creation of a fund to support democratic reforms, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2099, to establish an Office of Community Financial Institutions within the Small Business Administration that will strengthen the ability of Community Financial Institutions to support the development of small business concerns in underserved communities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2212, to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish an SBIC Advisory Committee, with amendments.

S. 2482, to amend the Small Business Act to authorize the Community Advantage Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. Con. Res. 2, commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses, and with an amended preamble. **Pages S3520–21**

Measures Passed:

Expressing Support for the State of Israel: Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 57, expressing the sense of Congress supporting the State of Israel, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3557**

Department of Defense State Partnership Program: Senate agreed to S. Res. 308, recognizing the historic significance of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Department of Defense State Partnership Program. **Page S3557**

National Blueberry Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 309, recognizing the importance of the blue-

berry industry to the United States and designating July 2023 as "National Blueberry Month". **Page S3557**

Measures Considered:

National Defense Authorization Act—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of 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, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3503–17**

Adopted:

By 91 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. 196), Cornyn Amendment No. 931 (to Amendment No. 935), to provide for an investment screening mechanism relating to covered sectors. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, July 20, 2023, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.) **Pages S3510–12**

By 91 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. 197), Rounds Amendment No. 813 (to Amendment No. 935), to amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to include the Secretary of Agriculture on the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States and require review of certain agricultural transactions. (Pursuant to the order of Thursday, July 20, 2023, the amendment having achieved 60 affirmative votes, was agreed to.) **Pages S3512–13**

Pending:

Schumer (for Reed/Wicker) Amendment No. 935, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3503**

Schumer Amendment No. 936 (to Amendment No. 935), to add an effective date. **Page S3503**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 26, 2023; and that at 12:15 p.m., Senate vote on or in relation to Warnock Amendment No. 199, under the previous order of Thursday, July 20, 2023. **Page S3558**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Jon M. Holladay, of Virginia, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Agriculture.

Derek H. Chollet, of Nebraska, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

J. Todd Inman, of Kentucky, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Rion J. Ramirez, of Washington, to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation for a term expiring May 26, 2025.

Elliott Abrams, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2024.

Elliott Abrams, of Virginia, to be a Member of the United States Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy for a term expiring July 1, 2027.

Stephan A. Lang, of Virginia, to be U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, with the rank of Ambassador.

Joann M. Lockard, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Burkina Faso.

Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

14 Army nominations in the rank of general.

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Foreign Service. **Pages S3558–60**

Messages from the House: **Page S3520**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3522–25**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S3525–28

Additional Statements: **Pages S3519–20**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3528–57**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3557**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S3557**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—197) **Pages S3512–13**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 11:10 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 26, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3558.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law concluded an oversight hearing to examine artificial intelligence, focusing on principles for regulation, after receiving testimony from Stuart Russell, University of California, Berkeley; Yoshua Bengio, Mila—Quebec AI Institute, Quebec, Canada; and Dario Amodei, Anthropic, San Francisco, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 54 public bills, H.R. 4841–4894; and 4 resolutions, H. Res. 610–613, were introduced. **Pages H3948–50**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3952–54**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 682, to facilitate access to electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–156); and

H.R. 1338, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authority for certain licenses, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–157). **Page H3948**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Collins to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H3899**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H3905**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:54 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H3905**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:20 p.m. and reconvened at 4:02 p.m. **Page H3907**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Haiti Criminal Collusion Transparency Act of 2023: H.R. 1684, amended, to require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to Congress regarding the ties between criminal gangs and political and economic elites in Haiti and impose sanctions on political and economic elites involved in such criminal activities; **Pages H3907–10**

Stop Chinese Fentanyl Act of 2023: H.R. 3203, amended, to impose sanctions with respect to Chinese producers of synthetic opioids and opioid precursors, to hold Chinese officials accountable for the spread of illicit fentanyl; **Pages H3910–13**

Taiwan International Solidarity Act: H.R. 1176, to amend the Taiwan Allies International Protection and Enhancement Initiative (TAIPEI) Act of 2019 to provide that the United States, as a member of any international organizations, should oppose any

attempts by the People's Republic of China to resolve Taiwan's status by distorting the decisions, language, policies, or procedures of the organization;

Pages H3913–15

NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act: H.R. 1345, to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity

Pages H3918–19

Launch Communications Act: H.R. 682, amended, to facilitate access to electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries;

Pages H3928–29

Securing the U.S. Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Act: H.R. 2544, to improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network;

Pages H3929–30

Securing Semiconductor Supply Chains Act of 2023: H.R. 752, amended, to require SelectUSA to coordinate with State-level economic development organizations to increase foreign direct investment in semiconductor-related manufacturing and production; and

Pages H3930–32

Protecting and Securing Chemical Facilities from Terrorist Attacks Act of 2023: H.R. 4470, amended, to extend the authorization of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of the Department of Homeland Security, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 366.

