



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023

No. 180

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER. 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.

SPEAKER JOHNSON IS READY TO LEAD

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at the Constitutional Convention in my home State in Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia, Benjamin Franklin called upon his fellow delegates to begin each day in prayer. He said: I know that my redeemer lives. And if a sparrow cannot fall without His notice, surely a nation cannot rise without His aid.

Since coming to Congress, Speaker MIKE JOHNSON has embodied Benjamin Franklin's words, turning to prayer and to faith in God as he serves in the U.S. Congress.

Since first being elected, Speaker JOHNSON has been a tireless champion for conservative values, fighting for life, protecting our Constitution, and standing for the rule of law.

Now, as we move forward, it is clear that Speaker JOHNSON is the right choice to lead the House of Representatives at this critical time.

In the days before he was elected as Speaker, I had the opportunity to talk

with Speaker JOHNSON about the challenges that we face in Pennsylvania. We discussed the fentanyl poisonings that have become the leading cause of death for young Americans. We discussed how energy prices are soaring and how families are worried about how they are going to be able to afford gas and food for their families. We discussed how so many Pennsylvanians are feeling the effects of President Biden's failed leadership. As we confront these issues, Speaker JOHNSON is ready to lead.

Together, let's work to defend our allies from Hamas terrorism, let's address the skyrocketing inflation that we face, and let's pass a budget that is worthy of the American people.

RETURNING TO THE ENERGY UNDER OUR FEET

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the leaves begin to fall from the trees, American families, businesses, and churches are confronted once again with the soaring prices of energy that will make it difficult to heat their homes, their businesses, and their places of worship this winter.

Instead of addressing this crisis and opening new oil and natural gas leases, which would help to address OPEC's cuts to oil production, President Biden has chosen to cut permits, create new bureaucracy, and enact policies that will only drive energy costs higher.

Simply, this is unacceptable. By working to impose Green New Deal tax incentives, the President has chosen to put his wealthy donors ahead of Pennsylvania families.

With energy prices now costing Americans over \$3,000 more each year than when Joe Biden took office, it is clear that the President's failed policies are to blame for the skyrocketing price of gas, oil, and electricity.

It is time to rein in these runaway prices by returning to the energy that is underneath the feet of the constituents in central and western Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING ELECTRIC BOAT SHIPYARD

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

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a recent event in my district, which I think is good for the local economy but also good for our Nation.

I have the privilege of representing Electric Boat shipyard, which for 120 years has been the primary general contractor for submarine construction for the U.S. Navy.

On October 6, the Metal Trades Council, which is the confederation of metal trades workers that have individual unions—the boilermakers, electricians, plumbers, and pipefitters, all the folks that bend steel and do the amazing work every day in terms of protecting our Nation—reached a 5-year labor contract with General Dynamics, which I think is a real testament in terms of showing the value that our country and Congress actually place on their work, because ultimately they have one customer, and that is the U.S. Navy, which is funded by the United States Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 13 of the Constitution which states very clearly that Congress shall provide and maintain a Navy.

This contract, which was ratified by a 2-1 margin, starting next year basically takes the starting wage for a semiskilled worker, someone who has done preapprenticeship training but is kind of entry level, from roughly \$21 an hour, and over the course of the 5-year term, that is going to grow to \$43 an hour. There is a package of health benefits and retirement that are included in this.

It couldn't happen at a better time right now, because the demand signal, in terms of submarine construction, has grown by leaps and bounds, given the challenges that are happening all

□ 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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across the world, particularly in the Indo-Pacific with China's increase in its navy.

I have a picture next to me which shows the next submarine that is in the queue. That is the USS *Iowa* SSN 797, which went through a christening recently and is going to be commissioned and deployed in the near future. There are about 13 more *Virginia*-class submarines that are in the production queue, again, to meet this demand signal.

That has actually been even more amplified with the AUKUS agreement, the new security agreement between Australia and the United Kingdom, which is going to allow us to help Australia recapitalize its own submarine fleet, which is diesel-electric today, into nuclear-powered submarines.

Australian shipyard workers and policymakers are going to be coming to my district in terms of what I think is going to be one of the smartest strategic moves our country has made in recent years, bringing in a great ally that has been with us in every conflict going back to World War I, is part of Five Eyes, and can definitely be trusted in terms of critical information like nuclear propulsion technology. This is something which we have not shared with another country since 1958 when we did it with the British Navy.

I congratulate Peter Baker, who is the head of the Metal Trades Council, who led the way in terms of negotiating this agreement, as well as Shawn Coyne from the H.R. department at Electric Boat. This is going to create an attractive signal to young people, who are being hiring by leaps and bounds. Just this year alone they have hired 4,400. In terms of coming into the yard, they are not entering just a job but actually a career with a very strong, secure economic future for themselves and their families.

That is good news not only for them and for the region, but also for our Nation because of the incredibly important work that they do every day for which we are so grateful.

PROTECTING WOMEN'S SPORTS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, a year and a half ago, Riley Gaines bravely spoke out when she was forced to compete against a biological male, Lia Thomas, at the 2022 NCAA swimming championships.

It is still an issue. Riley and Lia at the time tied for fifth place in the 200-yard freestyle after Lia had won the 500-yard freestyle the previous night.

On the podium, the NCAA handed Lia the fifth place trophy for the tie that Lia and Riley had and gave Riley the sixth place trophy, telling Riley she would receive her correct trophy in the mail later, not even deciding by a coin flip or some other tiebreaker.

I remember hearing this story and being completely appalled. I was sympathetic for Riley and for the heart-break and disrespect she and all of the other women and girls had who worked their whole lives to compete at the highest level in collegiate swimming or even in high school and lower levels.

I also remember hearing calls and rebuttals from those who sympathized with Lia Thomas and transgender kids across the country: Just let Lia compete. She deserves it. Transgender kids have the highest rates of suicide. Let them play sports and they will be happy. It is not happening often. Don't worry about it. This is just a one-time thing. This won't open the floodgates.

Unfortunately, this is not a one-time thing. This is happening often, and the floodgates have been opened at all age ranges. In the last year and a half, we have seen countless stories of opportunities being taken away from young women by biological males competing in their sports, whether it is being bumped from first place to second place or top two or males in running events where the girls are losing out on Olympic spots, endorsement deals, college scholarships, or even whether they are going to make the varsity team or not. All of these tragedies for women and girls in sports deserve outrage from all Americans.

In addition, the left has silenced young women who have stated that they feel uncomfortable sharing locker rooms with biological males. Instead, for the case of Lia Thomas' teammates, these young women have been outrageously—get this—told to get counseling.

Just a few years ago, we had the #MeToo movement in which we were told to believe all women, yet a few years later we are being told not to believe women or even see what their feelings and thoughts are but rather believe the biological male who believes he is a woman.

Speaking of believe all women, last week, up in Canada, a 50-year-old biological male was allowed to participate in a swim meet with 13- to 14-year old girls because he identified as a 13-year-old girl. You cannot make this stuff up. This 50-year-old man was able to use the girls' locker room to change with underage young women. I cannot express how angry this makes me and many sensible Americans and Canadians.

Where are the adults in the room? How can any responsible adults allow this to happen, to just blindly stand by and say: Oh, this is no big deal?

The safety, fair competition, and happiness of these young girls should be prioritized over this deranged 50-year-old man who somehow believes he has the right to violate everyone else's rights for his pathetic interest in competing against girls.

We see this other sports as well, in ring fighting and others, where a biological male can actually do very devastating damage to a woman.

What can we do about all this? In the House, we passed H.R. 734, the Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act, back in April. It passed, unfortunately, on a party-line vote. Sadly, not one Democrat could find the way to support and vote in keeping girls' sports for biological females.

I am proud of the Republican Conference for making the safety, privacy, and opportunity of women and girls in sports, and in general, a top priority.

I strongly urge my colleagues in the Senate to bring this bill up for a vote, to put your name on the line as to what you think about the sanctity of women's sports and women's and girls' place in society in general.

In addition, many State legislatures have since passed bills to protect women's sports in their State. Some of their Governors even felt the need to pass a bill titled: the Women's Bill of Rights, which defines the word "woman" because of increasing numbers of challenges as to what the words "man" and "woman" mean. Unfortunately, this is necessary because if we do not codify the definition of sex-based terms, laws that prohibit sex discrimination don't mean anything.

It is amazing that the media figure Matt Walsh has a film titled: "What is a Woman?" that many on the left cannot even answer the question, or they give such contorted answers in their nonanswer that it is just pathetic. Even a Supreme Court Justice nominee had to avoid the language. Lord, help us.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL VETERANS AND MILITARY FAMILIES MONTH

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Veterans and Military Families Month.

National Veterans and Military Families Month honors the service and sacrifices of veterans and the crucial role of their families in fostering community support and awareness of their unique challenges.

As a 24-year Army veteran, and also the daughter of a career military man, I will continue to work tirelessly to support legislation that supports our VA healthcare system, reduces the barriers to healthcare for our veterans, and provides support for our military spouses and families.

This month is an opportunity for individuals and communities to come together and show their appreciation for the service and sacrifices made by veterans and military families and to support their successful reentry into civilian life.

□ 1215

RECOGNIZING IOWA PBS FOR RECEIVING PUBLIC MEDIA AWARDS

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Iowa PBS,

which received two prestigious Public Media Awards presented by the National Educational Telecommunications Association. These accolades were given during the 55th Annual Public Media Awards ceremony in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Iowa was recognized for Military Chronicles in the Content category for the documentary “USS *Iowa*,” retelling stories from World War II. They also won the Short Form Content category for their feature “Iowa Miss Amazing,” about the Iowa Miss Amazing organization that is dedicated to empowering girls and women with disabilities.

These awards highlight the dedication and hard work of the whole Iowa PBS team, showcasing their commitment to capturing the spirit of Iowa in these remarkable productions.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate their team and thank them for sharing Iowa’s story.

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING ADAM ZEITHAMEL

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a young man, Adam Zeithamel, and the remarkable participants of the 2023 National Youth Orchestra program.

Adam completed the rigorous selection process and represented Iowa City as a cellist in the National Youth Orchestra-USA program. The National Youth Orchestra program unites the most gifted musicians from across the Nation and provides them with an opportunity to debut their talents at the renowned and historic Carnegie Hall.

Adam and his cohort underwent an intensive training during their residency in New York and were guided by an exceptional faculty of professional musicians. Following their residency, the ensemble embarked on a tour of the great music capitals of the world while serving as music ambassadors.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Adam Zeithamel on this significant achievement, and I thank him for making Iowa proud.

RECOGNIZING IOWA WOMEN’S BASKETBALL AND HEAD COACH LISA BLUDER

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a shining moment in Iowa women’s basketball history. At the charity game hosted at Iowa City’s University of Iowa football stadium, Kinnick Stadium, 55,646 passionate fans shattered the NCAA single-game record for the largest attendance in women’s basketball history—and it was outdoors.

The exhibition game between Iowa and DePaul directed all the profits toward the Iowa Children’s Hospital, showcasing sportsmanship and the spirit of giving back.

The idea for the Kinnick Stadium outdoor game was spearheaded by Head Coach Lisa Bluder.

Caitlin Clark, the reigning Naismith National Player of the Year, delivered a remarkable performance by recording a 34-point triple-double and leading Iowa to a 94–71 victory over DePaul.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Coach Bluder for her inspiring leadership behind this event, and I congratulate the entire University of Iowa women’s basketball team on this incredible milestone. Go Hawks.

CONGRATULATING DENNIS LAUVER

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dennis Lauver with Coldwell Banker Howes & Jefferies in Clinton, Iowa, for his 1-year appointment to the National Association of Realtors Federal Taxation Committee. Congratulations, Dennis.

CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

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

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the scenes from Gaza are horrendous, and people want the fighting to end. Some call for a cease-fire. Hamas needs to hear those calls and agree to free the hostages and turn over its rockets, and then we can have that cease-fire.

There was a cease-fire on October 6. Hamas broke it and killed 1,400 Israelis.

What would happen if we had a cease-fire leaving the rockets and arms in Hamas’ hands?

Today, Ghazi Hamad, a high-ranking Hamas official, said exactly what would happen. He said: We will repeat October 7 one, two, three, four, five times, as many times as it takes, until Israel is annihilated.

We need a true cease-fire, and we can achieve it only if Hamas is disarmed.

I have been a pro-Israel activist for 60 years and a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee for nearly 30. Israel has one friend in the world. Hamas knows that. America is divided and partisan. Hamas knows that. The terrible scenes in Gaza show that Hamas is willing to die for one thing, and that is to put those scenes on American television to undercut support for Israel to make sure that that support is not bipartisan.

Last week, we showed bipartisan support, with 97 percent of the Democrats and 99 percent of the Republicans voting for a strong resolution. Unfortunately, our Speaker has decided to undercut that and, in doing so, help Hamas achieve its most important geopolitical objective.

For 60 years, when an Israel resolution comes to this floor, it passes overwhelmingly with support on both sides of the aisle. Tomorrow, that changes because the Speaker is bringing a nakedly partisan version of the support for Israel bill to this floor.

Mr. Speaker, you have only been in office for a week and already you are achieving Hamas’ geopolitical objectives. Why? Supposedly, to pay for the cost of aiding Israel, they are going to slash the IRS budget. CBO today just indicated that that will cost us over \$26 billion in revenue and will increase the cost of aiding Israel.

I am here to say, as the co-chair of the Bipartisan CPA Caucus, as someone who has taught tax law at Harvard Law School, and as someone who headed the second largest tax agency in this country, that that CBO number is way too low. The long-term effects will be devastating on our ability to collect taxes.

We need a bipartisan bill before this floor, not a bill that supposedly is going to help Israel but actually is designed to hurt Israel, help Hamas, and die in the Senate.

Now, the numbers coming from Gaza about casualties are something that a CPA should look at. We know what happened at Al Ahli Arab hospital. They dramatically overstated the casualties. Then, America said, with a high degree of confidence from our intel community, that that was a rocket fired by Hamas or Islamic jihad that failed to reach its target and instead fell on a Palestinian hospital.

Even if you accept Hamas’ statistics, our press goes further and exaggerates their number.

First, Hamas will tell you that they include in their statistics dead Palestinian combatants, and so our press reports the number as if that somehow is Israel’s fault.

Hamas will tell you that they include in those statistics those who die from the one-third of Hamas rockets that crash into Gaza, yet our press will report that statistic as if that is a number Israel is responsible for.

As to those who die from Israeli ordinance, keep in mind that is because of Hamas’ use of human shields. They were in Israel and could have stood and fought the Israeli Defense Forces. Instead, they quickly retreated behind their human shields.

Finally, those who say that we have more deaths in Gaza than in other terrible events happening in the world, this is clearly false. We have had over 600,000 deaths in Ethiopia. The press didn’t report it, but it still matters.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an open letter dated November 1, 2023, from the Association of University Heads, Israel, to accompany my speech on the floor today.

Dear Colleagues:

We, the leaders of Israeli universities and research institutions, write to express deep concern over the discourse emanating from academia following the devastating Hamas attack on Israel on October 7 and the inadequate response, in many cases, by academic leadership.

On that darkest of days, in a tragedy unprecedented in Israel’s 75-year history, the Hamas terrorists infiltrated into the country and murdered more than 1,400 people, including infants, children, students, and senior citizens—Jewish, Muslim, and Christian alike. The attack also included the abduction of 240 civilians of all ages into Gaza; additional missing persons have not yet been identified and accounted for. In the aftermath of these horrific events, we find it disturbing that certain narratives from academic institutions misrepresent the situation, or, in the worst cases, actively target Israelis and Jews.

We find ourselves facing a war on two fronts: one against the atrocities of Hamas, and another in the global arena of public opinion. Regrettably, we have noticed an alarming trend in which Israel, despite its right to self-defense, is mischaracterized as an oppressor. This is a false equivalence between the actions of a murderous terrorist organization and a sovereign state's right to defend its citizens, which unfortunately results in the loss of innocent Palestinian lives. Any attempt to justify or equivocate Hamas's brutal and grotesque actions is intellectually and morally indefensible.

It's unsettling to note that many college campuses have become breeding grounds for anti-Israel and anti-Semitic sentiments, largely fueled by a naive and biased understanding of the conflict. It is ironic that the very halls of enlightenment in America and Europe, ostensibly the bastions of intellectual and progressive thought that are your campuses, have adopted Hamas as the cause célèbre while Israel is demonized. Universities, as hubs of enlightenment and rational discourse, must take responsibility for the views they perpetuate.

There is no moral equivalency here. Let's be clear: Hamas shares no values with any Western academic institution. Hamas is an organization that has repeatedly pledged to annihilate Israel and its people.

Its ideology is antithetical to the values of human life and the liberal values we hold dear. Hamas funnels international aid into armament rather than to the welfare of its citizens. While Israel uses its weapons to shield its citizens, Hamas uses its citizens as shields for its weapons—which it hides in hospitals, schools, and mosques. It is crucial to distinguish between Hamas' terrorist objectives and the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people for statehood. The conflation of the two only serves to fuel hatred and ignorance.

Academic institutions stand as lighthouses in the intellectual landscape, and we ask you to illuminate them. Your roles as leaders of these institutions confer upon you an extraordinary responsibility: to guide the moral and ethical development of your students, to imbue them with the ability to think critically and to discern the nuances that separate right from wrong. Freedom of speech is a cornerstone of academic freedom, but it should not be manipulated to legitimize hate speech or to justify violence.

We urge you to delineate the boundaries between constructive discourse and destructive propaganda, and promote evidence-based, nuanced thinking that challenges simplistic narratives. Expose the falsity of justifications for acts of terror; expose and condemn disingenuous statements; and reject hypocritical voices that justify murder, rape, and destruction in the name of "resistance".

Moreover, we expect that Israeli and Jewish students and faculty on university and college campuses will be accorded the same respect and protections as any other minority. The principles of inclusivity and campus safety must unequivocally extend to include Israeli and Jewish members of your academic communities. Just as it would be unthinkable for an academic institution to extend free speech protections to groups targeting other protected classes, so too should demonstrations that call for our destruction and glorify violence against Jews be explicitly prohibited and condemned.

What the world witnessed on October 7 were not methods to help disadvantaged peoples build better futures for themselves. The events of this terrible day should be taken as a wake-up call to all of the dangers of nihilistic organizations like Hamas and ISIS that represent the very opposite of freedom and liberty.

As leaders of Israeli universities, we have been heartened by clear statements of solidarity and support for Israel, which are, at their heart, statements in solidarity with humanity, enlightenment, and progress. At the same time, we are calling for a sea change in clarity and truth in academia on the matter of Israel's war against Hamas, so that light will triumph over dark, now and always.

Signed,

Prof. Arie Zaban, President of Bar-Ilan University, Chairperson of Association of University Heads—VERA;

Prof. Daniel A. Chamovitz, President of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev;

Prof. Alon Chen, President of Weizmann Institute of Science;

Prof. Asher Cohen, President of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem;

Prof. Leo Corry, President of the Open University of Israel;

Prof. Ehud Grossman, President of Ariel University;

Prof. Ariel Porat, President of Tel-Aviv University;

Prof. Ron Robin, President of University of Haifa;

Prof. Uri Sivan, President of the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology.

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 24 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WILLIAMS of New York) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made Heaven and Earth. We pause today to reflect on the enormity of that eternal truth.

In You, O Lord, the one who set the stars in the heavens, crafted breathtaking landscapes of mountains and valleys, who even now causes the oceans to rise and fall, and who sends rain to water the earth, in You do we live, and move, and have our being.

May this reality so strike us that we recommit ourselves this day to the pursuit of peace in every corner of Your magnificent creation. Help us to defend the innocents caught in the crossfire of Israel and Hamas and the blameless who are suffering in the war between Ukraine and Russia.

May we open our hearts and minds, changing the way we, in our own arrogance or ignorance, are working against the peaceable kingdom You have designed. Help us to set aside our inclination to use words to wound, insults to injure, and cruel digs to devastate. You have given us so many different relationships, and You have

called us to treat each one with dignity and respect, with tenderness and mercy.

We call on Your name today that we would receive the magnitude of the help You alone provide and which we so desperately need in the living of these days.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HOULAHAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

PROVIDING TAX RELIEF FOR FIRE VICTIMS

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow, the House Committee on Ways and Means is marking up a comprehensive tax relief bill for disaster survivors. My bipartisan bill, H.R. 4970, the Protect Innocent Victims Of Taxation After Fire Act, is included as a provision.