Pages H3932–34, H3936

Suspensions: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Satellite And Telecommunications Streamlining Act: H.R. 1338, amended, to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide authority for certain licenses, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 250 yeas to 163 nays with one answering "present", Roll No. 365.

Pages H3919–28, H3934

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

U.S. Supply Chain Security Review Act of 2023: H.R. 3395, amended, to direct the Chairman of the Federal Maritime Commission to seek to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to evaluate foreign ownership of marine terminals at the 15 largest United States container ports;

Pages H3915–16

Soo Locks Security and Economic Reporting Act of 2023: H.R. 3399, to study the security of the Soo Locks and effects on the supply chain resulting from a malfunction or failure of the Soo Locks;

Pages H3916–18

Unmanned Aerial Security Act: H.R. 1501, amended, to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from operating or procuring certain foreign-made unmanned aircraft systems; and

Pages H3936–38

First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act: H.R. 3254, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards.

Pages H3938–39

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yeas-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H3934 and H3936.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO "ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS; LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN; THREATENED STATUS WITH SECTION 4(D) RULE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT AND ENDANGERED STATUS FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT"; PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF THE RULE RELATING TO "ENDANGERED AND THREATENED WILDLIFE AND PLANTS; ENDANGERED SPECIES STATUS FOR NORTHERN LONG-EARED BAT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4366, the "Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024"; S.J. Res. 9, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status with Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment"; and S.J. Res. 24, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat". The

Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4366, the “Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”, S.J. Res. 9, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status With Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment”, and S.J. Res. 24, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4366, the “Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 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 Appropriations or their respective designees. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill for failure to comply with clause 2 or clause 5(a) of rule XXI. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 3 and pro forma amendments described in section 4. Each amendment 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 except as provided by section 4 of the rule, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. All points of order against the amendments printed in the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution are waived. The rule provides that the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 4 of the rule, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule provides that the chair

and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule further provides for consideration of S.J. Res. 9, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, USC, of the rule submitted by the USFWS relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Lesser Prairie-Chicken; Threatened Status with Section 4(d) Rule for the Northern Distinct Population Segment and Endangered Status for the Southern Distinct Population Segment”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to commit. The rule further provides for consideration of S.J. Res. 24, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Northern Long-Eared Bat”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the joint resolution. The rule provides that the joint resolution shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the joint resolution. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their respective designees. Finally, the rule provides one motion to commit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Westerman, and Representatives Carter of Texas, Cuellar, Grijalva, Greene of Georgia, Mast, Rosendale, and Zinke.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lieutenant General Gregory M. Guillot, USAF, to be general and Commander, United States Northern Command/Commander, North American

Aerospace Defense Command, and Lieutenant General Stephen N. Whiting, USSF, to be general and Commander, United States Space Command, both of the Department of Defense, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine potential budgetary efficiencies achieved through improvement to management and planning processes within Department of Defense personnel programs, 4 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection, to hold hearings to examine taking account of fees and tactics impacting Americans' wallets, 9:30 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the fiscal consequences of climate change on infrastructure, 9:30 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine opportunities for Congress to reform the process for permitting electric transmission lines, pipelines, and energy production on Federal lands, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: business meeting to consider S. 2195, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, S. 2395, to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, S. 1381, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, S. 1278, to designate the Federal building located at 985 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the "Rosa Parks Federal Building", and GSA Resolutions; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine improving capacity for critical mineral recovery through electronic waste recycling and reuse, 9:40 a.m., SD-406.

Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cleaner trains, focusing on opportunities for reducing emissions from America's rail network, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Modernizing and Ensuring PBM Accountability (MEPA) Act", 2 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine U.S. economic security, focusing on addressing economic coercion and increasing competitiveness, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dennis B. Hankins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be an Assistant Secretary (European and Eurasian Affairs), Nathalie Rayes, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, and Tobin John Bradley, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, all of the Department of State, and other pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2251, to

improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, S. 2291, to establish the Northern Border Coordination Center, S. 2289, to direct the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office to assess foreign influence in the National Industrial Security Program and to develop a single, integrated strategy to better identify and mitigate such foreign influence, S. 2278, to establish Image Adjudicator and Supervisory Image Adjudicator positions in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations, S. 2248, 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, S. 1332, to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, S. 2219, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace, S. 2292, to improve the transparency of purchases by the Federal Government of data or information that can be used to identify an individual, S. 2286, to improve the effectiveness and performance of certain Federal financial assistance programs, S. 1524, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 2283, to prohibit the procurement of certain items containing perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) or perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and prioritize the procurement of products not containing PFAS, S. 2270, to establish and maintain a database within each agency for executive branch ethics records of noncareer appointees, S. 2293, to establish the Chief Artificial Intelligence Officers Council, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officers, and Artificial Intelligence Governance Boards, S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, S. 2032, to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, S. 1973, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, S. 2256, to authorize the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish an apprenticeship program and to establish a pilot program on cybersecurity training for veterans and members of the Armed Forces transitioning to civilian life, and S. 2260, to require transparency in notices of funding opportunity, 9 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine Native priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret M. Garnett, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Jennifer L. Hall, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware, Brandy R. McMillion, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Karoline Mehalchick, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of

Pennsylvania, and Joseph Albert Laroski, Jr., of Maryland, and Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: to hold a joint oversight hearing with the Committee on House Administration to examine the Capitol Police Board, 3:30 p.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine pathways to women's entrepreneurship, focusing on understanding opportunities and barriers, 10 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine implementing the PACT Act, 3 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH–219.

House

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled "Generational Learning Loss: How Pandemic School Closures Hurt Students", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Stopping the Exploitation of Migrant Children: Oversight of HHS' Office of Refugee Resettlement", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled "Self-Driving Vehicle Legislative Framework: Enhancing Safety, Improving Lives and Mobility, and Beating China", 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4763, the "Financial Innovation and Technology for the 21st Century Act"; H.R. 1747, the "Blockchain Regulatory Certainty Act"; H.R. 3244, the "Stop Fentanyl Money Laundering Act of 2023"; H.R. 4768, the "No Russian Agriculture Act"; H.R. 4765, the "Exposing China's Support for the Taliban Act"; and H.R. 2969, the "Financial Technology Protection Act of 2023", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4619, to authorize the sale of Virginia Class submarines to Australia in support of the trilateral security partnership between Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States, and for other purposes; H.R. 4725, to conduct oversight and accountability of the State Department's implementation of AUKUS, and for other purposes; H.R. 4716, to amend the Arms Export Control Act in support of Australia and the AUKUS partnership; H.R. 4715, to amend the Arms Export Control Act in support of the United Kingdom and the AUKUS partnership; H.R. 1776, to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally; H.R. 4517, to require the Secretary of State to submit a plan for the reimbursement of personal funds expended to evacuate American citizens, American lawful permanent residents, and Afghan allies

from Afghanistan, and for other purposes; H.R. 3152, to impose sanctions with respect to countries, individuals, and entities that engage in any effort to acquire, possess, develop, transport, transfer, or deploy Iranian missiles and related goods and technology, including materials and equipment, and for other purposes; H.R. 4741, to require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, and for other purposes; H.R. 4691, to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran; H.R. 1456, to limit the use of funds for the production of films using assets of the Department of State under certain circumstances, and for other purposes; H. Res. 578, 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; and H.R. 4825, to require the imposition of sanctions and other measures relating to the Russian oil price cap policy, and for other purposes, 10:15 a.m., HVC–210.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement; and Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence, joint hearing entitled "The Real Cost of an Open Border: How Americans are Paying the Price", 2 p.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Oversight of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1318, the "Women's Suffrage National Monument Location Act"; H.R. 1722, the "Grand Ronde Reservation Act Amendment of 2023"; H.R. 2717, the "Hershel 'Woody' Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act"; H.R. 2997, the "CONVEY Act"; H.R. 3049, the "Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration Exchange Act of 2023"; H.R. 3499, the "Direct Hire to Fight Fires"; H.R. 3675, the "Western Water Accelerated Revenue Repayment Act"; H.R. 4141, to provide that certain communications projects are not subject to requirements to prepare certain environmental or historical preservation reviews, and for other purposes; and H.R. 4377, to amend the Military Lands Withdrawal Act of 1999 with respect to extensions, additions, and revisions to the Barry M. Goldwater Range in Arizona, 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, hearing entitled "Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena: Implications on National Security, Public Safety, and Government Transparency", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation, hearing entitled "Getting Nowhere: DoD's Failure to Replace the Defense Travel System", 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 4368, the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024", 2 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled "Unearthing Innovation: The