H.R. 4970 will exempt all wildfire relief payments from Federal income taxes and is especially time-sensitive given the recent extension from the October 16 tax filing deadline in California until November 16.

It is essential that Congress get this done and every Fire Victim Trust beneficiary has this massive tax headache alleviated. Fire victims need this tax relief to help rebuild their lives, and they should not go through this tax season with this uncertainty about what they are going to have to pay this year.

The initiative has been a long time coming. Indeed, the fifth year anniversary of the Camp fire in Paradise, California, and surrounding communities is coming up in 1 week.

In the previous term, we had a similar bill included in the government funding package at the end of the year,

but it was removed by the Senate because of a disagreement on tax policy.

The bipartisan bill is a top priority. I commend and thank my colleague MIKE THOMPSON, from the wine country, in helping, and our Ways and Means chairman, JASON SMITH, in seeing it through in committee in order to bring this relief to disaster survivors and fire victims.

UKRAINE AND ISRAEL INHERENTLY INTERTWINED

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, we cannot rely on words alone to repel Russian aggression in Ukraine nor to extinguish terrorism in the Middle East. Rather, we must also provide material support to our democratic partners, as well. We must not cleave Israel and Israeli funding and Ukraine and Ukrainian funding into two separate spending votes because their fight for freedom is actually one and the same.

The stories of Ukraine and Israel are inherently intertwined, and I am the daughter of their woven histories and struggles. With forged papers, my Jewish father evaded the Nazi threat in Lviv. The vast majority of his family was murdered in the Holocaust, but the few who survived emigrated to the United States, Australia, and Israel.

It is an absolute dereliction of our duty to democracy to condition and politicize our support for Israel or Ukraine. To do so would signal to our adversaries abroad that we don't have the willpower, that we don't have the courage, to stand up to authoritarianism or extremism wherever it rears its ugly head.

We cannot send that message. We cannot appease evil. We cannot afford to backslide in defense of democracy.

WHAT MONEY LAUNDERING LOOKS LIKE

(Ms. GREENE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am here to inform the House of Representatives that the Committee on Oversight and Accountability has indeed brought forward the receipts in our impeachment inquiry of Joe Biden.

Through our investigation, we have uncovered a check to Joe Biden for \$200,000. This comes from foreign funds from a country in the Middle East through a struggling company. You can see the check is directly made to Joe Biden. This is what money laundering looks like.

We have also uncovered and released today another check to Joseph R. Biden for \$40,000. This \$40,000 is a check written to him by his brother and sister-in-law, James and Sara Biden, and this check comes from funds directly through money laundering through the CCP.

No President of the United States, no Vice President, or no officeholder should ever engage in money laundering, receiving money, selling out their office, selling out their power, and getting paid from foreign countries. We must continue our impeachment inquiry.

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

DEFENDING THE HUDSON RIVER

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

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in defense of the Hudson River in New York State.

For too long, too many that have enough wealth and enough power have gotten away with dumping toxic materials into our river, putting their profits ahead of the health and safety of our families.

Now those same forces are at it again, attempting an end around maneuver that would turn our precious Hudson River into a parking lot for dangerous barges carrying oil, asphalt, and other toxic materials.

To be very clear, this presents a clear and present danger to our community, and we must and we will stop it.

Mr. Speaker, that is why I demanded that the Coast Guard uphold the anchoring ban on the Hudson River and why I am calling on every single Hudson Valley resident to join me in this fight to protect our river.

This is where my kids and your kids and grandkids play. It is where we get our drinking water for over 100,000 of our residents. It is the lifeblood of our community, not a parking lot for big corporations looking to make even more money.

We owe it to our kids, our seniors, and our future generations to fight for our river with everything that we have.

ISRAEL NEEDS OUR UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, on October 7, Hamas invaded Israel in a horrific, barbaric terrorist attack, killing more than 1,400 people, injuring thousands more, and taking 240 citizens hostage, including American citizens.

Today, Israel finds itself in a war with Hamas. Hundreds of thousands of Israelis have been evacuated. A million Palestinian citizens have had to evacuate from the fighting as Hamas holds human shields, still holds its captives, and continues to fire more than 8,000 rockets into Israel.

Israel needs our support. On Friday, this body will consider legislation pro-

viding that emergency supplemental support. On Friday, for the first time, Republicans in this body will condition that aid and try to add legislation to rescind IRS agents that will cost the United States Treasury \$12.5 billion.

This is dangerous, reckless, and irresponsible. It is irresponsible because it costs the Treasury money, reckless because it is conditioning aid for the first time, and dangerous because it puts Israel in a precarious position.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to allow this bill to come to the floor and instead to put a clean supplemental bill on the floor.

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.

DECLARING IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A NUCLEAR ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 559) declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 559

Whereas an Islamic Republic of Iran that possesses a nuclear weapon would be an unacceptable threat to regional and global security;

Whereas Iran continues to enrich and stockpile uranium far in excess of the limits set under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015);

Whereas the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) confirmed in May 2023 that Iran continues to enrich uranium to 60-percent purity;

Whereas the United States Ambassador to the Vienna Office of the United Nations and to the IAEA, Laura Holgate, affirmed "Iran's production of uranium enriched up to 60 percent has no credible peaceful purpose.";

Whereas IAEA investigators found uranium particles enriched to 83.7 percent at Iran's Fordow nuclear facility in January 2023;

Whereas uranium enriched to 90 percent is weapons-grade material;

Whereas at a press conference in January 2023, IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi stated regarding Iran: "One thing is true: They have amassed enough nuclear material for several nuclear weapons.";

Whereas, in March 2023, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Mark Milley, testified that "Iran could produce fissile material for a nuclear weapon in less than two weeks and would only take several more months to produce an actual nuclear weapon.";

Whereas Iran is now in possession of irreversible and dangerous nuclear knowledge;

Whereas Iran's ongoing nuclear escalation poses a serious threat to the United States and its partners and allies including Israel; and

Whereas international complacency toward Iran's illicit nuclear program threatens the global nonproliferation regime: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives declares it is the policy of the United States—

(1) that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable;

(2) that Iran must not be able to obtain a nuclear weapon under any circumstances or conditions;

(3) to use all means necessary to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon; and

(4) to recognize and support the freedom of action of partners and allies, including Israel, to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, Iran is a destabilizing force in the region that poses a threat to our allies and to our national security interests.

That is why I introduced this resolution with a bipartisan group of cosponsors to make a clear, simple, and vital statement that it is the official policy of the United States that a nuclear Iran is unacceptable and that we will use all means necessary to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

This resolution is short and to the point. There is no hedging or equivocation. If we project weakness, it will only embolden Iran.

□ 1415

In recent years, Iran has pushed its nuclear provocations to the brink, enriching uranium to 60 percent and openly violating both the JCPOA and its nonproliferation treaty obligations, and even kicking out one-third of inspectors from the IAEA.

Iran is the world's leading state sponsor of terrorism. The Iranian regime has funded Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups to the tune of \$100 million per year. Five hundred Hamas fighters reportedly trained in Iran in September before the October 7 invasion and terrorist attack.

What is Hamas doing right now?

It is waging a barbaric war against our friend and ally, Israel, and now Iran's proxies are engaged in nearly

daily attacks on our soldiers—on U.S. troops—in the Middle East who remain in the region to ensure the enduring defeat of ISIS.

Put simply, we need to restore deterrence against Iran. We need to use every tool at our disposal to keep Iran from having a nuclear weapon. It is critical that this body votes together to send a clear and loud message that Iran cannot obtain a nuclear weapon under any circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, BRAD SCHNEIDER from Illinois, for joining me in introducing this resolution. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this resolution today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. This House of Representatives has a long history of working to halt Iran's nuclear program. We all know why the terrorist regime in Tehran must never ever obtain a nuclear weapon.

Look at what Iran is doing right now. They are complicit in Hamas' terrorism in Israel. Through proxies the regime is targeting American forces in the region with deadly force. They have built the region's most powerful terrorist organization, Hezbollah, which destabilizes Lebanon and threatens Israel with hundreds of thousands of sophisticated missiles. Iran props up the criminal Assad regime in Syria and the Houthis in Yemen. They interfere with global shipping, evade sanctions, and attempt to murder Israelis and others around the world.

These are only a few of the examples of Iran's nefarious behavior. Imagine what they could and would do if they operated under the safety of a nuclear umbrella.

Democrats and Republicans alike have said for many years: Iran can never be allowed to obtain a nuclear weapon. Since the 2018 ill-conceived withdrawal from the JCPOA, Iran's nuclear program has surged to extraordinarily dangerous levels, and the options to stop Iran from processing weapons grade, 90 percent highly enriched uranium are increasingly limited.

In August, the IAEA reported that Iran's stockpile of 60 percent enriched uranium has grown since its May report. Iran now possesses almost 15 times the amount of enriched uranium allowed under the JCPOA. Furthermore, in September, Iran informed the IAEA of its decision to remove about one-third of the IAEA inspectors from the country.

I will argue that we cannot take diplomacy off the table. We must keep all options open, but this is a very dangerous moment in dealing with Iran's nuclear program.

In May, White House National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan said: "We are also engaging Iran diplomatically regarding its nuclear program, and we continue to believe that it was a tragic mistake to leave the deal with nothing

at all to replace it. But we have made clear to Iran that it can never be permitted to obtain a nuclear weapon. As President Biden has repeatedly reaffirmed, he will take the actions that are necessary to stand by this statement, including by recognizing Israel's freedom of action."

The resolution before us today complements the Biden administration policy of leaving all options on the table, and I am pleased to co-lead it with my friend, Chairman McCAUL. I will repeat: The regime in Iran can never have a nuclear weapon.

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

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. SELF), who is a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. SELF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Mr. McCAUL's resolution to declare the policy of the United States that a nuclear Iran is not acceptable.

I commanded a Green Beret Special Forces detachment that deployed a tactical nuclear weapon, and I stood strategic nuclear watch for 1 year. I was intimately familiar with the single integrated operations plan, the strategic nuclear plan. I knew in detail the tens of thousands of deaths that nuclear war entails.

The United States and our allies, including Israel, must prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon by any means necessary.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING), who is the vice ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative SCHNEIDER, for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bipartisan House resolution that I helped introduce with the House Foreign Affairs Committee chairman, MIKE McCAUL, and Representative SCHNEIDER and others to make clear that the United States will never tolerate Iran acquiring a nuclear weapon.

Iran is the principle source of instability in the region. It is a major threat to our interests and remains the world's leading sponsor of terrorism, supporting terrorist groups like Hamas in their brutal quest to destroy our ally Israel.

On October 7 we witnessed the gruesome results of Iran's support for Hamas. This is the kind of terror that Iran facilitates.

An armed Iran with a nuclear weapon would represent an even greater, entirely unacceptable threat to Israel and the world.

For the past few years, Iran has flagrantly violated the terms of the nuclear deal, blown past restrictions, continued to enrich uranium to dangerous levels, bringing it closer than ever to being able to produce nuclear weapons.

That is why this resolution emphasizes that it is U.S. policy to prevent a nuclear armed Iran, as President Biden himself has made clear, and to support our partners and allies like Israel in the face of such an existential threat. Sending a clear message that Iran cannot acquire a nuclear weapon is about deterring Iran, not seeking confrontation or war with them.

Colleagues on both sides of the aisle should agree that it is absolutely in our interest to restrain Iran's nuclear ambitions, and it is in the interest of a more stable, secure, and peaceful region.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote in support of the resolution.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I reserve the right to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), who is an esteemed member of our Foreign Affairs Committee and ranking member of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, I have to rise in opposition to H. Res. 559.

I am proud to represent San Antonio, Texas, known as Military City, USA, which is home to one of the largest concentrations of military bases in the United States.

Every year tens of thousands of young men and women pass through my city on their way to military theaters around the world. Their lives are sacred, and Congress needs to be careful about how our decisions can put them in harm's way.

While this is a nonbinding resolution, it would speak for the House of Representatives without meaningfully engaging with the broad range of tools at our disposal to prevent Iranian proliferation.

I strongly oppose Iran's pursuit of a nuclear weapon. That is why I supported President Obama's efforts to constrain Iran's nuclear program through the JCPOA and why I opposed Donald Trump's decision to release Iran from the restrictions on its nuclear program by violating and then withdrawing from the JCPOA.

Nonetheless, this resolution, in saying the United States must use "all means necessary" to prevent Iran from pursuing a nuclear weapon goes too far.

Do we support sending U.S. forces, ground troops, into Iran to stop their nuclear program?

What about using a nuclear weapon ourselves?

That is what the language of this resolution would support or allow. This isn't just leaving all our options on the table. This resolution endorses every option.

In recent years, Congress has had important, bipartisan conversations about reclaiming our constitutional authority over the use of military force. If the Congress is going to endorse the use of force, even in a non-

binding resolution, then we need a more deliberate debate before going forward.

This resolution also commits the United States to endorse the actions of any of our partners and allies to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

Would we support Saudi Arabia or the UAE if they were to unilaterally strike Iran putting hundreds of U.S. forces stationed in the Persian Gulf at risk?

This resolution commits to unconditionally supporting their "freedom of action."

While I strongly oppose Iran's nuclear program, Mr. Speaker, the language we are voting on today goes too far, and I urge my colleagues to vote "no."

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 559 is an important restatement of administration policy. The Iranian regime should never ever be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, we have seen repeatedly through history that weakness invites aggression. We certainly saw that in World War II with Hitler's aggression. Our adversaries, Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea are increasingly working together to upend the global balance of power. They are enabling each other's aggression against the United States and our allies.

This body has a responsibility to project strength and protect the American people. We will speak with one voice as we deliver a clear message that Iran's nuclear escalation must stop, that a nuclear Iran is simply unacceptable, and that the United States will never permit a nuclear Iran to exist.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important resolution, which is an important voice of the United States of America through its Representatives, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 559.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

HAMAS AND OTHER PALESTINIAN TERRORIST GROUPS INTERNATIONAL FINANCING PREVENTION ACT

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 340) to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for terrorist organizations, including Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 340

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 "Hamas and Other Palestinian Terrorist Groups International Financing Prevention Act".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States—

(1) to prevent Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof from accessing its international support networks; and

(2) to oppose Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof from using goods, including medicine and dual use items, to smuggle weapons and other materials to further acts of terrorism, including against Israel.

SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PERSONS SUPPORTING ACTS OF TERRORISM OR ENGAGING IN SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTIONS WITH SENIOR MEMBERS OF HAMAS, PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD AND OTHER PALESTINIAN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each foreign person that the President determines, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, engages in an activity described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign person engages in an activity described in this subsection if the foreign person knowingly—

(1) assists in sponsoring or providing significant financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or other services to enable, acts of terrorism; or

(2) engages, directly or indirectly, in a significant transaction with—

(A) a senior member of Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof; or

(B) a senior member of a foreign terrorist organization designated pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189) that is responsible for providing, directly or indirectly, support to Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof.

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of a foreign person described in subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(d) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulations promulgated to carry out this section to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.

(e) **IMPLEMENTATION; REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes of carrying out this section.

(2) **REGULATIONS.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall issue regulations or other guidance as may be necessary for the implementation of this section.

(f) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive, on a case-by-case basis and for a period of not more than 180 days, the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person only if, not later than 15 days prior to the date on which the waiver is to take effect, the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a written determination and justification that the waiver is in the vital national security interests of the United States.

(g) **HUMANITARIAN EXEMPTION.**—The President may waive the application of any provision of this section if the President certifies in writing to the appropriate congressional committees that such a waiver is vital to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and is consistent with the national security interests of the United States 15 days prior to the waiver taking effect.

(h) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The authority to impose sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person is in addition to the authority to impose sanctions under any other provision of law with respect to a foreign person that directly or indirectly supports acts of international terrorism.

SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF MEASURES WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN STATES PROVIDING SUPPORT TO HAMAS, PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD AND OTHER PALESTINIAN TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall impose the measures described in subsection (c) with respect to a foreign state if the President determines that the foreign state, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, engages in an activity described in subsection (b).

(b) **ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.**—A foreign state engages in an activity described in this subsection if the foreign state knowingly—

(1) provides significant material or financial support for acts of international terrorism, pursuant to—

(A) section 1754(c) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)(1)(A));

(B) section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371);

(C) section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780); or

(D) any other provision of law;

(2) provides significant material support to Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof; or

(3) engages in a significant transaction that materially contributes, directly or indirectly, to the terrorist activities of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof.

(c) **MEASURES DESCRIBED.**—The measures described in this subsection with respect to a foreign state are the following:

(1) The President shall suspend, for a period of at least 1 year, United States assistance to the foreign state.

(2) The Secretary of the Treasury shall instruct the United States Executive Director to each appropriate international financial institution to oppose, and vote against, for a period of 1 year, the extension by such institution of any loan or financial or technical assistance to the government of the foreign state.

(3) The President shall prohibit the export of any item on the United States Munitions List (established pursuant to section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778)) or the Commerce Control List set forth in Supplement No. 1 to part 774 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, to the foreign state for a period of 1 year.

(d) **PENALTIES.**—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulations promulgated to carry out this section to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.

(e) **WAIVER.**—The President may waive, on a case-by-case basis and for a period of not more than 180 days, the application of measures under this section with respect to a foreign state only if, not later than 15 days prior to the date on which the waiver is to take effect, the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a written determination and justification that the waiver is in the vital national security interests of the United States.

(f) **IMPLEMENTATION; REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may exercise all authorities provided under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes of carrying out this section.

(2) **REGULATIONS.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall issue regulations or other guidance as may be necessary for the implementation of this section.

(g) **ADDITIONAL EXEMPTIONS.**—

(1) **STATUS OF FORCES AGREEMENTS.**—The President may exempt the application of measures under this section with respect to a foreign state if the application of such measures would prevent the United States from meeting the terms of any status of forces agreement to which the United States is a party.

(2) **AUTHORIZED INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**—Measures under this section shall not apply with respect to 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.

(3) **HUMANITARIAN EXEMPTION.**—The President may waive the application of any provision of this section if the President certifies in writing to the appropriate congressional committees that such a waiver is vital to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and is consistent with the national security interests of the United States 15 days prior to the waiver taking effect.

(h) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—The authority to impose measures under this section with respect to a foreign state is in addition to the authority to impose measures under any other provision of law with respect to foreign states that directly or indirectly support acts of international terrorism.

SEC. 5. REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES TO DISRUPT GLOBAL FUNDRAISING, FINANCING, AND MONEY LAUNDERING ACTIVITIES OF HAMAS, PALESTINIAN ISLAMIC JIHAD, AL-AQSA MARTYRS BRIGADE, THE LION'S DEN OR ANY AFFILIATE OR SUCCESSOR THEREOF.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) an assessment of the disposition of the assets and activities of Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof related to fundraising, financing, and money laundering worldwide;

(2) a list of foreign states that knowingly providing material, financial, or technical support for, or goods or services to Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof;

(3) a list of foreign states in which Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof conducts significant fundraising, financing, or money laundering activities;

(4) a list of foreign states from which Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliate or successor thereof knowingly engaged in the transfer of surveillance equipment, electronic monitoring equipment, or other means to inhibit communication or the free flow of information in Gaza; and

(5) with respect to each foreign state listed in paragraph (2), (3), or (4)—

(A) a description of the steps the foreign state identified is taking adequate measures to restrict financial flows to Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, or any affiliates or successors thereof; and

(B) in the case of a foreign state failing to take adequate measures to restrict financial flows to Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den or any other designated entity engaged in significant act of terrorism threatening the peace and security of Israel—

(i) an assessment of the reasons that government is not taking adequate measures to restrict financial flows to those entities; and

(ii) a description of measures being taken by the United States Government to encourage the foreign state to restrict financial flows to those entities; and

(b) **FORM.**—Each report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form to the greatest extent possible, and may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 6. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions authorized under this Act shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

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

SEC. 7. TERMINATION.

This Act shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(2) the date that is 30 days after the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(A) Hamas or any successor or affiliate thereof is no longer designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section

219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189);

(B) Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, and any successor or affiliate thereof are no longer subject to sanctions pursuant to—

(i) Executive Order No. 12947 (January 23, 1995; relating to prohibiting transactions with terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process); and

(ii) Executive Order No. 13224 (September 23, 2001; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism); and

(C) Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, the Lion's Den, and any successor or affiliate thereof meet the criteria described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 9 of the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006 (22 U.S.C. 2378b note).

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ACT OF TERRORISM.—The term “act of terrorism” means an activity that—

(A) involves a violent act or an act dangerous to human life, property, or infrastructure; and

(B) appears to be intended to—

(i) intimidate or coerce a civilian population;

(ii) influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or

(iii) affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination, kidnapping, or hostage-taking.

(2) ADMITTED.—The term “admitted” has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(13)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(13)(A)).

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(4) FOREIGN STATE.—The term “foreign state” has the meaning given such term in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code.

(5) HUMANITARIAN AID.—The term “humanitarian aid” means food, medicine, and medical supplies.

(6) MATERIAL SUPPORT.—The term “material support” has the meaning given the term “material support or resources” in section 2339A of title 18, United States Code.

(7) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term “United States person” means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or of any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members 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 Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, on October 7, over 2,000 Hamas terrorists invaded Israel and brutally murdered over 1,400 people. The images from these gruesome attacks will haunt us all for eternity.

There were beheadings, families were burned alive, and women were raped and slaughtered, one of whom was dragged through the streets of Gaza.

I was in one of the kibbutzim right on the border of Gaza last year meeting with members of the community. I saw their daycare center and the children who were there. That very same kibbutz, Mr. Speaker, was overrun by 70 Hamas terrorists. Many of the residents whom I met were slaughtered, but most viciously, the babies and the children I visited in the daycare center were slaughtered, shot to death, beheaded, and burned alive. Reports are that a pregnant woman was forced to watch as they cut her baby out of her womb, killing her child before they killed her.

□ 1430

On December 7, 1941, in response to the bombing at Pearl Harbor, President Roosevelt said it was “a date which will live in infamy.” So, too, will October 7, 2023.

The United States must stand resolute and use every tool at our disposal to support our friend and ally, Israel. Israel has been pulled into a war with the Iran-backed terrorist Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic jihad, who have launched more than 8,000 rockets at Israel since this war started.

We know that Iran has historically provided around \$100 million a year in support to Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic jihad, and other Palestinian terrorist groups. Hamas also generates hundreds of millions of dollars every year from its secret international investment portfolio. These accounts help fund Hamas' terrorist infrastructure. They pay for its elaborate 500-mile tunnel network—500 miles of tunnel—and for the rockets being fired into Israel.

This bill takes aim at Iran's support for Hamas and makes it clear that banks cannot facilitate the toxic relationship between the largest state sponsor of terror and its proxies. Unfortunately, the media seems to have forgotten that for years Hamas has profited off innocent people, prioritizing rocket production over supporting the basic needs of their own people, exacerbating suffering.

I thank my colleague, Mr. MAST, who also served in the IDF with distinction, for introducing this important piece of legislation. We need every tool at our disposal to restrict Hamas and other Palestinian terrorists' access to financing and hold the countries enabling them to account.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting 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. 340, the Hamas International Financing Prevention 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 H.R. 340 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. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 340, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Since its inception, Hamas has been a military and political entity dedicated to the destruction of Israel.

Rather than addressing the needs of the Palestinian people, Hamas has furthered their suffering and has destabilized the Gaza Strip. Rather than building schools, industries, and public infrastructure to lift up their own people, Hamas has built a terrorist army and a network of sophisticated attack tunnels to destroy Israel and kill Jews. The group has terrorized its people rather than govern, using Palestinian civilians as human shields and has terrorized its own population and that of Israel.

Since 2007, when Hamas violently seized governing control of the Gaza Strip, it has launched tens of thousands of rockets targeting Israeli cities and towns from hospitals, schools, and Palestinian neighborhoods in Gaza. It has conducted countless terrorist attacks, engaged in hostage taking, and tortured its own, the Palestinian people.

The State Department first designated Hamas as a foreign terrorist organization in 1997. The EU and other Western countries have done the same. Passage of this legislation today will provide more tools for this and future administrations to hold Hamas accountable for its terrorism and brutality.

While Hamas leaders don't have financial assets in the U.S., new sanctions have been unveiled by the Biden administration in recent days that will increase pressure on some of the countries that host them. With this legislation before us, the United States will now be able to penalize third parties who provide assistance to Hamas.

While we desire to put more pressure on Hamas, we want to make certain

that American and partner NGOs and governments are still able to assist the people of Gaza and their humanitarian needs. The waiver present in this legislation, while strict, will allow that assistance to continue.

Hamas' reign of terror must end. It is our only chance at a lasting peace.

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

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST), the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability and the author of this bill.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and the submariner up front. That is a special kind of service, no doubt about it. I thank the chairman for his work on this legislation, for helping to bring it to the floor, and for his work in helping to make sure that in this body when those of us who are in here say never again in support of Israel and the Jewish state, that it is something that we are doing everything possible to make sure that never again is the truth.

You might ask what can this bill do in support of never again, and why. The "why" on it is very simple because October 7 didn't happen for free. October 7 didn't happen without planning. October 7 didn't happen without delivery of arms from multiple nations. October 7 didn't happen without the intelligence from multiple nations, non-government organizations, and individuals. This happened as a result of a great deal of all of the above.

This bill is specifically about sanctions, about making sure that we can get to the individuals, the states, the government agencies, the nongovernment agencies, or the companies that enabled October 7 to happen. It is about making sure that we cut off the material support, whether that is money or equipment or something that we might label here in Washington as a dual-use item, from making it to the Gaza Strip or the West Bank or into the hands of Hezbollah or somewhere else; from making sure that we cut off the technological support, whether it is intelligence or, literally, software or hardware or arms of propaganda; whether we are cutting off the financial support, the terror financing, the transactions, those that are engaging with the literal perpetrators of terrorism, doing it by blocking and freezing assets and funds, providing travel restrictions, export restrictions, and financial sanctions so that they can't use our banks or financial institutions. The list goes on.

That is the work that has to be done within these walls to make sure that we can say never again. That is the work that we can do in here to make sure that October 7 doesn't happen again, and it is the work that we have to do in passing this bill to make sure that we do everything possible to prevent the kind of terrorism, the barbaric acts that the chairman spoke so eloquently and so vividly about.

It is in that vein that I ask my colleagues to rise in support of this bill. Join us, vote unanimously in support of this bill.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING), my dear friend and the vice ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to speak in support of H.R. 340, the Hamas International Financing Prevention Act, a bipartisan bill introduced by Representatives BRIAN MAST and JOSH GOTTHEIMER to impose sanctions on the terrorist group Hamas.

On October 7, we woke in horror to find Hamas' brutal and despicable terrorist attacks, firing rockets at innocent civilians, storming the Israeli border, invading Israel, going house to house, murdering babies, executing parents in front of their children, massacring 260 young people at a music festival. Hamas killed 31 U.S. citizens and more than 1,400 Israelis while taking hundreds of innocent people hostage in Gaza, including babies and toddlers.

Hamas terrorists are not militants. They are not freedom fighters. They are not a civil resistance movement. They are a brutal foreign terrorist organization which is dedicated to the destruction of Israel and the murder of Jews.

It is no secret that this is their goal. It is plainly stated in Hamas' founding charter. It is also important to recognize that Hamas has no regard for the lives of innocent Palestinian civilians in Gaza, the very people they rule over, who suffer under Hamas. Let there be no mistake. Hamas bears responsibility for their pain as well.

All countries around the world should join the U.S. in demanding Hamas immediately release all the hostages currently held in Gaza. I am grateful that the Biden administration has imposed additional sanctions on senior Hamas officials and their financial backers. We need to continue to bring pressure to bear on Hamas and cut off their flow of resources.

That is why this legislation would impose sanctions on foreign entities that provide material and financial support to Hamas and Islamic jihad, while also providing for important humanitarian exemptions.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their work on this bill, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), an esteemed member of our Foreign Affairs Committee and the ranking member on the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 340. I unequivocally condemn Hamas' attack on Israel, which resulted in the deaths of over 1,400 innocent people and the kid-

napping of hundreds of hostages, including American citizens.

The United States has rightly designated Hamas as a terrorist organization since 1997, and I have fully supported sanctions on Hamas when they have come before the House in the past. However, there is a distinction between Hamas and the innocent Palestinians it holds captive in Gaza, and we must legislate with that understanding. Our efforts to hold Hamas accountable must not come at the expense of those innocent civilians.

As originally written, this bill included a broad humanitarian exemption that would have protected the provision of food, medicine, and other life-saving supplies into Gaza. The State Department and the Treasury both supported that exemption, which aligned with the Biden administration's goals to weaken Hamas without causing undue civilian suffering and deaths.

Unfortunately, the primary sponsor of H.R. 340 offered an amendment during committee markup that removed that exemption, replacing it with a case-by-case waiver that will impede the delivery of humanitarian aid into Gaza.

At times here, we need to speculate about the motivations behind specific legislation and legislative decisions. In this case, however, it is part of the committee record. The bill's sponsor said that he believes "any assistance should be slowed down" and argued that no one can distinguish between innocent Palestinians and Hamas.

The situation in Gaza is incredibly dire and becoming more so by the day, which is why President Biden has worked to secure the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Gaza and requested funding to support those efforts. The decision to intentionally remove this provision was a choice to hurt people in Gaza who are not responsible for this conflict.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, if the humanitarian exemption that was originally in this bill was restored, I would fully support H.R. 340, but I cannot in good faith support a bill that amounts to intentional collective punishment against the people of Gaza, nearly half of whom are children. For this reason, I urge the House to vote "no."

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman McCAUL, and I certainly thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) for offering this important bill, H.R. 340, the Hamas International Financing Prevention Act.

In addition to my work on the Foreign Affairs Committee, I serve on the

House Financial Services Committee. Over the years that I have been in Congress, I have been on the Task Force to Investigate Terrorism Financing and the Subcommittee on Terrorism and Illicit Finance. Today, once again, we come to this House floor to tackle a new form of illicit finance.

It was shocking to a lot of people in America to read in *The Wall Street Journal* that Hamas is now using digital assets in order to raise funds and move money around. Just as we tackle illicit charitable use, illicit cash use, illicit bank use, this committee is dedicated to tackling this new form of escaping our anti-money laundering Bank Secrecy Act laws in order to fund terror.

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I expect all of my colleagues to be together, working together to pass this bill and, in fact, standing up against this new form of terror finance by using digital assets.

We look forward to working on that issue in both the Financial Services Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee, and I congratulate the gentleman from Florida for his leadership.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST).

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I will address some of the comments that were brought up about the bill and exemptions, and exemptions that do not exist. I think it is important to recognize there are some exemptions. There are exemptions for food and medicine.

Those exemptions exist, but there are not exemptions for pieces of equipment that might be considered dual-use items that were used to knock over the barricades, the fences, and the barriers that were preventing the Palestinian terrorists from making it into Israel.

There are not exemptions to allow those kinds of pieces of equipment that might come in under agricultural exemptions in this bill. Why? Because they can be dual-use items. That is a reason to not have them.

When we look at this as a whole, I encourage the other side to not so lightly throw around the idea of innocent Palestinian civilians, as is frequently said. I don't think we would so lightly throw around the term "innocent Nazi civilians" during World War II.

We are going to speak later about a bill related to Palestinian education and the fact that in their schools, schools run by the Palestinian Authority, not Hamas, not Palestinian Islamic Jihad, not al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, not Lions' Den, not any of the other groups run by the Palestinian Authority, they have anti-Semitic teachings that they put within their own schools.

The list goes on and on of the examples we could give of what somebody

might call a rank-and-file Gazan or a rank-and-file person in the West Bank or just a Palestinian that maybe doesn't fall under that name of Hamas or Palestinian Islamic Jihad but by any classical definition would absolutely be considered a terrorist, somebody that in the last couple of weeks had been conducting kidnappings, murders, brutality that is nearly unspeakable.

As we look at this and what kind of exemptions should and should not exist, I ask that it be looked at through that lens, that there is not this far stretch to say there are very few innocent Palestinian civilians.

I haven't seen the videos of the innocent Palestinian civilians who were out there trying to protect the Israelis, who were out there trying to stop the attacks and trying to get the captives returned instead of being taken into the tunnel systems.

We need to look at that as well when we think about the equipment, whether agricultural or otherwise, that might be put in the hands of those terrorists.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 340 is an important effort to strengthen sanctions on Hamas, a genocidal terrorist organization that showed its true intent and core evil on October 7, when it crossed over a border and savagely massacred 1,400 people, took more than 240 people hostage, wounded thousands of others, and continues its assault, as it is written in its charter, to destroy the State of Israel and to murder Jews.

I will remind my colleagues, if I can, that what we saw on October 7 was the worst day for the murder of Jews since the Holocaust, but I also believe it is important that, unless we are talking about Nazis and the Holocaust, we are very careful and avoid making comparisons.

I also think it is important that as Israel prosecutes its war against Hamas—and it is against Hamas, not against the Palestinian people—we recognize the humanity of the civilians, all the civilians who are caught in the middle of this horrific war.

Hamas is a terrorist organization and must be eliminated from being a threat to Israel, an oppressor of its people, and in control of Gaza. That is why this legislation is so critically important. We have to see the humanity of people.

I am a co-chair of the bipartisan, bicameral Abraham Accords Caucus. I have committed my life to seeking and pursuing peace for Israel and its neighbors. The Abraham Accords Caucus recognizes for the first time that both Arabs and Jews belong to the same land and records in its essence and in its being that by embracing each other, Arabs and Jews cannot only live together but lift each other up and lift up the future for the same land.

Hamas does not see that future. Hamas is a terrorist organization. It is a threat to peace, a threat to Israel, a threat to democracy.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. SCHNEIDER for his strong, passionate support, as well as Ms. MANNING and the author, Mr. MAST.

Mr. Speaker, I think the gentleman makes a great argument. Hamas stands between the expansion of the Abraham Accords and the destruction of the Abraham Accords. They are the ones standing between peace in the Middle East and war, a war that they provoked, a war that was barbaric against our friend and ally, Israel. It is impossible to overstate just how violent and horrific the terrorist attacks in Israel were. I have seen it. Don't tell me it didn't happen because it is real.

We can't underestimate the determination of Hamas itself. Their covenant explicitly states: "Israel will exist and will continue to exist until Islam will obliterate it, just as it obliterated others before it."

I don't think it can be any more clear about their intent. Hamas has told us who they are and what they plan to do. We need to act here in Congress, and we need to act now.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support 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 Texas (Mr. McCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 340, 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. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

STOP HARBORING IRANIAN PETROLEUM ACT

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3774) to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3774

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 Harboring Iranian Petroleum Act" or the "SHIP Act".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to deny Iran the ability, by limiting Iran's export of petroleum and petroleum products, to—

(A) engage in destabilizing activities;
 (B) support international terrorism; or
 (C) fund the development and acquisition of weapons of mass destruction and weapons delivery systems;

(2) to deny Iran funds to oppress and commit human rights violations against the Iranian people assembling to peacefully redress the Iranian regime;

(3) to fully enforce sanctions against those entities which provide support to the Iranian energy sector; and

(4) to counter Iran's actions to finance and facilitate the participation of foreign terrorist organizations in ongoing conflicts and illicit activities due to the threat such actions pose to the vital national interests of the United States.

SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRANIAN PETROLEUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On and after the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and except as provided in subsection (e)(2), the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each foreign person that the President determines, on or after such date of enactment, engages in an activity described in subsection (b).

(b) ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—A foreign person engages in an activity described in this subsection if the foreign person—

(1) owns or operates a foreign port and has knowingly facilitated or accommodated at least 1 designated vessel in landing at such port on or after the date of enactment of this Act for the purpose of transporting Iranian crude oil;

(2) knowingly transports, offloads, or otherwise engages in transactions involving petroleum or petroleum products, including petrochemicals, originating from Iran;

(3) knowingly owns or operates a vessel used to conduct ship-to-ship transfers of petroleum or petroleum products, including petrochemicals, originating from Iran;

(4) owns or operates a refinery that knowingly processes, refines, or otherwise engages in transactions involving petroleum or petroleum products, including petrochemicals, originating from Iran;

(5) is an adult family member of a foreign person described in any of paragraphs (1) through (4), unless the President determines there is clear and convincing evidence that such adult family member has disassociated themselves from the foreign person described in such paragraph and has not assisted such foreign person in concealing assets; or

(6) is owned, as such term is defined by section 510.411 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations, by a foreign person described in any of paragraphs (1) through (5) that has been designated for such conduct.

(c) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection with respect to a foreign person described in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all of the powers granted to the President under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in property and interests in property of the foreign person if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—An alien described in subsection (a) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;
 (ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and
 (iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive

any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—An alien described in subsection (a) is subject to revocation of any visa or other entry documentation regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under clause (i) shall take effect immediately and automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the alien's possession.

(C) EXCEPTIONS.—Sanctions under this paragraph shall not apply with respect to an alien if admitting or paroling the alien into the United States is necessary—

(i) to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations; or

(ii) to carry out or assist law enforcement activity in the United States.

(3) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of this section or any regulations promulgated to carry out this section to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in section 206(a) of that Act.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—For purposes of determinations under subsection (a) that a foreign person engaged in activities described in subsection (b), a foreign person shall not be determined to know that petroleum or petroleum products originated from Iran if such person relied on a certificate of origin or other documentation confirming that the origin of the petroleum or petroleum products was a country other than Iran, unless such person knew or had reason to know that such documentation was falsified.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION; REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may exercise all authorities under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) for purposes of carrying out this section.

(2) DEADLINE FOR REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act.

(3) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 10 days before the prescription of regulations under paragraph (2), the President shall brief and provide written notification to the appropriate congressional committees regarding—

(A) the proposed regulations; and

(B) the specific provisions of this Act that the regulations are implementing.

(f) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, on a case-by-case basis and for periods not to exceed 180 days each, waive the application of sanctions imposed with respect to a foreign person under this section if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees, not later than 15 days before such waiver is to take effect, that the waiver is vital to the national interests of the United States.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—The President shall not be required to impose sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person described in subsection (a) if the President certifies in writing to the appropriate congressional committees that the foreign person—

(A) is no longer engaging in activities described in subsection (b); or

(B) has taken and is continuing to take significant, verifiable steps toward permanently terminating such activities.

(f) TERMINATION.—The authorities provided by this section shall cease to have effect on and after the date that is 30 days after the date on which the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that—

(1) the Government of Iran no longer repeatedly provides support for international terrorism as determined by the Secretary of State pursuant to—

(A) section 1754(c)(1)(A) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4318(c)(1)(A));

(B) section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371);

(C) section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780); or

(D) any other provision of law; and

(2) Iran has ceased the pursuit, acquisition, and development of, and verifiably dismantled, its nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, ballistic missiles, and ballistic missile launch technology.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON IRANIAN PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS EXPORTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the date described in subsection (d), the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report describing Iran's growing exports of petroleum and petroleum products, that includes the following:

(1) An analysis of Iran's exports and sale of petroleum and petroleum products, including—

(A) an estimate of Iran's petroleum export and sale revenue per year since 2018;

(B) an estimate of Iran's petroleum export and sale revenue to China per year since 2018;

(C) the amount of petroleum and crude oil barrels exported per year since 2018;

(D) the amount of petroleum and crude oil barrels exported to China per year since 2018;

(E) the amount of petroleum and crude oil barrels exported to countries other than China per year since 2018;

(F) the average price per petroleum and crude oil barrel exported per year since 2018; and

(G) the average price per petroleum and crude oil barrel exported to China per year since 2018.

(2) An analysis of Iran's labeling practices of exported petroleum and petroleum products.

(3) A description of companies involved in the exporting and sale of Iranian petroleum and petroleum products.

(4) A description of ships involved in the exporting and sale of Iranian petroleum and petroleum products.

(5) A description of ports involved in the exporting and sale of Iranian petroleum and petroleum products.

(b) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

(c) PUBLICATION.—The unclassified portion of the report required by subsection (a) shall be posted on a publicly available website of the Energy Information Administration.

(d) TERMINATION.—The requirement to submit reports under this section shall be terminated on the date on which the President makes the certification described in section 3(f).

SEC. 5. EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions authorized under this Act shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

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

SEC. 6. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.

In this Act, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAWLER. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to be here today as we gather to pass the Stop Harboring Iranian Petroleum Act, or the SHIP Act, which I introduced earlier this year with my colleague from Florida, Congressman JARED MOSKOWITZ.

In the wake of the appalling terrorist attacks against Israel on October 7, it is clear that we must work to confront Iran and its proxies in the region with a strong sanctions regime. Iran is the largest state sponsor of terrorism in the world and, unfortunately, has the coffers to back this up. Iran spends its money on terror, on developing nuclear capabilities, on taking hostages to use for bargaining purposes, and on funding the criminal IRGC.

We must cut off Iran's funding and stop these illicit activities at their source, and that is where Iranian oil comes in.