Future of Subsurface Science and Technology in the United States”, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Rural Entrepreneurship: Examining the Challenges and State of Rural Small Businesses”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3848, the “HOME Act”; H.R. 3943, the “Servicemember Employment Protection Act of 2023”; H.R. 3874, the “Veterans Education Assistance Improvement Act”; H.R. 3933, the “TAP Promotion Act”; H.R. 4278, the “Restore Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability Act”; H.R. 4461, the “Modernizing Department of Veteran Affairs Disability Benefit Questionnaires Act”; H.R. 3581, the “COPE Act”; H.R. 1767, to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that educational assistance paid under Department of Veterans Affairs educational assistance programs to an individual who pursued a program or course of education that was suspended or terminated for certain reasons shall not be charged against the entitlement of the individual, and for other purposes; H.R. 3981, the “Veterans Education Oversight Expansion Act”; H.R. 542, the “Elizabeth Dole Home Care Act of 2023”; and H.R. 984, the “Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act”, 10 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4822, the “Health Care Price Transparency Act of 2023”; and H.R. 3284, the “Providers and Payers COMPETE Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Commanding Heights: Ensuring U.S. Leadership in the Critical and Emerging Technologies of the 21st Century”, 7 p.m., 390 Cannon.

Joint Meeting

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: to hold hearings to examine rescuing Ukrainian children and women from Russia’s aggression, 10 a.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold a joint oversight hearing with the Committee on House Administration to examine the Capitol Police Board, 3:30 p.m., SD–G50.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of July 26 through July 28, 2023

Senate Chamber

On *Wednesday*, Senate will continue consideration of S. 2226, National Defense Authorization Act.

At 12:15 p.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to Warnock Amendment No. 199, with 60-affirmative votes required for adoption.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Appropriations: July 27, business meeting to markup and original bill entitled, “Defense Appropriations Act”, an original bill entitled “Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act”, an original bill entitled, “Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act”, and an original bill entitled, “Homeland Security Appropriations Act”, 10:30 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Armed Services: July 26, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lieutenant General Gregory M. Guillot, USAF, to be general and Commander, United States Northern Command/Commander, North American Aerospace Defense Command, and Lieutenant General Stephen N. Whiting, USSF, to be general and Commander, United States Space Command, both of the Department of Defense, 9 a.m., SH–216.

July 26, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine potential budgetary efficiencies achieved through improvement to management and planning processes within Department of Defense personnel programs, 4 p.m., SD–106.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: July 26, Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection, to hold hearings to examine taking account of fees and tactics impacting Americans’ wallets, 9:30 a.m., SD–538.

Committee on the Budget: July 26, to hold hearings to examine the fiscal consequences of climate change on infrastructure, 9:30 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: July 27, business meeting to consider S. 447, to establish a demonstration program for the active remediation of orbital debris and to require the development of uniform orbital debris standard practices in order to support a safe and sustainable orbital environment, S. 484, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People’s Republic of China, S. 1153, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, S. 1303, to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, S. 1409, to protect the safety of children on the internet, S. 1418, to amend the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens, S. 1421, to require origin and location disclosure for new products of foreign origin offered for sale on the internet, S. 1648, to facilitate access to the electromagnetic spectrum for commercial space launches and commercial space reentries, S. 1669, to require the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring access to AM broadcast stations in motor vehicles, S. 2086, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, S. 2116, to require the Secretary of Commerce to produce a report that

provides recommendations to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of Department of Commerce programs related to supply chain resilience and manufacturing and industrial innovation, and S. 2201, to increase knowledge and awareness of best practices to reduce cybersecurity risks in the United States, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: July 26, to hold hearings to examine opportunities for Congress to reform the process for permitting electric transmission lines, pipelines, and energy production on Federal lands, 9:30 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: July 26, business meeting to consider S. 2195, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize the diesel emissions reduction program, S. 2395, to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, S. 1381, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, S. 1278, to designate the Federal building located at 985 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, as the “Rosa Parks Federal Building”, and GSA Resolutions; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine improving capacity for critical mineral recovery through electronic waste recycling and reuse, 9:40 a.m., SD–406.