Iran currently engages in a massive global oil trade, exporting its blood-stained petroleum in exchange for money and influence abroad. In the past year alone, Iran has made tens of billions off of their illicit oil trade, and this August, China imported a staggering 1.5 million barrels per day.

China is the largest importer of Iranian oil and, in doing so, has become complicit in the nefarious acts carried out with that funding. While the U.S. already sanctions Iranian petroleum, it is absolutely critical that we expand our sanctions regime to not only target Iran but Iran's enablers that are complicit in the nefarious acts committed with that money.

The SHIP Act specifically expands these sanctions to cover foreign ports and refineries that process Iranian oil. Individuals and entities that knowingly accept shipments of Iranian oil, refine Iranian oil, transport or offload Iranian oil, or otherwise transact with Iranian oil should be held accountable for their actions, for their willingness to pay for Iranian-backed terrorism.

The SHIP Act has been bipartisan from the start and continues to show a united front between Republicans and Democrats to limit Iran's global influence and protect those the Iranian regime seeks to harm, such as our Jewish and Israeli friends.

The SHIP Act sends a message to those who trade in Iranian oil that they will have the United States to deal with if they continue to do so. They can't pretend they don't know where the money is going. They can't pretend to separate Iranian oil from the very terrorism it supports. Now, we are putting it in writing that they are going to be held accountable if they keep enabling Iran.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 3774, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, October 26, 2023.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN McCaul: I write regarding H.R. 3774, the Stop Harboring Iranian Petroleum Act. 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. 3774 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, October 31, 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. 3774, the “Stop Harboring Iranian Petroleum 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. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3774.

The goal of this legislation is simple: to prevent Iran from profiting off of its petroleum reserves.

The tyrannical Iranian regime uses these profits to fund its terrorism and proxy activities, as well as to make advancements in its nuclear program.

The SHIP Act aims to apply unilateral, mandatory sanctions on anyone who does any of the following with Iranian oil: operate a port that accepts or transfers the oil; operate a refinery that possesses Iranian oil; run a business that purchases, sells, or finances Iranian oil; ships Iranian oil; or knowingly works at any facility that handles Iranian oil.

Without a doubt, the target of these sanctions is China, the largest purchaser of Iranian oil. If China stopped buying oil from Iran, Iran would be starved of the funds it uses to destabilize its region and the world.

This is not something we can achieve overnight without impacting the global energy and shipping economy. In today's interconnected world, where China is a major player and a trading partner of the United States, we cannot be shielded from the economic impacts these sanctions might cause. That is why if this legislation is signed into law, we must be both smart and forceful during its implementation, and we must be honest with the American people about why we are willing and why we must take this risk.

Sanctions are a diplomatic tool. They are not an end in themselves. The bold petroleum and financial sanctions that drove Iran to the table to negotiate JCPOA were multilateral, and we did the hard work of uniting the world behind the policy before the implementation of those sanctions.

As it stands today, we would be going at this policy alone. That is why Congress should work with this and any future administration to do the hard diplomatic work of bringing allies and partners into the plan. That is what will ultimately increase our chances of succeeding.

□ 1500

While I am a proud cosponsor of this bill, I am also concerned by the very

limited flexibility the administration would have with the waiver in this bill. It is one of the strictest standards that can be found in law. I am open to addressing that aspect of the bill if this measure goes to conference with the Senate to ensure that the waiver provision isn't virtually unusable.

Due to the clear and present threat posed by Iran to the United States and our allies, I believe we must use every tool at our disposal to address the challenge. The new sanctions offered by the SHIP Act provide important tools in our toolbox that could end Chinese purchases of oil.

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New York for managing the time and my friend from Illinois on this very important bill.

I am so glad to see that it is a bipartisan effort on H.R. 3774, the SHIP Act, because this bill is critical to countering the long record of continued mistakes by President Biden of appeasing the regime in Iran.

The Biden administration continues a foreign policy offering carrots to the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism and getting nothing to show for it in return. Due to this administration's appeasement through sanctions relief, Iran's oil production is now backed up at a 5-year high and is estimated to be producing 1.5 million barrels a day, and that is worth, Mr. Speaker, \$40 billion annualized.

Now, nearly all of that is being sold to China, completely as a counter to the rest of the world's effort to cut off money going to Russia directly through Russian oil and indirectly through Iran backing Russia—these are leaked; Iran backing Hezbollah in Lebanon; Iran backing Syria and Assad; Iran backing Hamas in the Gaza.

Are you getting the picture?

Iran is the problem here, Mr. Speaker—a partner to Russia fighting Ukraine, a partner in defeating Israel through Gaza. It is because they are selling oil on the market against global sanctions.

This bill is important. It goes far beyond the administration's \$6 billion of sanction relief to return Americans.

Secondary sanctions are essential, and America's diplomacy, as Mr. SCHNEIDER from Illinois said, to get Europe on board with secondary sanctions is important too, because it is about defeating this global network of evil: Russia, Iran, and China.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this important bill.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I do want to reflect on the comments of my friend, Mr. HILL, because he brings up a really important point.

It is vitally important to understand that Iran connects a lot of dots:

Iran is funding Hamas that attacked Israel and massacred 1,400 people and took 240 hostages, including Americans.

Iran is providing weapons to Russia in their attack on Ukraine.

Iran is selling oil to China.

The war in Gaza and the war in Ukraine have a lot of common denominators. Both are wars against democracies with the intent of wiping out those democracies, but no intent, either with Putin in Russia or Hamas against Israel, in stopping there.

The United States has an important role in leading and bringing together the world to support our allies in Ukraine and Israel. That is why it is so important that, as we stand here in a most perilous time, we unite as a body in this Congress to support our allies, not to divide, not to use political gamesmanship to use Israel as a partisan wedge, but to say we will stand together and support our allies. That is why I call our folks to come to this body and support the President's supplemental request.

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

Mr. LAWLER. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to rise in support and say thank you for the great work on this piece of legislation.

It is very important, as both sides have spoken about, the idea if you were to make a comparison, such as if a farmer had to be sanctioned but we were thinking about sanctioning the farmer without sanctioning their crops, or the truck that they would use to transport them, or the dock workers, or the market that they would bring the crops to, it would be nonsensical. This is essentially the situation that we have going on between Iran, China, Russia, an entire axis of evil, that they are getting their crops to market.

In my opinion, it is one of the most important things that we can work to prevent in order to have the greatest impact on Iran and their ability to finance terror across the globe.

In that, I thank the gentleman for his work and for yielding me the time.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3774 is an important effort to cut funding off from the Iranian regime. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this measure.

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I introduced this bill earlier this year with Congressman JARED MOSKOWITZ of Florida. It has over 230 bipartisan co-sponsors because Congress recognizes

the need to sanction Iranian petroleum even further.

Since President Biden took office, relaxed enforcement of oil sanctions has contributed to increased Iranian oil revenues worth approximately \$25.9 billion.

In 2019, Iran's oil exports fell below 500,000 barrels per day as a result of the prior administration's oil sanctions pressure.

As of September 2023, Iranian oil exports had increased to nearly 1.5 million barrels per day. Most of these increased sales have gone to Chinese buyers.

Exports are up 59 percent since January of 2021. The administration's refusal to list entities enabling the trade for secondary sanctions—in other words, imposing sanctions on the buyers—has contributed to this.

I wish we didn't need to do this, but we have to. HSI and OFAC should be enforcing these sanctions.

On October 11, 2023, NSC Coordinator for Strategic Communications, John Kirby, responded to a question about the weak enforcement of sanctions on Iranian oil by stating, quote, "The President has been concerned about making sure we have a viable global market for oil, working hard to keep the prices of gasoline down here in the United States. Part of that is making sure you remove some of the volatility in that global supply and demand."

Are you kidding me? First of all, the United States doesn't get Iranian petroleum. Our refineries aren't able to process it, and we already have sanctions in place against it. This administration has prohibited U.S. oil and gas development more strenuously than it has Iranian. It is absurd.

Macquarie, a leading financial services advisory firm, recently advised its clients that: "In our assessment, the Biden administration's policy approach has been to limit oil supply disruptions, regardless of the situation. Given that policy objectives did not target Russian oil flows even at the height of the Russian-Ukraine conflict, we do not expect Iranian oil exports to be constrained either."

Now, there are Members of this body that are going to oppose this legislation because it is too strenuous, doesn't give enough wiggle room to the administration. There is a reason we are not giving wiggle room to the administration. It is because they have been incapable of enforcing the sanctions against Iran and Iranian petroleum, which has been used as the funding source for the greatest state sponsor of terrorism in the world.

Lest anyone think otherwise, the attacks by Hamas, by Hezbollah over the course of time have been funded by Iran. We must be stringent in enforcing these sanctions. It is critically important.

When you look at what is happening in the world and the unholy alliance that has been brought about by Iran, North Korea, China, and Russia to undermine and destabilize the free world,

to undermine the United States and our allies, we must enforce these sanctions, which is why it is critically important that we pass H.R. 3774 so that we can enact sanctions on the buyer.

China has been the largest buyer of Iranian petroleum. Their refineries are built to refine that oil. Our allies around the world must recognize and understand the threats that are emanating from this unholy alliance.

I urge all of my colleagues in both parties to support this bipartisan, commonsense legislation.

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 New York (Mr. LAWLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3774, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO DESIGNATE HIZBALLAH IN ITS ENTIRETY AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H. Res. 599) urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H. RES. 599

Whereas, in April 1983, a Hizballah terror attack against the United States Embassy in Beirut killed 63 people;

Whereas, in October 1983, a Hizballah terror attack against the United States Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, killed 241 American and 58 French servicemembers supporting the Multinational Force peacekeeping mission;

Whereas, in July 2012, a Hizballah terror attack, carried out by an operative with dual Lebanese-French citizenship, in Burgas, Bulgaria, killed 5 Israeli tourists and 1 Bulgarian;

Whereas, in March 2013, a Swedish-Lebanese Hizballah operative in Cyprus was convicted of planning terror attacks against Israeli tourists;

Whereas, in June 2015, a Hizballah operative was sentenced to 6 years in prison after he stockpiled more than 8 tons of ammonium nitrate in Cyprus;

Whereas the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-102) and the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Amendments Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-272) broadened financial sector sanctions against Hizballah to compel foreign financial institutions to refrain from supporting the terrorist group;

Whereas, in May 2018, the Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on Abdullah Safi-Al-Din, Hizballah's representative to Iran, Mohammad Ibrahim Bazzi, a Hizballah

financier, and blacklisted 5 of Bazzi's companies, including Belgian energy services conglomerate Global Trading Group NV;

Whereas, in October 2018, French police raided the Islamic Zahra Centre on suspicion of supporting Hizballah, freezing the organization's funds, and seizing illegal weapons;

Whereas, in September 2020, 4 former leaders of the Zahra Centre France were arrested on suspicion of continuing to run that association and supporting Hizballah;

Whereas, in July 2019, the Department of the Treasury designated 2 Hizballah-backed members of Lebanese Parliament, Amin Sherri and Muhammad Hasan Ra'd, and Hizballah security official Wafiq Safa, stating that Hizballah uses its operatives in parliament to advance its violent activities;

Whereas, as of April 2021, Germany believed there to be 1,250 people with suspected links to Hizballah in the country;

Whereas Europol's June 2022 European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report outlined that Hizballah "has been using the EU as a base for fundraising, recruitment, and criminal activities", and the report also stated that Hizballah "is suspected of managing the transportation and distribution of illegal drugs into the EU, dealing with firearms trafficking and running professional money laundering operations that include the provision of money laundering services for other criminal organizations";

Whereas United States-led Project Cassandra and Operation Cedar exposed the criminal-business wing of Hizballah, the Business Affairs Component (BAC) of Hezbollah's External Security Organization;

Whereas, during Project Cassandra, Hizballah elements involved in drug trafficking were arrested in the United States, South America, and several European countries, including France, Belgium, Germany, and Italy;

Whereas Hizballah's criminal activity in Europe is run by the BAC, which reports to the External Security Organisation, also known as Unit 910, or the Islamic Jihad Organization, and Abdallah Safieddine, Hizballah's representative in Iran, is also involved in this activity;

Whereas, in August 2020, United Nations Secretary General Guterres called on Lebanon to disarm Hizballah, citing the terror group's persistent violation of Resolution 1701 (2006);

Whereas Iran is the prime sponsor of Hizballah, harboring, financing, training, and arming the group;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury and Department of State estimate that Iran provides as much as \$700,000,000 per year to Hizballah in the form of financial and logistical support, weapons, and training;

Whereas Hizballah now has an arsenal of approximately 150,000 missiles and rockets, with increased sophistication and many of which can reach deep into Israel;

Whereas Hizballah fighters have been supporting the Assad regime in Syria, often leading operations in the conflict which has left more than 500,000 dead;

Whereas Hizballah trains and provides weapons for militias in Iraq and Yemen, further destabilizing the region and perpetuating violence in those countries;

Whereas Hizballah activities continue to plague Lebanon with profound economic and political instability and violence;

Whereas Hizballah's cross border illicit arms and drugs trafficking undermines the Lebanese Armed Forces, the legitimate security establishment of the country as outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006);

Whereas, in October 2012, Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Naim Qassem stated that "[Hizballah does not] have a military wing

and a political one . . . Every element of Hizballah, from commanders to members as well as our various capabilities, are in the service of the resistance";

Whereas the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Serbia, and Kosovo, among others, have declared Hizballah in its entirety as a terror organization;

Whereas, in March 2016, the Gulf Cooperation Council formally branded Hizballah, in its entirety, a terrorist organization, and the League of Arab States shortly thereafter adopted the same designation;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury has diligently added persons and entities to the list of Specially Designated Global Terrorists who have provided material support to the Hizballah terrorist organization, thereby hampering its financing and logistical capabilities;

Whereas the European Union, in July 2013, designated Hizballah's so-called "military wing", but not the organization as a whole, as a terrorist organization;

Whereas, despite restrictions put on Hizballah since the designation of its military wing, the group continues to conduct illicit narcotrafficking, money laundering, and weapons trafficking throughout Europe and the world; and

Whereas the House of Representatives has previously called on the European Union to fully designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization, passing House Resolution 359 in October 2017 and House Resolution 558 on September 20, 2022: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) applauds and expresses support for the continued, increased cooperation between the United States and the European Union (EU) in thwarting Hizballah's criminal and terrorist activities;

(2) supports transcontinental efforts within Europe to share intelligence information among police and security services to facilitate greater cooperation in tracking, apprehending, and prosecuting terrorists, foreign fighters, and potential offenders;

(3) encourages the European Union to implement sanctions against Hizballah-affiliated terrorists in tandem with the United States;

(4) recommends greater civil society engagement in both the United States and Europe to underscore Hizballah's malign regional influence; and

(5) urges the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and increase pressure on the group, including through—

(A) facilitating better cross-border cooperation between European Union members in combating Hizballah;

(B) issuing arrest warrants against members and active supporters of Hizballah;

(C) freezing Hizballah's assets in Europe, including those masquerading as charities; and

(D) prohibiting fundraising activities in support of Hizballah.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CLINE). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAWLER. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago, Hamas launched a brutal and unprovoked terrorist attack on our ally, Israel, from its perch in the Gaza Strip.

Now Israel is engaged in a major military operation in response to the pressing threat posed by this Iran-backed terrorist group. For years, Hamas benefited from the misconception that it was focused on governing the Gaza Strip but make no mistake, there is no difference between the political and military wings of terrorist organizations.

One of Hamas' allies in the region, Hezbollah, also benefits from this misguided fiction that its political and military entities are separate. Like with Hamas, this is unequivocally false. Even Hezbollah's leader himself admits there is no distinction between the two, so it is unfortunate that the European Union includes Hezbollah's military branch on its list of sanctioned terrorist organizations, but not its political wing.

This has enabled Hezbollah to use Europe as a base to plan extremist terrorist activities and exploit global financial networks to pay for them. Right now, Hezbollah is launching near daily attacks on Israel's northern borders with rockets, mortars, and anti-tank missiles. Every one of these attacks risks the opening of a second front in this war.

Does this sound like the work of a political party? Yet, the EU's continued recognition of this arbitrary distinction between political and military wings allows Hezbollah to continue to operate throughout Europe, even while causing casualties in Israel. This issue has never been more urgent. We must make clear to these terrorist proxies that we are not fooled about their true intention: the destruction of Israel. We must make clear to Iran that it cannot hide behind its terrorist proxies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge our allies in the European Union to designate Hezbollah in full as a terrorist organization.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to vote in support of this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1515

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I have spoken about Iran, Hamas, and the various bills on the floor today seeking to bring peace and prosperity to the region. That is why I am proud to lead H. Res. 599, urging the European Union to designate Hezbollah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

I thank our former colleague and the current president of the American Jewish Committee, Ted Deutch, for his groundbreaking work on this issue.

Like Hamas, Hezbollah is an Iran-backed terrorist organization committed to the destruction of Israel and of peace throughout the region, and the U.S. has done the right thing by recognizing it as such.

Our good friends in Europe often make a distinction between the organization's political and military wings, seeing the former as a partner they can try to work with. Looking at how Lebanon has been on the verge of becoming a failed state, we cannot underestimate the pernicious role played by Hezbollah.

Hezbollah bombed our Embassy in Beirut in April 1983, killing 63 people. Then, in October of the same year, attacked a Marine Corps barracks, killing 241 Americans.

Their nefarious behavior has never stopped. They murdered Israeli tourists in Bulgaria in 2012 and tried to do so again in Cyprus in 2013. Two years later, they got caught in Cyprus with 8 tons of ammonium nitrate.

That year, Congress passed the Hezbollah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015, which I was proud to help lead and follow up on in 2018.

Despite our best efforts to counter it, the resolution describes in detail Hezbollah's nefarious activities in Belgium, France, and Germany and throughout the European Union.

I have always said that the world is at its best when America leads. We have led in countering Hezbollah, and now we must urge our European allies to join us as we look at Hezbollah's skirmishing with Israel and loudly supporting Hamas and threatening a war on a second front at a most perilous time.

I hope and trust our European partners will take this as a wake-up call. Hezbollah is a terrorist organization in its entirety and must be designated as such in its entirety.

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

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING), my good friend and the vice ranking member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative BRAD SCHNEIDER, for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bipartisan resolution that I reintroduced with Congressman BRAD SCHNEIDER and colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

This resolution, originally introduced by former Congressman Ted Deutch and passed by the House last Congress, urges the European Union to designate Hezbollah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

Mr. Speaker, the terrorist group Hezbollah is a linchpin of Iran's axis of resistance and is responsible for thousands of civilian deaths in the Middle East and around the globe, including the 1983 Marine Corps barracks bombing in Beirut and the 1994 AMIA Jewish community center bombing in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Until 9/11, Hezbollah had killed more Americans than any other terrorist group. Today, it maintains an arsenal of 150,000 rockets aimed at Israel.

In recent weeks, Hezbollah has fired upon Israel, threatening to open up a second front in the war along Israel's northern border, risking a wider regional confrontation and putting civilians in Lebanon at risk.

Given these facts, it is incomprehensible that any EU member state can credibly assert any distinction between Hezbollah's so-called military and political wings.

The truth is, there is one unified Hezbollah, and it is dedicated to carrying out terrorist activities around the world. That is why this bipartisan resolution calls on our partners in the EU to take a stronger stand against worldwide terrorism by designating Hezbollah as a whole as a terrorist organization.

We must continue to keep pressure on Hezbollah, Hamas, and all other terrorist groups that threaten the United States and our ally Israel, and that undermine peace, security, and stability throughout the region and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan measure.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 599 is critical for making sure our friends and allies in Europe join us in pushing back against Hezbollah and making sure it no longer can pose a threat to Lebanon, Israel, and the people of the region.

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

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, every day that passes risks further escalation from Hezbollah on Israel's northern border.

We must not allow Hezbollah to continue to present the illusion that its political and military wings are distinct. The EU must designate Hezbollah in its entirety as a terrorist organization to permanently dispense with this fiction.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 599.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the

rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PEACE AND TOLERANCE IN PALESTINIAN EDUCATION ACT

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3266) to require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the curriculum used by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3266

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 “Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2016 and 2017, the Palestinian Authority published modified curricula for school-aged children in grades 1 through 11.

(2) Textbooks used by the Palestinian Authority (PA) in the West Bank and Gaza include graphics portraying violence against Israeli soldiers, positive portrayals of individuals who have committed attacks against citizens of Israel, and references to Palestinian efforts to target the “Zionists”.

(3) PA textbooks are used at schools sponsored by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) because UNRWA schools use the textbooks of the host government.

(4) On April 26, 2018, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) published a report that found the following:

(A) Textbooks in PA schools feature inaccurate and misleading maps of the region and include militaristic, adversarial imagery and content that incite hatred.

(B) The Department of State raised with Palestinian officials the objectionable content in textbooks, including a specific math problem using the number of Palestinian casualties in the First and Second Intifadas.

(C) The United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), in its review of the textbooks, identified content not aligned with United Nations values, the majority of which content related to neutrality or bias issues, including issues related to maps and references to Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Palestinian Authority has not sufficiently eliminated content and passages encouraging violence or intolerance toward other countries or ethnic groups from the curriculum used in their schools.

SEC. 4. REPORTS REQUIRED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for two years in accordance with subsection (c), the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report reviewing curriculum, including textbooks, leaflets, pamphlets, magazines, and other instructional materials, used in schools in areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority or located in Gaza and controlled by any other entity. Each such report shall include the following:

(1) A determination of whether there is content or passages encouraging violence or

intolerance toward other countries or ethnic groups in such curriculum, and a detailed explanation of the reasons for reaching such determination.

(2) An assessment of the steps the Palestinian Authority is taking to reform such curriculum at schools to conform with standards of peace and tolerance in the Declaration of Principles on Tolerance by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (adopted November 16, 1995).

(3) A determination whether United States foreign assistance is used, directly or indirectly, to fund the dissemination of such curriculum by the Palestinian Authority.

(4) A detailed report on how United States assistance is being used to address curriculum that encourages violence or intolerance toward other nations or ethnic groups.

(5) A detailed report about United States diplomatic efforts in the preceding five years to encourage peace and tolerance in Palestinian education.

(6) If any diplomatic efforts referred to in paragraph (5) were stopped by the Secretary of State, the reasons for such stoppages.

(b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of State shall post on a publicly available website of the Department of State each report required under subsection (a).

(c) SUBSEQUENT DEADLINES.—Each report required by subsection (a), other than the first such report, shall be submitted not later than 90 days after the date on which a new school year begins for schools controlled by the Palestinian Authority.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SCHNEIDER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LAWLER. 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 New York?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3266, the Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act.

I thank my colleague, Mr. SHERMAN, for introducing this important legislation to prevent the spread of anti-Israel and anti-Semitic hatred.

We have known for decades that Palestinian children are taught from a young age to hate Israel and the Jewish people. Despite robust international discussion about these concerns, reports by nongovernmental organizations continue to show that Palestinian schoolchildren are being indoctrinated with deeply disturbing violent imagery.

For example, a review of the textbooks used in Palestinian schools in 2020 and 2021 showed that children are taught to read with passages that describe suicide bombings and the gruesome murders of IDF soldiers, to do math using numbers of martyrs and jihadists, and to learn history by ask-

ing them to discuss how the USA took advantage of the 9/11 attack.

These textbooks propagate the lie that the Jewish people control the media and politics and explicitly refer to Jews as “enemies of Islam in all times and places.” Children are taught to glorify the founders of the jihad movement and learn that jihad is “a private obligation for every Muslim.”

We will never arrive at a peaceful solution for Israelis and Palestinians as long as Palestinian children are being taught hatred in textbooks.

Look at the brutal attack that over 2,500 Hamas terrorists carried out against Israel on October 7. Why else would Hamas terrorists call home bragging that they murdered Jews? Why else would they live stream their barbaric attacks?

That disgusting and gruesome cruelty is possible because these Hamas fighters were indoctrinated with hatred at a young age. They were taught to glorify terrorism and other so-called martyrs who killed Jewish people. This must end.

The Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act takes a first step to firmly establish Congress’ position that the Palestinian Authority has not sufficiently eliminated inciteful and violent content from their educational curricula. It also requires the State Department to report to Congress on educational materials used in schools run by the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank, Hamas, and the Gaza Strip, and UNRWA.

A United States Government assessment of the content of these educational materials will carry tremendous weight in international efforts to eliminate hateful content and promote peace.

Since Hamas’ attack, we have seen an appalling number of anti-Semitic and anti-Israel riots around the world and right here at home. I have condemned these in the strongest terms. I continue to speak out when they occur, and I have encouraged my colleagues to do the same.

That is why, earlier this year, I introduced legislation to combat the rise in anti-Semitism on college campuses, the Stop Anti-Semitism on College Campuses Act, which would defund institutions of higher learning that allow, promote, or sanction anti-Semitic events on their campuses.

That is why, just last week, JOSH GOTTHEIMER and I introduced the Anti-Semitism Awareness Act, which would amend the education law to require the Department of Education to use the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism on its enforcement actions of discrimination laws.

The commitment we made after the Holocaust, “Never again,” is being put to the test. We have a responsibility to prevent the teaching of anti-Semitism not just here in the United States but around the globe. This bipartisan bill uses the tools available to the United States Government to do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the United States and many of our allies have long been concerned about Palestinian textbooks that contain blatant anti-Semitic and anti-Zionist references that incite hatred and violence toward the Jewish people.

In May, the European Parliament went so far as to pass a resolution condemning the Palestinian Authority over the hateful content of its textbooks and conditioned future funding for education on the removal of that anti-Semitic material.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency, known as UNRWA, which administers many schools in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, is required by its mandate to use host country books.

Let me say that again in another way. UNRWA does not write Palestinian textbooks, the Palestinians do, and UNRWA is required to use the host nation's book under its mandate.

The bill before us tasks the Secretary of State to write a report to Congress that reviews the curriculum, including textbooks, leaflets, pamphlets, magazines, and other instructional materials used in UNRWA schools. This report will be important and will help both the Congress and the executive branch understand the full scope of the problems, work to improve these textbooks, and remove the content that is not only untrue but leads to further violence and instability in the region.

I will add one more important comment about UNRWA. Despite the issue related to the Palestinian Authority's textbooks that we are discussing at this moment, thousands of UNRWA employees, many of whom have yearslong relationships with the U.S., remain in Gaza doing dangerous humanitarian work. Some have, sadly, lost their lives.

Let's keep them in mind as this conflict continues, but let's also keep in mind that Israel must defeat Hamas.

I am proud to cosponsor this legislation and ask my colleagues to vote in support of this important bill.

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

□ 1530

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Accountability.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak specifically, as both sides have mentioned, as to what goes on in this education within these UNRWA/Palestinian Authority-run schools. People can find images of these. Nobody is going to be able to see them on camera. Let's read them specifically.

An example of a fourth grade Palestinian math problem: "The number of

martyrs in the First Intifada is 2,026 martyrs, and the number of martyrs of the Al-Aqsa Intifada is 5,050 martyrs. The number of martyrs in the two intifadas is _____ martyrs?"

This is another example, a seventh grade physics problem people can look at, and we can find many examples of this. This is on Newton's second law: "During the first Palestinian uprising, Palestinian youths used slingshots to confront the soldiers of the Zionist occupation and defend themselves from their treacherous bullets. What is the relationship between the elongation of the slingshot's rubber and the tensile strength affecting it?" This is their physics work.

Another example, again, from Palestinian Authority-run schools in conjunction with the United Nations, a geography question. This one asks sixth graders to define the borders of Palestine which completely erase the existence of Israel.

They are not interested in a two-state solution. I agree. I don't think a two-state solution is a good idea, but they are interested in a one-state solution in which no Israel exists at all. That is what is being taught in the schools, and that is what no U.S. taxpayer dollars should be sent to support at all. That is the purpose of the request for the information on what is going on with this U.N.-funded education.

I just offer the reminder that these are not Hamas-run schools. They are not Palestinian-Islamic Jihad-run schools. They are not Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigade-run schools. They are not Lions' Den-run schools. They are Palestinian Authority-run schools, what we could consider the Palestinian government; the Palestinian government that at one point has been a majority of Hamas members in that government.

In these Palestinian authority-run schools, this is their government teaching. It is the U.N. teachings. This is what the teachers—maybe not considered Hamas, but let's consider them rank-and-file Palestinians—are teaching the students. This is what the rank-and-file students across the area are learning. This is what their parents are seeing them taught. I think this is what we are seeing be professed by extremists across Times Square, Harvard, Tulane, and other places, and I consider it extremely anti-Semitic and dangerous.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN), a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and, importantly, the author of this legislation.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I have been working on this bill for a long time. I introduced it in the 116th Congress and the 117th Congress, and both times it passed unanimously in the Foreign Affairs Committee. Now, finally, in the 118th Congress, we have it to the floor. I thank Mr. MAST from Florida for being the Republican lead

on this bill and speaking for it here on the floor. Now, as I said, this bill passed unanimously three times through our committee, and I hope it passes unanimously by voice vote here on the floor.

Let us reflect on what has happened recently in Israel. Our Secretary of State, Tony Blinken, I think, summarized it well in his testimony yesterday: Young people chased down and gunned down at a dance party. Children executed in front of their parents. Parents executed in front of their children. Families in final embrace burned alive. People beheaded.

There was a family of four, a boy and a girl of 6 and 8 years old and their parents, around the breakfast table. The father's eye was gouged out in front of his children, the mother's breasts were cut off, the girl's foot was amputated, and the boy's finger was cut off before they were executed. Then the executioners sat down and had a meal.

We heard an intercepted telephone call where a terrorist called his mother and said gleefully: "I have killed 10 Jews with my own hands. I'm using the dead Jewish woman's phone to call you now."

How does such a horror occur? It occurs when generations are raised to hate, to kill, to behead, to murder, and it is a product of the schools that we have seen for decades on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

I point to a particular fifth grade textbook which glorifies a terrorist who in 1978 went forward and killed 38 Israeli civilians, including 13 children, many of them pictured here. This is who is glorified. This is who is held up to Palestinian children as the model for them to follow.

We should not be surprised that there is, therefore, significant support for the Hamas doctrine: "From the river to the sea . . ." All Jews must be killed; that is their position. That is what holds their organization together.

I know the scenes that come now from Gaza are horrific. People say: "Let's stop the fighting. Let's have a cease-fire." Well, what would happen then? We don't have to wonder, because just today, Ghazi Hamad, a high-ranking official of Hamas, said exactly what would happen. He said: We will repeat October 7 one, two, three, four, five times, as many times as it takes, until Israel is annihilated.

That is what happens if we have a cease-fire, unless we have the kind of cease-fire that we should have, one in which Hamas releases all the hostages and disarms. Then we can have a cease-fire.

In the years to come, after the actions being taken in Gaza, we will again wonder: Is another generation being educated to repeat these crimes in future years?

How are these students educated? They are educated in schools run by UNRWA, the U.N. organization, and paid for in large part by the United States. While we have responsibilities

around the world, the oil-rich Arab states contribute only a portion, a small portion of what UNRWA spends. America contributes half and more than half.

When we resumed funding for UNRWA in 2021, it was with the understanding that the schools would change, and we reached the 2021 framework for cooperation. So far, not so good. It appears as if the books continue.

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from California.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, what this bill does is requires a formal report to tell us what, unfortunately, we know informally, and that is that education for terrorism has continued.

With this formal report on its way, UNRWA will understand that what is happening in its schools will be exposed and that the American Congress will not continue to fund them if they don't meet the responsibilities.

Now, it is said that they have to rely on Palestinian Authority textbooks. No, they simply have to change their policy.

I look forward to meeting the humanitarian and educational needs of the Palestinian people in a way that builds toward peace, not in a way that holds out to Palestinian fifth graders as an example someone who would kill 38 civilians, including 13 children.

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING), the vice ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative BRAD SCHNEIDER, for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support H.R. 3266, the Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act, bipartisan legislation I cosponsored, introduced by Representatives BRAD SHERMAN and BRIAN MAST.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is necessary because we continue to see the use of textbooks and other educational materials in schools run by the PA and UNRWA containing anti-Israel content which perpetuates anti-Semitism, victimhood, and martyrdom, erases Israel from the map, and even glorifies violence and terrorism.

Children in the West Bank and Gaza deserve the chance to learn without using textbooks that are biased, promote intolerance, and demonize or mischaracterize Israel.

That is why this bill would require the State Department to investigate, report to Congress, and make publicly available important information about the content of the curriculum used in these schools.

The PA and UNRWA have a responsibility to address and remove problematic content in textbooks that violates the U.N.'s own principles of neutrality and tolerance.

We know that no child is born to hate. They have to be carefully taught. Educational materials that teach them hate by demonizing Israel only make it harder to resolve the conflict and achieve lasting peace.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill that I am proud to cosponsor.

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

Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. SHERMAN made mention of the stated intent of the terrorist scheme to destroy Israel, to try again and again. I want to share an email I got today talking about what is going on right now.

It says: Among the IDF soldiers killed in Gaza yesterday, eight were in a single armored personnel carrier that was hit by a rocket-propelled grenade. They were part of the Givati infantry brigade. One of them, 2nd Lt. Pedayah Mark, lost his father in a terror attack on their family car near Otneil 7 years ago. Pedayah, who was 13 years old at the time, was injured along with his mother. His uncle was among those murdered in Kibbutz Be'eri on October 7.

The terrorists continue to attack and attack, oftentimes striking the same family. We need to make sure we change what the kids are learning.

H.R. 3266 is an important tool in our fight against the hatred and in support of peace in Palestinian education, the education of the children.

Let me add one more statistic. In the attack on October 7, 20 children under 18 were orphaned, both their parents were killed. Eighteen young people between the age of 18 and 25 lost both parents. Ninety-six children under 18 lost one parent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues, every one of them, to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

We must continue to stand against anti-Semitism and anti-Israel bias. It is essential that we ensure children are not taught to hate, and this starts with the materials they learn in school.

The first step is passing the bipartisan Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act, to ensure we have transparent, valid, and authenticated information.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in 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 New York (Mr. LAWLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3266.

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.

□ 1545

CONDEMNING THE SUPPORT OF HAMAS, HEZBOLLAH, AND OTHER TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, WHICH MAY LEAD TO THE CREATION OF A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT FOR JEWISH STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 798) condemning the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 798

Whereas both Hamas and Hezbollah are recognized by the United States Department of State as Foreign Terrorist Organizations;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas launched a surprise attack to deliberately target Israeli civilians, including the killing and abduction of men, women, children, and the elderly;

Whereas Hamas' stated goal is the entire destruction of the State of Israel and the murder of its Jewish citizens;

Whereas a disturbing number of student organizations at institutions of higher education placed blame solely upon the State of Israel for the attack and expressed support for the terrorist actions of Hamas through the glorification of violence and the usage of antisemitic rhetoric;

Whereas on October 9, 2023, the national leadership of Students for Justice in Palestine declared a "day of resistance" calling on student chapters across the United States to demonstrate by "not just slogans and rallies, but armed confrontation with oppressors" and following this announcement many chapters issued pro-Hamas statements;

Whereas on October 10, 2023, a Stanford University lecturer targeted Jewish students during a class on colonialism, justifying the actions of Hamas terrorists by calling them "freedom fighters" and asking Jewish students to identify themselves and stand in the corner to illustrate what "Jews were doing to Palestinians";

Whereas on October 15, 2023, in a complete disregard for humanity, a Cornell University professor grabbed the microphone at a campus rally and pronounced that, "Hamas has challenged the monopoly of violence" and "it was exhilarating. It was energizing. . . I was exhilarated," in reference to Hamas' terror attack on Israel;

Whereas on October 22, 2023, the Brandeis University student government voted down a simple resolution condemning Hamas and calling on the immediate release of all hostages back to their families unharmed;

Whereas on October 24, 2023, George Washington University students at a vigil to support Hamas' surprise attack prominently projected signs on the walls of the university's library including, "Glory to our Martyrs";

Whereas many administrations of institutions of higher education do not follow the practice of institutional neutrality and frequently speak out on public issues, but have failed to speak out clearly after the October 7 attack by Hamas, and have exposed their

lack of regard for their Jewish and pro-Israel students; and

Whereas the glorification of violence and usage of antisemitic rhetoric creates a hostile learning and working environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff;

(2) calls on campus administrators—

(A) to condemn all forms of antisemitism on college campuses; and

(B) to ensure Jewish faculty, students, and guests can exercise the same Free Speech rights as are guaranteed to all other faculty, students, and guests without intimidation; and

(3) urges enforcement of Federal civil rights laws to protect Jewish students from antisemitism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 798, as amended, the resolution now under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 798, condemning the hateful acts of anti-Semitism spreading like wildfire across American college campuses.

Last year, I made my first trip with a few of my colleagues to Israel, where we were welcomed by Jewish citizens of all backgrounds—Black, European, Russian, Arabian, and Palestinian.

During a visit to a Jewish family's home near the Gaza border, I held a bomb fragment that had landed in their front yard. I saw a lifestyle where the norm was always being on edge. There were bomb shelters built on both ends of elementary soccer fields and at every bus stop.

One of my colleagues asked our guests: You live so close to people who literally hate you simply because of your religion and culture. Why do you stay?

The answer stuck with me: Because I love my country, and this is our home.

None of us could have imagined, a little over a year later, the pure evil that would visit that home. They never knew how vulnerable they were to satanic barbarism. Those who would film, call home, and bolster the torture and death they rained down on innocent, defenseless men, women, and children.

What does evil look like? The German Nazis attempted to hide their acts, but these nazis have posted their acts on social media for the world to see and remember: a pregnant mother shot in the face, her baby cut from her womb and then beheaded; a female raped with such evil voracity that her pelvis was broken, and she was then murdered; grandmothers, children, and babies huddled together and then burned alive; a young 20-year-old woman who was shown half-naked and unconscious as she was paraded through the streets of Gaza, tortured and desecrated by these cowardly devils. She was later found beheaded.

Within hours, 1,400 innocent, defenseless men and women, children in their bedrooms, and teenagers celebrating peace at a music festival were murdered without mercy.

What was the response on American campuses?

At Cornell University, a professor called the Hamas attacks exhilarating and energizing.

At George Washington University, less than 4 miles from where I stand, students projected the phrases “from the river to the sea,” and “glory to our martyrs” on the side of Gelman Library, a building named after a Jewish alumni. These phrases are an explicit anti-Semitic call for the violent eradication of Jews in the State of Israel.

At Cooper Union, Jewish students were forced to lock themselves in the library to avoid a rabid mob chanting: “Murder to the Jews.” These hate-filled college students have no shame and no fear. Imagine the accountability they would face if they were chanting: “Murder to the Blacks,” or “Murder to the trans.” As this mob pounded on the front door of the building, the Jewish students were quietly ushered out the back door.

This is America 2023, not 1960. No students, regardless of race, creed, color, or religion, should ever have to use the back door of a campus library out of fear for their safety—not now, not ever in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to strongly condemn the pure evil of Hamas, affirm Israel as our greatest ally in the Middle East, and proclaim our unwavering support as they assert their right to self-defense.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 798, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution. I thank my colleague, Representative BURGESS OWENS, for sponsoring this resolution condemning support for terrorism and anti-Semitism on college campuses.

Anti-Semitism is a persistent, shape-shifting hatred that is an affront to our values as Americans. It should be condemned by all. It has no place on college campuses and universities or in our society.

I am committed to countering anti-Semitism in all its forms as a co-chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-Semitism and as a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee.

Tragically, anti-Semitism is on the rise across the United States and around the world. We have witnessed a particularly disturbing increase in anti-Semitic incidents at colleges and universities. According to the Anti-Defamation League, anti-Semitic incidents on college and university campuses increased by 40 percent from 2021 to 2022.

Since the horrific terrorist attacks by Hamas against Israel on October 7, we have witnessed an even greater increase in incidents and threats targeting Jewish students across the country—by some accounts, a 400 percent increase.

Students at Cooper Union were barricaded inside a library building. Shocking anti-Israel messages were projected onto a building at George Washington University. Just yesterday, a Cornell University student was arrested and charged for posting horrifying threats online targeting Jewish students on campus, threatening to shoot up the kosher dining hall, and calling for Jewish students to be eliminated.

It is also deeply disturbing to witness student-led demonstrations and rallies excusing and glorifying the terrorism or expressing sympathy for foreign terrorist organizations like Hamas and Hezbollah, groups whose driving ideology is anti-Semitic and which are dedicated to the destruction of Israel.

College and university leaders have a moral responsibility to make clear that they reject hatred, violence, and anti-Semitism, to hold those responsible for these acts accountable, and to prevent a hostile and intimidating environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff.

I am grateful for the Biden administration's commitment to fully enforce Federal civil rights law prohibiting anti-Semitic discrimination and to take steps, including those outlined in the “U.S. National Strategy to Counter Anti-Semitism,” to combat the rise of anti-Semitism in higher education.