July 26, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Climate, and Nuclear Safety, to hold hearings to examine cleaner trains, focusing on opportunities for reducing emissions from America’s rail network, 2:30 p.m., SD–406.

July 27, Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight, to hold hearings to examine solutions for single-use waste, focusing on expanding refill and reuse infrastructure, 9:45 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: July 26, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, “Modernizing and Ensuring PBM Accountability (MEPA) Act”, 2 p.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: July 26, to hold hearings to examine U.S. economic security, focusing on addressing economic coercion and increasing competitiveness, 10 a.m., SD–419.

July 26, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Dennis B. Hankins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, James C. O’Brien, of Nebraska, to be an Assistant Secretary (European and Eurasian Affairs), Nathalie Rayes, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, and Tobin John Bradley, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, all of the Department of State, and other pending calendar business, 2:30 p.m., SD–419.

July 27, Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women’s Issues, to hold hearings to examine Haiti, focusing on next steps on the international response, 10 a.m., SD–419.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: July 27, business meeting to consider S. 2122, to amend the

Act of August 16, 1937 (commonly referred to as the “National Apprenticeship Act”), to expand the national apprenticeship system to include apprenticeships, youth apprenticeships, and pre-apprenticeships registered under such Act and to promote the furtherance of labor standards necessary to safeguard the welfare of apprentices, S. 2363, to promote and expand high-quality youth apprenticeship programs and provide support and incentives to help employees establish such programs, S. 161, to extend the Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs, S. 2402, to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to establish a career pathways grant program, an original bill entitled, “Investing in Sectoral Training Partnerships Act”, and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: July 26, business meeting to continue consideration of S. 2251, to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, S. 2291, to establish the Northern Border Coordination Center, S. 2289, to direct the Director of the Information Security Oversight Office to assess foreign influence in the National Industrial Security Program and to develop a single, integrated strategy to better identify and mitigate such foreign influence, S. 2278, to establish Image Adjudicator and Supervisory Image Adjudicator positions in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations, S. 2248, 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, S. 1332, to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, S. 2219, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace, S. 2292, to improve the transparency of purchases by the Federal Government of data or information that can be used to identify an individual, S. 2286, to improve the effectiveness and performance of certain Federal financial assistance programs, S. 1524, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 2283, to prohibit the procurement of certain items containing perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS) or perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and prioritize the procurement of products not containing PFAS, S. 2270, to establish and maintain a database within each agency for executive branch ethics records of noncareer appointees, S. 2293, to establish the Chief Artificial Intelligence Officers Council, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officers, and Artificial Intelligence Governance Boards, S. 2073, to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, S. 2032, to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, S. 1973, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, S. 2256,

to authorize the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to establish an apprenticeship program and to establish a pilot program on cybersecurity training for veterans and members of the Armed Forces transitioning to civilian life, and S. 2260, to require transparency in notices of funding opportunity, 9 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on Indian Affairs: July 26, to hold hearings to examine Native priorities for the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: July 26, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Margaret M. Garnett, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Jennifer L. Hall, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the District of Delaware, Brandy R. McMillion, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Karoline Mehalchick, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and Joseph Albert Laroski, Jr., of Maryland, and Lisa W. Wang, of the District of Columbia, both to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, 10 a.m., SD-226.

July 26, Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Rules and Administration: July 26, to hold a joint oversight hearing with the Committee on House Administration to examine the Capitol Police Board, 3:30 p.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: July 26, to hold hearings to examine pathways to women's entrepreneurship, focusing on understanding opportunities and barriers, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: July 26, to hold hearings to examine implementing the PACT Act, 3 p.m., SR-418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: July 26, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, July 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4763, the "Financial Innovation and Technology for the 21st Century Act", 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Education and Workforce, July 27, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled "Lowering Costs and Increasing Value for Students, Institutions, and Taxpayers", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, July 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3385, the "Diaspora Link Act"; H.R. 3369, the "AI Accountability Act"; H.R. 4510, the "NTIA Reauthorization Act of 2023"; 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", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, July 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4766, the "Clarity for Payment

Stablecoins Act of 2023"; legislation on the Keep Your Coins Act of 2023; H.R. 4790, the "Guiding Uniform and Responsible Disclosure Requirements and Information Limits Act of 2023"; H.R. 4767, the "Protecting Americans' Retirement Savings from Politics Act"; H.R. 4823, the "American Financial Institution Regulator Sovereignty and Transparency Act"; H.R. 4655, the "Businesses Over Activists Act"; H.J. Res. 66, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau relating to "Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)", 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, July 27, Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability, hearing entitled "A Failure to Plan: Examining the Biden Administration's Preparation for the Afghanistan Withdrawal", 10 a.m., HVC-210.