Congress should also make clear that we condemn terrorism, anti-Semitism, and violence and that we remain committed to protecting all students.

Madam Speaker, colleges and universities are places where students learn from one another and where they decide who they want to become in life. We can respect and uphold Americans' free speech and First Amendment rights without tolerating discrimination and hate. No matter what your opinion is on foreign policy or any other issue, it does not excuse or give anyone a license to engage in hate against any group.

When anti-Semitism and bias against Jews take hold on campus, it deprives students of their equal right to an education and harms everyone in the campus community.

That is why I am proud to support this resolution condemning support for terrorism and anti-Semitism on campuses and calling for protections against hate targeting Jews, just as we should for all Americans of any background who are facing increased threats.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 798, a resolution condemning anti-Semitism on college campuses and encouraging campus leaders to speak out in support of their Jewish students, faculty, and guests.

One word that comes to mind is “regression.” The extreme rhetoric on college campuses is, sadly, yet another chapter in the troubled history between Jewish students and American universities. It started with quotas. In 1922, Harvard President Abbott Lowell proposed a cap on the number of Jewish enrollees each year. Many other universities adopted similar policies.

Out of Jewish quotas, alternative Jewish education opportunities were born. In 1948, Brandeis University was founded. It was named after Lowell’s great enemy, the first Jewish Supreme Court Justice, Louis Brandeis. The initial 107-student class at Brandeis was overwhelmingly Jewish and just 12 miles down the road from Cambridge. It stood as a stark reminder of ethnic discrimination.

The world progressed greatly in the post-war period, but the events of the past month have ripped open a wound in American postsecondary education that had been festering.

There is no better example than modern Harvard. The coalition student group letter from Harvard was the first anti-Semitic demonstration on campus to make the news after Hamas’ October 7 attack, hearkening back to Harvard’s Jewish quotas. Harvard is a bellwether, for better or for worse.

H. Res. 798 condemns the support of terrorists and condemns anti-Semitism behavior. I thank Representative OWENS for putting this important resolution forward, and I pray that it is a step toward reversing the abhorrent behavior that has taken over college campuses.

Madam Speaker, we must throw anti-Semitism into the dustbin of history where it belongs.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 798.

On October 7, Hamas carried out the largest attack on the Jewish people since the Holocaust. Women were bru-

tally raped and murdered; babies brutally murdered and decapitated; and innocent civilians abducted, tortured, and murdered.

In the aftermath, we have seen despicable acts of anti-Semitism and support for the terrorists across college campuses in this country. Students organized protests calling for “armed confrontation with oppressors” and using imagery reflecting the Hamas terrorists paragliding into the music festival in Israel. There are vile chants calling for the elimination of Jewish people in the State of Israel. There are professors asking Jewish students to identify themselves and stand in the corner of a classroom. There are projections on a campus building saying, “Glory to our martyrs,” referring to the Hamas terrorists.

□ 1600

These are despicable actions, and they have created a hostile environment for many Jewish students across our country. This is wholly unacceptable, and this is not free speech.

Jewish students deserve to know they are safe on campus, and colleges and universities have a legal and moral obligation to foster an environment free from vile anti-Semitic discrimination.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Utah for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 798, a resolution that demands Congress’ immediate attention and action in condemning the recent surge of support for Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at American universities.

Let’s be clear. The targets of Hamas on October 7 were not Israeli military installations. The targets were innocent men, women, and children. It was demonic and barbaric.

What are we seeing on our college campuses?

This is not just cause for concern, it is an outrageous affront to the principles of peace, tolerance, and safety that our educational institutions espouse.

From the explicit endorsements of violence to the violent targeting of Jewish students, we are witnessing a blatant disregard for the well-being and security of young people.

This is not a matter of political correctness. It is a matter of ensuring the safety and dignity of every individual on our college campuses. The incidents outlined in this resolution are occurring across the Nation and threaten the very fabric of our educational institutions. From student organizations calling on fellow students to demonstrate with armed confrontation to

school administrators failing to clearly speak out, it is time to take a stand to safeguard the well-being of our students and to uphold the principles that our Nation was founded on and holds dear.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. HAGEMAN). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I implore my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 798. We must send a resounding message that we will not tolerate the spread of hatred within the halls of our universities.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of my friend from Utah’s resolution that denounces terrorism and anti-Semitism at universities across this country.

The world watched in horror on October 7 when Hamas launched their unprovoked and brutal terrorist attack on Israel causing the greatest single-day of loss of Jewish life since the Holocaust.

I joined the overwhelming majority of Americans in immediately expressing unwavering support for Israel, but, sadly, we have also seen an outbreak of support for the perpetrators of terror, Hamas and Hezbollah, on our college campuses.

What are we teaching college students on these campuses, and what kind of professors are doing this teaching?

In my own district, the Students for Justice in Palestine at the University of Virginia issued a statement that the violence against Israel makes them hopeful for the future of Palestine, implying that Israel was somehow deserving of the atrocities committed against them.

Free speech is protected in this country, but it cannot be used to support terrorist actions.

To the University of Virginia’s credit, the president issued a statement clearly condemning Hamas. Nevertheless many other university administrators were not as definitive in their responses.

This resolution challenges college administrators to condemn anti-Semitism and focus on education rather than liberal indoctrination.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to sponsor this resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUGHIN).

Mrs. HOUGHIN. Madam Speaker, with regard to Israel, the mask has finally come off the woke left whose center of gravity, sadly, is situated in American universities.

Following the barbaric attacks on Israel by Hamas, student groups at universities across the country demonstrated support for the terrorists.

Let me pause to say that again. Demonstrations are happening at universities across the United States in support of terrorists.

A student group at my alma mater, George Washington University, called for the destruction of Israel and the Jewish people.

The liberal ideology is emanating from universities and spreading throughout our corporations and tainting the world view of the next generation of Americans. This is dangerous and must be rejected.

That is why I am an original sponsor of Representative OWENS' resolution condemning the support of terrorists at our institutions of higher education.

I urge all Americans to join me and my colleagues in stating in no uncertain terms that we support our Jewish students and affirm the statehood of Israel and the right of her people to live and to thrive.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 798.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. KILEY).

Mr. KILEY. Madam Speaker, earlier this year, I drafted a resolution condemning anti-Semitism on our college campuses. There had been a deeply disturbing rise in anti-Semitic incidents on campuses in California and across the country, and also a totally inadequate response by university faculty and administration who were unable or unwilling to condemn this activity, and sometimes it happened with their tacit or even outright support of individual faculty members.

This has been a growing problem on university campuses. Just a few years ago, a task force of university faculty in California was tasked with preparing an ethnic studies curriculum for high schools. What they produced was a deeply anti-Semitic document that Gavin Newsom condemned saying that it was offensive in so many ways it would never see the light of day and that the California Legislative Jewish Caucus said echoed the propaganda of the Nazi regime.

Nonetheless, in spite of all of this, nothing could have prepared us for what has happened in the aftermath of Hamas' terrorist attack on the State of Israel. Nothing could have prepared us for the failure of moral leadership where you have university faculty and administration—which have been all too willing to wade into every political controversy of the day with clearly defined views—that have been unable to render the most straightforward of moral judgments, to condemn in clear language an assault and an attack on innocent men, women, children, and babies, an attack on Israel's very right to exist.

Many student groups taking their cue have now targeted Jewish students, and Jewish students are feeling unsafe on our campuses.

Larry Summers, who is the former president of Harvard and a high-ranking Obama official, said this on October 9: "In nearly 50 years of Harvard affiliation, I have never been as disillusioned and alienated as I am today."

"The silence from Harvard's leadership, so far, coupled with a vocal and widely reported student groups' statement blaming Israel solely, has allowed Harvard to appear at best neutral towards acts of terror against the Jewish State of Israel."

"Instead, Harvard is being defined by the morally unconscionable statement apparently coming from two dozen student groups blaming all the violence on Israel. I am sickened."

Today's resolution, which is joining mine with one offered by Representative OWENS, is providing the moral leadership that many of our universities have failed to provide. It "condemns the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff."

It "calls on campus administrators to condemn all forms of anti-Semitism on college campuses; and to ensure Jewish faculty, students, and guests can exercise the same free speech rights that are guaranteed to all other faculty, students, and guests without intimidation. . . ."

Madam Speaker, it is vitally important that this resolution pass and that it do so with strong bipartisan support.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I acknowledge that my colleague is standing against anti-Semitism and that he introduced a measure to require the teaching of the Holocaust. I also introduced an amendment at that same hearing. My amendment would have prohibited the banning by schools and school districts of books about the Holocaust because school districts across the country are banning books like "The Diary of a Young Girl" by Anne Frank and the award-winning graphic novel "Maus" because they found those books too disturbing.

This is exactly what we should be talking about in our hearings, that we should be teaching students the history of the Holocaust using award-winning books because these are the perfect vehicles for making sure that students understand what has happened when anti-Semitism has been allowed to go unchallenged.

I thank my colleague for raising this issue in today's setting and hope they will continue to support efforts to avoid the banning of books on the Holocaust.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN).

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Madam Speaker, as you know, the Holocaust ended

in 1945, but tragically, the hatred behind it has not.

We are all horrified by the surge in violent anti-Semitism taking place across America. Today we are seeing the full force of Jewish contempt on our college and university campuses, and it has never been more hateful. Students are being harassed, threatened, and violently targeted just for being Jewish in 2023.

It is unthinkable that students are unable to walk between classes to their dorms or the dining hall, but it is the reality for Jewish students on campuses today.

The history of the Holocaust warns us what can happen when hatred is met by silence. We cannot stand by while Jewish students feel threatened. It is more than just a discussion. It is a call to action.

Madam Speaker, today I stand before you to condemn these dangerous acts of anti-Semitism. That is why I urge everybody to support Representative OWENS' resolution to condemn support for terrorist organizations on campuses across the Nation. Anti-Semitism is not activism. It is hatred pure and simple, and it has no place in America today.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

For the past 2 weeks, I have been inundated with phone calls, emails, and texts from frantic parents and terrified students who have experienced online hate, taunting from their fellow students, exposure to swastikas on their dorm walls and doors, chants of death to Israel and Jews, and seeing those words chalked on campus walkways. These students sat through anti-Israel and anti-Semitism rants by professors who were supposed to be teaching them, not spreading anti-Israel propaganda.

Rallies were held by students and others who are ignorant about the history of the Middle East and ignorant about the 2,000-year history of anti-Semitism.

Our education system is failing us, and we are seeing it come alive on our college campuses. We are seeing that failure at some of the most illustrious institutions in my State of North Carolina and at my own alma mater in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

We are seeing the failure and inability of university presidents and university chancellors—people who are able to take the simple step of condemning terrorism against Israel and of condemning the gruesome attack by Hamas on innocent Israeli civilians and the taking of hostages—to simply call out and condemn anti-Semitism.

They do this under the guise of free speech.

Madam Speaker, I am glad that Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle are committed to standing strong against terrorism, anti-Semitism, and all forms of hate on college campuses. This is critical.

This is an important and timely resolution that seeks to call out a deeply disturbing pattern of support for terrorism and anti-Semitism that we have been seeing on all too many college campuses in recent weeks.

□ 1615

I am appalled by the inability of our institutions of higher education to be able to stand up for what is right and to take on the initiative to use these incidents as a teaching opportunity. After all, what are our colleges and universities for if they are unable to use this opportunity to teach about what is right and what is accurate.

I ask all my colleagues to join me in voting in support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, in concluding this discussion, I have five words for American colleges: You reap what you sow.

After failing miserably to condemn student support for terrorism on your campuses, Jewish students are now living in fear. The violent anti-Semitic protests of students educated on your campuses have brought to light what for decades has thrived in the dark.

Many American universities are fundamentally adrift. Instead of an environment of enlightenment and one that unites diverse ideas, they have become incubators of hate. They call for inclusion yet exclude the Jewish people. They call for neutrality yet stoke the flames of culture wars that have brought us here.

Deep in the humanities department, seas of bigotry have taken root. The poison fruits of a sanction ideology are now ripe for all to see. In the Committee on Education and the Workforce, we will call out rotten ideologies when we find them.

At this moment, though, we must offer in the clearest terms the condemnation of Hamas brutality and violence. Now is the time for Congress to shine as an example of moral clarity both at home and abroad.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 798, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 798, 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. OWENS. 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.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-76)

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

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 1, 2023.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 30, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 30, 2023, at 3:20 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1170.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4364, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 756, I call up

the bill (H.R. 4364) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 756, the amendment printed in part C of House Report 118-242 is adopted, and the bill, is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4364

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$1,850,998,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$36,560,000, including: Office of the Speaker, \$10,499,000, including \$35,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$3,730,000, including \$15,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$10,499,000, including \$17,500 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$3,099,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$2,809,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, \$2,962,000; Democratic Caucus, \$2,962,000: *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2024 until January 2, 2025.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$810,000,000.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN MEMBER OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 120 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2019 (2 U.S.C. 5322a) for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of Members of the House of Representatives, \$20,638,800, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 120(b) of such Act, an office of a Member of the House of Representatives may use not more than \$46,800 of the allowance available under this heading during legislative year 2024.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2020 (2 U.S.C. 5106) for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices, \$586,000, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$322,300 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the majority, to be allocated among such offices by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and \$263,700 shall

be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Minority Floor Leader.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE STANDING, SPECIAL AND SELECT COMMITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(1) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of standing, special, and select committees (other than the Committee on Appropriations), \$2,600,000, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on House Administration.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(2) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the Committee on Appropriations, \$463,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on Appropriations.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$180,587,000: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2024, except that \$5,800,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room upgrading.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$31,294,000, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2024.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$324,879,000, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than \$25,000 for official representation and reception expenses, of which not more than \$20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than \$2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, \$41,455,000, of which \$9,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$38,793,000, of which \$22,232,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than \$3,000

for official representation and reception expenses, \$213,072,000, of which \$26,477,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds, \$1,250,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$5,512,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$1,987,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$2,240,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$3,900,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, \$14,671,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$934,000; for other authorized employees, \$1,065,000.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$433,390,200, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$1,555,000; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$190,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, contractor support for actuarial projections, and other applicable employee benefits, \$392,368,200, to remain available until March 31, 2025, except that \$37,000,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended; salaries and expenses for Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$27,264,000, of which \$6,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, \$5,895,000, to remain available until expended; Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program, \$3,356,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, \$1,762,000; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$1,000,000.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MODERNIZATION INITIATIVES ACCOUNT

For the House of Representatives Modernization Initiatives Account established under section 115 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2021 (2 U.S.C. 5513), \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That disbursement from this account is subject to approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this account shall only be used for initiatives approved by the Committee on House Administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 110. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES" shall be available only for fiscal year 2024. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2024 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) As used in this section, the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEC. 112. The head of any Federal entity that provides assistance to the House of Representatives in the House's efforts to deter, prevent, mitigate, or remediate cybersecurity risks to, and incidents involving, the information systems of the House shall take all necessary steps to ensure the constitutional integrity of the separate branches of the government at all stages of providing the assistance, including applying minimization procedures to limit the spread or sharing of privileged House and Member information.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,283,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$13,059,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and their assistants, including:

- (1) an allowance of \$3,500 per month to the Attending Physician;
- (2) an allowance of \$2,500 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;
- (3) an allowance of \$900 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;
- (4) an allowance of \$900 per month to 2 assistants and \$900 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and
- (5) \$3,054,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$4,270,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, \$1,766,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, \$588,070,000 of which overtime shall not exceed \$74,976,000 unless

the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$15,000,000 shall be available for retention bonuses.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, and not more than \$7,500 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$192,846,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for fiscal year 2024 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the operation of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, \$8,000,000, of which \$2,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which not more than \$1,000 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$64,637,000: *Provided*, That the Director shall use not less than \$500,000 of the amount made available under this heading for (1) improving technical systems, processes, and models for the purpose of improving the transparency of estimates of budgetary effects to Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public, and (2) to increase the availability of models, economic assumptions, and data for Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for all necessary expenses for surveys and studies, construction, operation, and general and administrative support in connection with facilities and activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than \$5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$149,073,000, of which \$3,200,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$74,304,000, of which \$42,599,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$16,365,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, \$168,439,000, of which \$53,140,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and of which \$41,800,000 shall remain available until expended for the restoration and renovation of the Cannon House Office Building.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; and all electrical substations of the Capitol; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Publishing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$131,751,000, of which \$43,400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That not more than \$10,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2024.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$117,120,000, of which \$80,900,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computing Facility, and Architect of the Capitol security operations, \$81,172,000, of which \$21,100,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$21,187,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon

vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, \$27,692,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

NO BONUSES FOR CONTRACTORS BEHIND SCHEDULE OR OVER BUDGET

SEC. 113. None of the funds made available in this Act for the Architect of the Capitol may be used to make incentive or award payments to contractors for work on contracts or programs for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, unless the Architect of the Capitol, or agency-employed designee, determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; information technology services provided centrally; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$582,605,481, and, in addition, amounts credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2024 under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150), shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$18,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses, including for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$12,739,000 shall remain available until expended for the Teaching with Primary Sources program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,509,000 shall remain available until expended for upgrade of the Legislative Branch Financial Management System: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$250,000 shall remain available until expended for the Surplus Books Program to promote the program and facilitate a greater number of donations to eligible entities across the United States: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$4,205,000 shall remain available until expended for the Veterans History Project to continue digitization efforts of already collected materials, reach a greater number of veterans to record their stories, and promote public access to the Project: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,500,000 shall remain available until expended for the COVID-19 American History Project.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$101,011,000, of which not more than \$38,025,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections

credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2024 under sections 708(d) and 1316 of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,566,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2024 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(3), 803(e), and 1005 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$45,591,000: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$10,300,000 is for modernization initiatives, of which \$9,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an "International Copyright Institute" in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than \$6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$135,797,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate: *Provided further*, That this prohibition does not apply to publication of non-confidential Congressional Research Service (CRS) products: *Provided further*, That a non-confidential CRS product includes any written product containing research or analysis that is currently available for general congressional access on the CRS Congressional Intranet, or that would be made available on the CRS Congressional Intranet in the normal course of business and does not include material prepared in response to Congressional requests for confidential analysis or research.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND
AND PRINT DISABLED
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$69,924,519: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and print disabled residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION
REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND
ACTIVITIES

SEC. 114. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2024, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$324,110,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the Legislative Branch.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE
CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized publishing of congressional information and the distribution of congressional information in any format; publishing of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and publishing, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$82,992,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading "GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND" no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the public information programs of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications in any format, and their preservation and distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$35,257,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and

other related publications for the preceding two fiscal years to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading "GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND" no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS
OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, \$11,605,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Publishing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Director of the Government Publishing Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Director of the Government Publishing Office shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the Business Operations Revolving Fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund and the funds provided under the heading "PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS" may not be used for contracted security services at Government Publishing Office's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6),

and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$806,004,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, in addition, \$73,976,000 of payments received under sections 782, 791, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND

For a payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership Fund for financing activities of the Congressional Office for International Leadership under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$6,000,000.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

TITLE II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2024 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

COSTS OF LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FINANCIAL MANAGERS COUNCIL

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 207. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate, unless through regulations as authorized by section 402(b)(8) of the Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008 (2 U.S.C. 2242(b)(8)).

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

LIMITATION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation for a high or moderate impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, "Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems" unless the agency, office, or other entity acquiring the equipment or system has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST to inform acquisition decisions for high or moderate impact information systems within the Federal Government;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) in consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other appropriate Federal entity, conducted an assessment of any risk of cyber-espionage or sabotage associated with the acquisition of such telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system, including any risk associated with such system being produced, manufactured, or assembled by one or more entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber threat, including but not limited to, those that may be owned, directed, or subsidized by the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or the Russian Federation.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire a high or moderate impact information system reviewed and assessed under subsection (a) unless the head of the assessing entity described in subsection (a) has—

(1) developed, in consultation with NIST and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks;

(2) determined, in consultation with NIST and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that the acquisition of such telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system is in the vital national security interest of the United States; and

(3) reported that determination to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in a manner that identifies the telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system intended for acquisition and a detailed description of the mitigation strategies identified in paragraph (1), provided that such report may include a classified annex as necessary.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

SEC. 209. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities or other official government activities.

LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP

SEC. 210. (a) Section 13144 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP.—For purposes of this section, the relationship between a Member who is providing care directly to a patient in the form of medical services or dental services and the patient to whom such care is provided shall not be considered a fiduciary relationship.”.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to compensation received in fiscal year 2024 or any succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 211. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for any office, program, or activity for the purposes of diversity, equity, and inclusion training or implementation that promotes or perpetuates divisive concepts related to race or sex, such as the concepts that one race or sex is inherently superior to another, or that an individual's moral character or worth is determined by their race or sex.

SEC. 212. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 7 of title 1, United States Code, section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, or any other provision of law, none of the funds provided by this Act, or previous appropriations Acts, shall be used in whole or in part to take any discriminatory action against a person, wholly or partially, on the basis that such person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as, a union of one man and one woman.

(b) DISCRIMINATORY ACTION DEFINED.—As used in subsection (a), a discriminatory action means any action taken by the Federal Government to—

(1) alter in any way the Federal tax treatment of, or cause any tax, penalty, or payment to be assessed against, or deny, delay,

or revoke an exemption from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of, any person referred to in subsection (a);

(2) disallow a deduction for Federal tax purposes of any charitable contribution made to or by such person;

(3) withhold, reduce the amount or funding for, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any Federal grant, contract, subcontract, cooperative agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, employment, or other similar position or status from or to such person;

(4) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any entitlement or benefit under a Federal benefit program, including admission to, equal treatment in, or eligibility for a degree from an educational program, from or to such person; or

(5) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny access or an entitlement to Federal property, facilities, educational institutions, speech fora (including traditional, limited, and non-public fora), or charitable fundraising campaigns from or to such person.

(c) ACCREDITATION; LICENSURE; CERTIFICATION.—The Federal Government shall consider accredited, licensed, or certified for purposes of Federal law any person that would be accredited, licensed, or certified, respectively, for such purposes but for a determination against such person wholly or partially on the basis that the person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction described in subsection (a).

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 213. \$11,000,000.

SEC. 214. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2024.

This division may be cited as the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees.

The gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada.

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

The legislative branch bill is what we do to ourselves. We don't need the President's budget. This is what the House, in its wisdom, does for spending with respect to the House accounts and also some accounts we share with the Senate—Capitol Police, Congressional Budget Office, other agencies like that.

As we look at what we are doing here in the context of this appropriations season, the amount of money that is spent on this represents about a 4.7 percent cut from the previous budget year for purposes of the legislative branch. It gets a little bit less when you add the Senate in, but the House has done its job in terms of leading by example.

Now, you may say, how have you done your job? Let me tell you this:

What we have done with respect to Members' office budgets, committee budgets, and some of the support functions—for instance, in the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, and the General Accountability Office—we have left those accounts at or near what their previous levels were.

Some of them enjoy modest increases, but if you care about constituent services, if you care about doing a good job of being able to hold the Senate's feet to the fire, the White House's feet to the fire, or the people on the other side of the aisle's feet to the fire, you need resources to do that.

The time has never been more important than it is now for us to be able to do our jobs in a way that is appropriate for the challenges that confront our country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Today I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2024.

First, let me thank Mr. AMODEI for his efforts and, of course, my Democratic staffers, Faye Cobb, Monica Garay, and Raquel Spencer, as well as our Republican staffers, Michelle Reinshuttle and Jacquelynn Ripke for their tireless contributions to this subcommittee.

As the chairman indicated, the bill before us today includes \$5.3 billion in discretionary appropriations to fund the offices of the House of Representatives and joint legislative branch items. It also has a decrease of 4.7 percent from the fiscal year 2023 enacted House level and a 2.4 percent decrease in total allocation including Senate items. This bill merely keeps the lights on, but it could and should have done so much better.

Unfortunately, extreme MAGA culture war provisions have haunted all 12 of the House appropriations bills and, of course, legislative branch was not spared. This bill, too, contains provisions that harm diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and the LGBTQ+ community.

Moreover, this bill does not allow legislative branch agencies to employ individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, the DACA program. These are young kids who are capable and have contributed to this Nation. All they are missing is a piece of paper, but they are Americans in every sense of the word you can imagine.

This bill eliminates funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion training or program implementation, including our very own House Office of Diversity and Inclusion, which Republicans have benefited from. All of us have benefited from the efforts of diversity and inclusion. We have more women in our staff. We have greater diversity, greater life experiences. I think that makes this House stronger. Yet, this bill eliminates funding for that.

This House and the many agencies that make up the entire legislative branch of government should make every effort possible to be reflective and considerate of all the people that exist in our great Nation and the many districts that our Members represent.

This bill does nothing to facilitate the use of funds for collective bargaining rights to congressional staffers. Our staffers should be able to do that.

This bill removes a provision to eliminate or reduce plastic waste across the legislative branch of government, further contributing to the impacts of climate change. We are here at the center of government, and we should be fighting climate change, but we are not reducing the use of plastic.

Mr. Speaker, after the attack on January 6, the attack on two congressional staffers in their Virginia district office, and numerous threats to our cybersecurity, I feel strongly that our staff deserves to have a safe place to work, and our visitors deserve to have an even safer place to visit and receive services.

However, in my opinion, this bill misses opportunities to further invest in and enhance our physical and cybersecurity posture.

Our men and women who work hard every day to secure this campus deserve to have the best equipment, tools, and state-of-the-art technology resources readily available to them. Securing this campus both physically and virtually has always been a priority of this subcommittee. Various requests from the Capitol Police and the legislative branch cybersecurity offices have not been met. We must work to protect the campus that supports the governance of our democracy.

The legislative branch bill should never be a place for divisive politics. This bill should be used to ensure that Congress has all the tools it needs to legislate and support the constituents we serve. It should be used to ensure we have a successful democracy through effective and responsible governance.

Folks on the other side of the aisle are obsessed with cutting Federal funding and eliminating programs that help to grow and diversify our country as well as welcome everybody to the table, a big tent approach to government.

Mr. Speaker, when I took the role as the ranking member of this subcommittee, I was looking forward to working with my colleagues on creating a bipartisan bill. However, this bill does not represent a collaboration between two parties. Instead, it includes provisions that have no place within the legislative branch appropriations bill and are hurtful to many Americans, including many of the staff who support this great institution.

Extreme rightwing politics that were so focused on silencing the voices of many in this country turned around and silenced themselves. They created

a situation where no one had a voice, rendering at times this body inoperable for many weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I don't agree with these divisive ideas and tactics. For these reasons, I cannot support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I was remiss in not saying thank you, so I will follow the lead of my esteemed ranking member and thank him and his staff as well as my staff for the way we were able to conduct the committee's business. Even though we disagreed on many things, we weren't disagreeable about it, which, some days, is quite a unique thing in this business. My hat is off to them, and my thank-you is on the record for the help from everybody on both sides.

I will cover a couple of areas in the spirit that the committee worked. My colleague has mentioned the DACA program, which is, frankly, something that, while we may have some disagreements on it, overall, we may agree on more than we disagree. However, as the clerk indicated, this is the Legislative Branch appropriations bill. When we are talking about issues that deal with immigration or the DACA program or anything else, that is the appropriate jurisdiction, in most cases, of the Judiciary Committee.

Therefore, the folks standing up on either side of you, Mr. Speaker, from the Parliamentarian's Office go through that drill and figure out the appropriate jurisdiction for this bill. We came to the conclusion that it wasn't. It doesn't mean that we disagree on a lot of that stuff, but nonetheless, you can't do that in the Legislative Branch bill, so we didn't.

On the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, I am not going to go through what happened in that office over the last few years. I will just say this: It was created by a rule in a previous Congress.

In exercising our appropriate oversight authority in seeing how that money was spent, I will just say that there was a sincere belief that that was not what was intended. When we talk about retreats, gift cards for employees, office bling, and multiple other things, it is not that the mission isn't important. It is, which is why the mission was preserved and moved under the supervision of the Chief Administrative Officer for the House, and an appropriate budget to do that work is fine.

There was part of a reorganization, which now puts them under a different office that is a subset of the Chief Administrative Officer for the House. However, to continue on in a largely unsupervised, autonomous role, where the use of funds was not impressive, the committee thought that it was appropriate to maintain the mission but change the structure for more supervision.

Also, when we talk about staff security, my colleague, the ranking mem-

ber, is absolutely right. It is a concern for everybody. What the committee has done was say that we don't want to just throw a bunch of money at it and say go do good things with security. We wanted to have a plan.

I will tell you this: Each office can designate one of their district offices for planning. My colleague's district is in the Big Apple downtown. Mine is a long way away from there. One size doesn't fit all, so we wanted to be a little thoughtful about that. That is why we deferred from just going in whole hog.

You need to know that the Office of the Sergeant at Arms will now provide cybersecurity. This was done after the committee adjourned. It will now provide cybersecurity support to offices that ask for it.

By the way, my figures indicate there are 364 Members who have availed themselves of some form of funding through the Office of the Sergeant at Arms for security for those offices.

I look forward to continuing that when we get plans that are appropriate for the settings that those district offices are in so we can make a rational, well-based, intelligent decision on how to spend that money.

Mr. Speaker, while we may not be in agreement over the amounts we are spending on each one, I don't know if there is a lot of disagreement on the mission. It is just how much emphasis it gets and how we use taxpayer dollars in a responsible manner to go ahead and pursue those goals.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on House Administration and a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, first, to my colleagues on Appropriations' Legislative Branch Subcommittee, Mr. AMODEI as well as my longtime dear friend Mr. ESPAILLAT, I thank them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364 because it inadequately funds the legislative branch, which is the branch charged with funding responsibilities under Article I of the U.S. Constitution. It dramatically underfunds the Capitol Police, drastically cuts funding to the Architect of the Capitol, and guts the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

As my colleague has mentioned, I serve as the ranking member of the Committee on House Administration. I know firsthand how important it is that our House officers and congressional support agencies are adequately resourced.

We all rely on our nonpartisan institutional partners, some of whom are in this Chamber right now, helping us carry out our constitutional obligations, keeping us safe, providing sub-

ject matter expertise, and facilitating the legislative process.

For that reason, I am very disappointed. This bill, which includes a nearly 5 percent cut to House and joint legislative branch items, inadequately funds many of these entities and the responsibilities that they are required to carry out.

For example, at a time in which the Capitol Police is experiencing an officer shortage crisis, this bill fails to fully fund the department's salaries appropriation requests. How can we hope to attract qualified officers if we don't provide competitive salaries? How can we ensure officers are better trained if they are regularly forced to work overtime rather than attend training sessions? How do we improve officer morale if they need to work double shifts instead of going home to spend time with their families?

The men and women of the Capitol Police have our backs. They have demonstrated that in a time of crisis in this Chamber. We need to have theirs with more than just words.

The bill would also cut funding for the Architect of the Capitol by hundreds of millions of dollars and fail to meet the agency's budget request for the Capitol Police buildings, grounds, and security account. This would hinder the AOC's ability to fulfill all of its responsibilities, making Congress less secure, harming our national security, and putting Members, staff, and our visiting constituents at risk during a time of heightened threats.

Finally, I am deeply frustrated that this bill includes culture war initiatives like eliminating the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion was established based on a bipartisan, unanimous modernization committee recommendation. It provides important services for and works closely with offices on both sides of the aisle. In fact, since its inception in 2019, 225 Republican offices have utilized its services.

It is astonishing that my majority colleagues are going to sabotage their own ability to recruit the best and brightest just to satisfy rightwing extremist grievances about diversity.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and more, I cannot support the bill, and I urge that we do not adopt this bill.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I guess since we are going to stay on it for a minute, I will go ahead and stay on it.

Nobody is opposed to diversity or inclusion. Here are some of the reasons why this office was focused on. This bill that you have before you, Mr. Speaker, is consistent with administrative restructuring to streamline human resources activities consistent with the House Committee on Administration. Bringing the best person for the job in any agency or office under this bill is what we are trying to encourage.

There are currently multiple staff support offices focused on human resources that can be reorganized and streamlined into one. The Chief Administrative Office is consumer focused

and is best suited to create a House-wide office of talent and development. That is a new office that is created under this bill, which, by the way, has the mission of the old ODI.

ODI was created under House rules as its own office but will be moving to the repropoed CAO to become a part of the new office of talent and development. By this restructuring, we expect to increase accessibility to resources provided to House staff by creating a one-stop shop while also saving millions by streamlining duplicative efforts. Not only will the reorganization make activities more efficient, but it will help with oversight.

Now, let's talk about the Capitol Police for a minute. Yes, there were cuts in the requested budget for Capitol Police, but let's talk about uniformed personnel. Let's talk about the Intelligence Division. Let's talk about what the Capitol Police do to protect our campus and our operations. By the way, that is leadership details, as well.

When we talk about all those functions, all of their uniformed officer positions have been fully funded. I will say that again: fully funded. Now, it takes a while to recruit, vet, and train a Capitol Police officer. It is not one of those things where you throw the switch and say we need 500 or 600 more so that we are at our full complement of around 2,200.

It takes a while to train them in the academy before we turn them loose on the job. For the ones you see that they are fully trained, fully vetted, and ready to go, that takes time. It is not a budget function. They were fully funded for that.

We also maintain their intelligence functions, and we also maintain their protective detail functions. There were cuts to the Capitol Police budget, but not in those areas. I will also point out that some of the cuts were in funds that they weren't able to spend in this cycle anyhow.

As we are looking for savings to do the best job in terms of budget responsibility, we also wanted to recognize the reality that if you can't spend it in this cycle, let's not keep it in this cycle.

Mr. Speaker, I will indicate that those were not things that were in a MAGA rush to do this, that, or the other sort of thing. It was trying to be responsible with the legislative branch allocation that we have, which, by the way, is four-tenths of 1 percent of all spending. That doesn't mean that because it is that, we don't care about it. It means we need to do our part, too.

Similarly, the part that you didn't hear is that MRAs were kept the same so Members can keep doing their thing. Committee accounts on both sides were kept the same so Members could keep doing the committees' work on both sides of the aisle. Frankly, in the context that we live in, we think it was the responsible way to lead by example.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I think it is undeniable that during these uncertain times, particularly when we witnessed the regrettable incident in Virginia, where staffers in one of our colleague's district offices were hurt, and given the tension in the world, in our communities, in our cities, and in our district offices, it requires greater investment in security for our constituents that visit on a regular basis our offices, for our staff who are on the front lines in what we do, and for ourselves. I think that, in many ways, we are wide open, and we require the kind of investment that we have not seen in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the House Republican 2024 Legislative Branch funding bill.

This bill falls short of ensuring we can continue to grow a strong and well-functioning legislative branch that is essential to our democracy.

As an institution, we should be increasing our ability to serve our constituents and recruit and retain talented staff and United States Capitol Police officers. We should not merely be treading water.

This bill eliminates the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and does nothing to facilitate the use of funds for collective bargaining rights for congressional staffers.

This bill also does not allow legislative branch agencies to employ individuals who are authorized for employment under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act, DACA.

□ 1645

We made progress in the last Congress, but this bill will take us backwards.

Ranking Member ESPAILLAT said during the markup of this bill, but I believe it is a point that we should emphasize again today: We all have an obligation to make sure that our staff, whether they serve here in Washington, D.C., or if they serve in our home districts, are safe.

I support my colleague's efforts to increase funding to bolster that safety.

This bill is not an appropriate venue for divisive and partisan language, especially the extreme and offensive culture wars riders that House Republicans have placed in each one of the appropriations bills that we have considered.

We should be working together to ensure that the Congress is able to serve the American people, complete the people's business safely, securely, and efficiently, our political differences notwithstanding.

Bipartisan, bicameral legislation is required to keep the government open. Otherwise, the President will not sign

a bill. Bipartisan, bicameral legislation is required to fully fund the legislative branch. It is time for House Republicans to abandon a partisan path to nowhere and to join House Democrats at the negotiation table.

We have wasted enough time. Let us move forward. We are here. We are ready to get to work for the American people.

For all of these reasons, I cannot support this bill, and I ask others not to support it.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), the Buckeye State of Ohio.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in fierce opposition to H.R. 4364. I thank the chairman, but I specifically thank our ranking member for allowing me to speak.

This totally eliminates the funding for the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion. As former chair of the first-ever House Committee on Financial Services Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, I have long been an ardent and vocal champion for diversity and inclusion.

As stated in the 116th Congress, the House Office of D&I was created to cultivate a workplace at the United States House of Representatives that reflects the rich diversity of the districts and the constituents we represent.

While I heard what the chairman says, the records do not reflect that in the talent development office. This office also helps place numerous diverse applicants into staff positions on Capitol Hill. It is critical because, in a 2019 House office study, it found that 70 percent of House employees at that time were White, demonstrating in statistical terms the stunning lack of diversity among House employees.

The Republican effort to eradicate the \$3 million in funding for this office is yet another shortsighted attempt to turn back the clock and to undo the hard-fought gains won by Congress, the people's House. Study after study shows the countless benefits of diversity and inclusion in the workplace, most importantly given the indisputable importance of the congressional staffers on the legislative process, and the direct effect they have on the lives of millions of Americans, the constituents, our constituents that they work with in our districts.

For reference, Mr. Speaker, Speaker Johnson's district is almost 50-50 White to Blacks and minorities. Former Speaker McCarthy's district is 50-50. California's 13th District is actually 66 percent persons of color, and I think, when you look at that, it is very important for us to have staff who reflect that.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Mrs. BEATTY. The recent Speaker pro tempore said that diversity and inclusion would be the top priority.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we reconsider this.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, can I inquire as to how much time is remaining on either side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Nevada has 20 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New York has 15 minutes remaining.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise again to oppose this bill. This bill doesn't do enough. It just doesn't do enough to support critical investment for the future of the legislative branch of government, including critical enhancement to strengthen our physical and cybersecurity posture or provide dedicated funding for the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

In addition, I was shocked not to see bipartisan language that has been supported by both sides of the House for years to allow the legislative branch agencies to employ individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, Program. Every Member's staffer should feel safe as they serve the American people. Every office and committee in Congress should be able to benefit from the bipartisan work carried out by the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Importantly, every Member from every district across the Nation should have access to every resource that will allow them to serve the constituency with the services that they need. This includes the ability to hire a staffer who represents the makeup of their district. That is fundamental in a democracy.

This committee has a long tradition of protecting individual Members' ability to operate their offices how they see fit and employing individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program should be no exception.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to the committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment includes language that would permit funds in the Act to be used to employ individuals with an employment authorization document under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, Program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of this amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me repeat that the legislative branch should never be a place for divisive politics. The legislative branch bill should be used to ensure Congress has the tools it needs to legislate and support the constituents we serve. It should be used to ensure we have a successful democracy through effective and responsible governance.

The Republicans, again, are obsessed with cutting and cutting Federal funds and eliminating programs that help to grow and diversify our country. Passing these partisan bills will not help keep the government open. It just will not make that happen. We should be really focused on keeping our government open and preventing a pending shutdown.

The former Speaker met with the President and had a handshake. Let's honor that handshake. Let's not cut to the bone and hurt the American people. I don't agree also with these divisive ideas and partisan tactics. I believe we can and should do much better.

For these reasons, I cannot support this bill.

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

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, there have been a few areas covered, and so I will try to be brief. I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to thank my colleague from New York for his collegiality and professionalism in the way that we have gone through this process this year and I look forward to working with him in the future.

Architect of the Capitol, their top ten projects were funded. I know there has been some discussion about it. We didn't pick them. We asked them to pick them, and so they did.

In these times, when we are running deficits that are in the t neighborhood, not the b neighborhood, I don't think it is inappropriate to say we probably ought to look at some of the largest areas that we spend money on. When you look at the leg branch allocation, that pie chart, the biggest slice of the pie in the whole thing, other than running our offices and our committees and paying our employee benefits, is Architect of the Capitol.

Give us your ten top priorities. I don't think that is partisan. I think that is responsible fiscal management. You can keep moving forward, but it is not like we don't have to eventually pay those bills.

The Sergeant at Arms office, as I have indicated—and I won't spend a lot of time on it—is there and funded under this bill for cybersecurity and for one district office. If you have multiple ones, that doesn't make you a bad person. It just means you have to submit a plan, and we have to talk about how we deal with one district versus another based upon the realities on the ground of making that district office secure.

Maybe it is a panic button. Maybe there is something else depending on

that. I don't think it is irresponsible for Americans to expect the people who are responsible for spending their money to ask that we ask a few questions before we just say, Go do what you think you need to, and we will figure out a way to pay for it. That won't work.

They want to make an exception for the House of Representatives that isn't there for most other folks. We are not going to do it. We need to deal with DACA comprehensively, and we should, and I will be there at the first meeting, the middle meeting, and the last meeting to deal with them.