July 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Illicit IT: Bankrolling Kim Jong Un", 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

July 27, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, hearing entitled "Colombia's Descent to Socialism: Assessing Gustavo Petro's Presidency", 2:30 p.m., HVC-210.

Committee on the Judiciary, July 27, Subcommittee on Crime and Federal Government Surveillance, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Drug Enforcement Administration", 10 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

July 27, Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government, hearing entitled "The Dangers and Due Process Violations of 'Gender-Affirming Care' for Children", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

July 27, Full Committee, markup on a Report Recommending that the House of Representatives Cite Mark Zuckerberg for Contempt of Congress", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, July 27, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled "Safeguarding American Jobs and Economic Growth: Examining the Future of the Offshore Leasing Program", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

July 27, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 1437, the "Black Vulture Relief Act of 2023"; H.R. 1792, the "South Pacific Tuna Treaty Act of 2023"; H.R. 2950, the "Coastal Habitat Conservation Act of 2023"; H.R. 2982, the "New York-New Jersey Watershed Protection Act"; H.R. 4051, the "SHARKED Act"; H.R. 4094, the "Great Salt Lake Stewardship Act"; H.R. 4587, the "Red Snapper Act"; and H.R. 4596, the "Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins Endangered Fish Recovery Programs Reauthorization Act of 2023", 10:15 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

July 27, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Examining Barriers to Access: Ongoing Visitor Experience Issues at America's National Parks", 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

July 27, Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing on legislation on the Restoring Accountability in the Indian Health Service Act of 2023, 2:15 p.m., 1334 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, July 27, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Oversight and Reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

July 27, Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services, hearing entitled “Hemp in the Modern World: The Yearslong Wait for FDA Action”, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

July 27, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic, hearing entitled “Because I Said So: Examining the Science and Impact of COVID-19 Vaccine Mandates”, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, July 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 4755, the “Privacy Enhancing Technology Research Act”; H.R. 4824, the “Carbon Sequestration Collaboration Act”; legislation on the Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act; H.R. 1069, the “Clean Energy Demonstration Transparency Act of 2023”; H.R. 3915, the “Aviation Weather Improvement Act”; and legislation on the Fire Weather Development Act of 2023, 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, July 27, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 1547, the “One Seat Ride Act”; H.R. 4693, the “Tennessee Valley Authority Salary Transparency Act”; H.R. 4762, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend the non-premium war risk insurance program; H. Res. 609, the “Expressing opposition to Central Business District Tolling Program of New York City”; H.R. 1752, the “Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility Act”; H.R. 532, to designate the Federal building and United States

courthouse located at 600 East First Street in Rome, Georgia, as the “Harold L. Murphy Federal Building and United States Courthouse”; H.R. 4688, to direct the Administrator of General Service to sell the property known as the Webster School; and General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

July 27, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, hearing entitled “Review of the Recapitalization of the United States Coast Guard Surface, Air, IT, and Shoreside Assets”, 2 a.m., 2253 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, July 27, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled “VA Disability Exams: Are Veterans Receiving Quality Services?”, 10 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, July 27, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled “The Employee Retention Tax Credit Experience: Confusion, Delays, and Fraud”, 2 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Joint Meeting

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: July 26, to hold hearings to examine rescuing Ukrainian children and women from Russia’s aggression, 10 a.m., 2200, Rayburn Building.

Joint Hearing: July 26, Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, to hold a joint oversight hearing with the Committee on House Administration to examine the Capitol Police Board, 3:30 p.m., SD-G50.

Joint Economic Committee: July 27, to hold hearings to examine the economic impact of diabetes, 10 a.m., SD-192.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 26

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, July 26

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of S. 2226, National Defense Authorization Act.

At 12:15 p.m., Senate will vote on or in relation to Warnock Amendment No. 199, with 60-affirmative votes required for adoption.

(Senate will recess following the vote on Warnock Amendment No. 199 until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

(Senate will recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. to allow for an all-Senators briefing.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 4366—Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024.

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