As a matter of fact, in previous Congresses, I have supported some DACA measures, which, quite frankly, weren't in compliance with what some people think a good Republican ought to be doing or whatever, but it was trying to solve a problem. It does not solve the DACA problem by carving out a tiny exception for Congress to be able to pretend like the rules on DACA shouldn't apply to us just like they do everybody else, so that is why we are at where we are at.

Finally, I hadn't wanted to do this, but since this is an appropriations subcommittee and we talk about money and we are worried about the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, let me tell you why it was decided to move it. It spent \$15,000 on a staff retreat at the Salamander, a luxury resort in Middleburg, Virginia; spent thousands of taxpayer dollars on customized swag, including windbreakers; spent tens of thousands of dollars on partisan diversity events we talked about not being partisan for Black History Month, Women's History Month, as well as \$25,000 for racial equity group training.

The office went over a year without a director as House Democrats failed to fill the position and even put one of their own staffers down there temporarily in an acting capacity while still serving as the assigned oversight staffer for House admin Democrats, a clear conflict of interest.

It used taxpayer dollars to give away gift cards to staff for attending their programming; spending that is not allowed in any other context, committee or personal office budgets, and which could raise ethics questions. It is not like somebody wanted to be mean to somebody because they had a political disagreement. This is fiscal irresponsibility and needs to be addressed.

I will finish with this: We addressed the oversight problem, which appropriations does, but kept the mission intact in the Chief Administrative Officer.

With that, I would hope that Members would see their way clear to support this bill as a logical step for leading by example, but not basically handicapping us.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364, the Republican FY24 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act.

The Legislative Branch Appropriations bill provides the funding that all of our offices rely on for the resources we need to serve our constituents and legislate for the good of the nation. It funds our Capitol Police, Sergeant at Arms, and Architect of the Capitol to keep the Capitol complex safe, secure, and functioning for staff and visitors. It supports the research and preservation work at the Library of Congress and the beloved Botanic Garden.

I am disappointed that the bill before us today stalls the progress that we made under a Democratic majority in recent years by not investing enough in the resources needed to operate Congress as a modern, effective, and co-equal branch of our democratic government.

My opposition to the bill is not solely due to the inadequate funding levels. This bill, like all of the Republican appropriations measures, embraces right-wing social policy fights that have no place in the bills that fund our government.

It eliminates direct funding for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and prohibits funding from being used to train staff and improve the diversity, equity, and inclusion of the Congressional workplace. It does not include the language that allows the legislative branch to employ Americans certified under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. It creates a license to blatantly discriminate against LGBTQI+ people under the guise of religious liberty and face no penalties for that blatant discrimination.

The People's House should be a place where all people of this diverse nation are welcomed, included, and treated equitably. Instead, this bill advances an agenda that is hurtful to many of the staff that work here and the constituents we represent.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is dead on arrival in the Senate. We may have a new Speaker in this chamber, but Republicans are still pursuing the same partisan path on appropriations bills.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 756, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 4364 is postponed.

□ 1700

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution I previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 773

Whereas George Anthony Devolder Santos, known as George Santos, was elected to represent New York's 3d Congressional District in the House of Representatives on November 8, 2022;

Whereas after election day, it was revealed George Santos lied about a significant portion of his background, including his education and previous employment;

Whereas George Santos has a long history of misrepresenting his and his family's connections to major events, including the Holocaust, the September 11th terrorist attacks, and the Pulse nightclub shooting;

Whereas, on May 9, 2023, George Santos was indicted on 13 counts of wire fraud, money laundering, stealing public funds, and lying on Federal financial disclosure forms to the House of Representatives;

Whereas a Federal grand jury indicted an aide to George Santos' campaign on charges of wire fraud and identity theft for defrauding potential donors by impersonating Speaker Kevin McCarthy's former Chief of Staff;

Whereas, on October 5, 2023, George Santos' former campaign treasurer pled guilty to falsifying campaign finance reports, including lying about a \$500,000 loan that George Santos claimed to have donated to the campaign himself;

Whereas, on October 10, 2023, George Santos was federally charged with an additional 10 criminal counts;

Whereas the additional charges were serious in nature, including conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States, wire fraud, aggravated identity theft, access device fraud, false statements to the Federal Election Commission, and falsifying records to obstruct the commission;

Whereas the indictment outlined a vast amount of evidence against Santos, including conversations he held with his former campaign treasurer outlining plans to commit the fraud he is charged with;

Whereas these charges indicate that George Santos engaged in serious financial fraud throughout his 2022 campaign for the House of Representatives;

Whereas George Santos stole over \$44,000 from donors by charging their credit cards without authorization;

Whereas George Santos directly profited from his fraudulent actions, including transferring money to his own bank account to buy luxury items and pay off personal debts;

Whereas George Santos engaged in election fraud throughout his 2022 campaign by deceiving voters regarding his biography, defrauding donors, and engaging in other illegal campaign behavior; and

Whereas, as a result of these actions, George Santos is not fit to serve his constituents as a United States Representative: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, pursuant to article I, section 5, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, Representative George Santos, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule IX, the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues on this floor, we were elected with a commitment to work on both sides of the aisle to represent our constituents and the American people.

Unfortunately, we learned very early into Mr. SANTOS' term that he was elected under false pretenses, which made it clear that he cannot represent the great constituents of Nassau County and across this country.

Since he was elected in November of 2022, we have learned about countless lies, deceptions, and 23 charges against Mr. SANTOS.

It is in the best interest of the constituents of New York's 3rd and all Americans that he is expelled from the House of Representatives.

The lies, the deceptions about September 11 terrorist attacks, his education, his work history, his faith, the fact that he was Jew-ish, claiming that his grandparents escaped the horrors of the Holocaust. We also saw that he pled to a crime in Brazil.

I was one of the first Members of Congress to call for his resignation, doing so in January.

In May, I motioned for an expulsion resolution to be referred to the Committee on Ethics, asking for a thorough and expedient investigation, as there were not yet two-thirds "yes" votes needed from this Chamber for him to be expelled.

Despite my desire to see Mr. SANTOS no longer serving in Congress, I believed that this would be the quickest way to rid him from the institution, and I thanked that committee. They recently released a memo interviewing over 40 witnesses, reviewing over 170,000 pages of documents, doing their due diligence.

Just weeks ago, Mr. SANTOS' former campaign treasurer pled guilty to falsifying campaign finance reports, including lying about a \$500,000 loan that Mr. SANTOS claimed to have donated to the campaign himself.

Days later, Mr. SANTOS was charged with an additional 10 criminal counts. These charges included conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States of America, aggravated identity theft, and the indictment outlined a vast amount of evidence against Mr. SANTOS.

All you have to do is look at the lies and deceptions in the resolution and details of the indictments—multiple indictments—to see that Mr. SANTOS is a stain on this institution and not fit to serve his constituents in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, over the last days I have heard from many Members saying that there is due process, that there is precedent.

Well, I stand before you today, Mr. Speaker, in saying that if we are going to set a new precedent today, that we are against lying fraudsters coming to the House of Representatives, then I am all for that precedent. I will add to that, Mr. Speaker, that many individuals have come to Washington, D.C., to rid us of the swamp.

Well, today, we have an opportunity to set a new precedent and to remove someone from the House of Representatives that is not properly representing

the people of New York's Third Congressional District.

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

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

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LALOTA).

Mr. LALOTA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and fellow Long Islander, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, for yielding me time to speak for my fellow New York colleagues who are joining us this afternoon.

New Yorkers from Queens and Nassau Counties deserve better than GEORGE SANTOS—a total fraud and serial liar—representing them in Congress. Each day that Mr. SANTOS is allowed to remain a Member of Congress, my New York neighbors to the west are being denied real representation in these Halls. That is because their Representative is incapable of getting a bill passed, a project funded, or even sitting on a committee because he lacks the minimum amount of trust necessary of a Member of Congress.

Today, the best way to support my fellow New Yorkers and overcome GEORGE SANTOS' fraud is to expel GEORGE SANTOS from the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. SANTOS has said expelling him before he is formally charged and found guilty would create new precedent in this body, one that could have negative consequences for generations.

Respectfully, Mr. Speaker, I disagree. The consequences and precedents for not expelling him for his lies and fraud have the potential to do far more damage to this institution.

I would submit today that we have an opportunity to set a new standard, a new precedent, that if a candidate for Congress makes his entire life up in order to defraud voters and donors and subsequently those voters reasonably rely on that candidate's lies to elect him or her, that we, the House of Representatives, will exercise the authority given to us in the Constitution to expel that Member.

GEORGE SANTOS' lies are more widespread than even the most untrustworthy politicians, and these lies were necessary to get him elected.

GEORGE SANTOS didn't just lie about his family's business dealings, like President Biden did, SANTOS lied about everything about his professional background, from his family's wealth to working for Goldman Sachs and Citigroup.

SANTOS committed this fraud, this election fraud, to create an entirely new persona that voters and donors could support. SANTOS' treasurer, his conspirator, recently pled guilty to their criminal conspiracy, which included faking a six-figure loan to the campaign to induce more contributions.

GEORGE SANTOS didn't just lie about attending a school on full scholarship

or finishing in the top half of his class, like President Biden did, rather, SANTOS went much further.

To defraud voters and to swindle donors out of millions, GEORGE SANTOS lied about his entire education; not that he graduated in a certain part of his class, not that he received a specific award. Those lies are reserved for other slimy politicians and are worthy of different kinds of rebuke, less than expulsion.

GEORGE SANTOS lied about attending and graduating from Baruch College, meanwhile, he never attended Baruch. He never took one class. The fabulist even made up an entire fictional story about how he was a star on the school's volleyball team.

GEORGE SANTOS thinks that we are fools, Mr. Speaker. GEORGE SANTOS didn't just lie about being at Ground Zero on the day after September 11, like President Biden did, GEORGE SANTOS went much further, saying that his mother was in the south tower on 9/11 and escaped only to later die from a 9/11-related illness.

SANTOS lied about his association with 9/11 to win over Long Island families, families of cops and firefighters and other innocent people who died on 9/11, and whose hearts were ripped out that fateful day.

He did it as part of a broader scheme to defraud voters and donors to get him elected to Congress.

To further defraud voters and swindle donors out of millions, GEORGE SANTOS even lied about being Jewish. Like his lies about his association with 9/11, SANTOS lied about being Jewish as part of a calculated attempt to win over voters in the district that SANTOS is attempting to trick who has a strong Jewish population.

GEORGE SANTOS says the decision of whether he should remain in Congress should be left up to the people of New York's Third District.

I would argue that these New Yorkers were robbed of this opportunity when they were duped into voting for a fictitious candidate to represent them in Congress.

GEORGE SANTOS has stated himself that he lied about several parts of his life, including his education, and his mother dying as a result of 9/11. Today, 78 percent of his constituents support his expulsion from Congress.

GEORGE SANTOS also falsely claims that his expulsion is barred by the Constitution's 5th and 14th Amendment's due process clauses. Yet, the due process clauses do not apply to House proceedings such as expulsions. Moreover, the Constitution more broadly affords the accused the knowledge of the accusation against him, the opportunity to be heard, the ability to confront his or her accuser, and to be afforded a speedy trial.

Mr. Speaker, as of today, each of those conditions has been met. Nothing in the Constitution gives GEORGE SANTOS the right to endlessly stall and to abuse his office to seek a more preferable conviction or a plea deal.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. SANTOS' behavior has shown a consistent disregard for the principles of bipartisanship, servant leadership, good governance, and civil discourse. He has shown no interest in being a serious Member of this Chamber or to do the people's work.

A Member of Congress should be committed to the betterment of the Nation and willing to compromise for the greater good. His actions and statements have demonstrated a concerning lack of this commitment.

Mr. Speaker, let's get the people of New York's Third District some decent representation. Let's raise the bar here in the House of Representatives. Let's hold one of our own accountable. Let's expel GEORGE SANTOS.

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

□ 1715

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN).

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution to expel GEORGE SANTOS from Congress, as I did in May when I cosponsored a similar expulsion resolution that the sponsors of today's resolution, my Republican colleagues from New York, did not support.

I agree with everything that my Republican colleagues have said here today, but everything they have said here today was also true in May when they voted to protect GEORGE SANTOS.

Has there been anything that has changed? Nothing about the numerous lies that Mr. SANTOS admitted himself to making in order to deceive his voters into electing him, nothing about his status as an indicted criminal defendant. Yes, there has been a superseding indictment with more allegations of criminal conduct, but he is still presumed innocent until proven guilty, as my New York friends relied upon in May when they voted to protect GEORGE SANTOS from expulsion.

Nothing has changed from the Ethics Committee, even though one of my colleagues from New York said that the Ethics Committee would expedite its investigation and release a report 60 days from the date of that May vote. Well, we are now 175 days since then and there is no ethics report that would prompt a change of heart.

One thing that has changed is that Mr. SANTOS' campaign treasurer pled guilty to fraud and admitted under oath that she conspired with Mr. SANTOS to fabricate a nonexistent \$500,000 loan to his campaign, but the resolution drafted by my friends from New York does not even mention that new fact.

What really has changed since May? Is it because we are learning revelations of connections between Mr. SANTOS and our other Republican colleagues from New York serving in this body? Maybe. There is certainly one

thing we know that is motivating this change of heart: the 2024 election.

I know that the people of New York care about integrity. They care that one of their Republican Representatives is a liar and a fraud. They care about the fact that Mr. SANTOS has done nothing to serve his constituents yet still provides a loyal and vital vote to the Republican Party.

GEORGE SANTOS hangs like an albatross around the necks of every single Republican from New York. They don't care any more today about integrity or morality or the reputation of this institution than they did in May when they voted to protect Mr. SANTOS. They just care about their reelection in 1 year, when they know that their support for GEORGE SANTOS is going to be a problem.

Mr. SANTOS should be expelled from Congress today for the same reasons that he should have been expelled in May. He himself admitted to numerous lies that he made during the campaign to deceive the voters. He is only walking these Halls and voting on this floor because of those lies. Now, we have additional testimony that he conspired to commit fraud.

Democrats will once again vote to expel someone who should never have had the honor of walking these Halls and voting on legislation affecting the American people. The only question is whether Republicans care more about honor and integrity than they do about political power.

I hope the answer is yes, but I fear the answer is no.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First, I recognize some of the comments from my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GOLDMAN) when he asked what has changed.

What has changed is that there are an additional 13 charges in an indictment with a campaign treasurer pleading guilty. What has changed is that when we had discussed this back in May, when he cosponsored that legislation, I made it very clear that I was in support of it, but I also know how to count and realized that we did not have two-thirds of the House. Perhaps we won't this evening.

What I do know is that the Ethics Committee has been working hard, as they issued a memo, as I referred to a few minutes ago, reviewing over 170,000 pages of documents, interviewing 40 witnesses, and issuing subpoenas. Things have changed.

I find it very hard to take advice about serving constituents, Mr. Speaker, from a gentleman who has outright supported a rogue DA like Alvin Bragg in New York City, who has turned one of the greatest cities in this country into an outright disaster. Just ask your constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LAWLER).

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, I will say, listening to the sanctimoniousness

of my colleague from New York is quite priceless, talking about politics. This is a gentleman who couldn't even condemn the New York City DSA in an op-ed and, in fact, was more upset that I introduced a resolution condemning them than the actions of those individuals within the New York City DSA that supported the Hamas terrorist attack on Israel. That is precisely because of politics, because his district is one of the most progressive districts in America. He couldn't muster the courage to even condemn the New York City DSA, so save us your sanctimoniousness sitting over there with your smug look.

Mr. Speaker, nobody wants to be in a situation where they are expelling a Member of Congress. It is serious, and it comes with weight and gravity because that individual was elected by their constituents to serve and to represent their district. You don't expel a Member for being a jerk. You don't expel a Member for something they said. You expel a Member for their conduct.

The conduct of Mr. SANTOS has been embarrassing and unbecoming and unfit for public office. Lying about your background, lying about your life experiences, making up events that didn't occur in an effort to bamboozle voters into believing that you are the right person to represent them, is wrong, fundamentally wrong. It is why all of us called for Mr. SANTOS to resign when this information came to light.

The resolution that was brought about in May was referred to the Ethics Committee for two reasons. Number one, there was not two-thirds of the vote to expel; and, number two, you wanted to allow for a process to get more information that Members could hang their hat on in a vote. That process is ongoing. We all would have liked to have seen it resolved more expeditiously than it has been, but given the voluminous amount of lies, it has taken time.

What has changed since May is that you have a guilty plea by the treasurer who was involved in this scam who has laid out precisely what happened, and you have a superseding indictment, 13 additional felony charges, outlining precisely what happened.

Yes, Mr. SANTOS will get his day in court, but for the purposes of this body, we now have more than enough information from a court of law, with the guilty plea of his treasurer, to expel him from Congress.

When you can sit with a straight face and say that you attended an institution like Baruch College or that you were a volleyball superstar and recite this on a nationally syndicated radio show, when you can make up the fact that your mother was in the Twin Towers on September 11 with not even an ounce of shame or remorse, you are unfit to serve.

All of us, being from New York, remember that day precisely. I was in my fifth day of freshman year of high

school. The number of my classmates whose parents were in the building, whose parents didn't come home, the number of first responders in each of our districts who still today are dying from 9/11-related illnesses, this is not something you joke about or you lie about. It is unfit.

We, as Members of this body, despite the political nonsense that just came out of my colleague's mouth from New York, we, as Members of this body, have tried to allow for a process to take place, allow for a process in which the Members of this body can be confident that Mr. SANTOS should be expelled from Congress.

That process has been allowed to play out, both in the Ethics Committee and here today. Based on the conviction and guilty plea of his treasurer and the admission of the fraud that was perpetrated upon donors, upon the NRCC, upon former Speaker MCCARTHY's chief of staff, that is more than sufficient evidence and information to expel Mr. SANTOS from Congress.

There is not enough time to go through the litany of lies that Mr. SANTOS has engaged in during his campaign and during his time in Congress, including just recently a claim that his 5-year-old niece was kidnapped by Chinese Communist Party spies.

All of us take seriously the oath that we took. All of us want to uphold the integrity of this institution. We are willing to take on a member of our party not for political gain, not because we think this is fun, but because it is right.

I would ask my colleague from New York, name me one time you ever stood up to your party. You couldn't even muster the courage to denounce the New York City DSA.

We will do what is right. We have brought this resolution forward, and I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in favor of Mr. SANTOS' expulsion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, efforts taken by other Members in this body to act as judge, jury, and executioner are unconscionable and reckless to our Republican system of government and to the integrity of this body.

I stand today to continue to prove my innocence of these allegations and charges leveled against me. I would like to say I understand the point of view of my colleagues, but I don't.

□ 1730

One can't say that they are pro-Constitution and at the same time act as judge, jury, and executioner.

Where is the consistency, Mr. Speaker?

The actions taken within this body are delicate, and consistency is essential. Now is not the time to set a dangerous precedent.

Consider this: The last time a Member of Congress was expelled was in 2002, following a criminal conviction. In fact, both expulsions in the last two centuries took place after the defendants had been convicted.

To my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I would like to remind you that many of you are supporting another Member of Congress who is under investigation—it is the second time he has been indicted—and even one who recently pleaded guilty to a crime. Rather than calling for their resignation, here we are.

I must warn my colleagues that voting for expulsion at this point would circumvent the judicial system's right to due process that I am entitled to and desanctify the long-held premise that one is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

It is unconscionable to think that this body, which is at war with the DOJ over their politically motivated practices, would blindly accept their accusation against a member of another branch of government.

We were each elected to Congress because our constituents supported our pledge to uphold the Constitution, protect our liberties, and put their needs first. We swore with our palms to the Bible to do so.

This expulsion, unfortunately, is politically motivated by some Members within this body. They believe that by attempting to expel me, they will garner political points, capitalize on political fundraising, and receive congratulations from those who do not approve of my voting record.

During this Congress, we have seen the world set aflame, our allies attacked, recession looming, crime out of control, an unprecedented border crisis, and the diminishment of American power, prestige, and respect at home and around the globe. We should focus on solving these pressing issues that plague our Nation and that affect our citizens every single day. Instead, we are prioritizing petty politics and undermining the integrity of our system of government, all for political cheap gains.

Pettifog all you want, but you can never say I am not committed to serving my constituents of New York's Third Congressional District. I have strived to build relationships and institutional acumen to represent and legislate for my people back home. Since I took office, over 1,100 cases for constituents have been solved, key relationships with stakeholders in the district have been built, and a fresh voice of common sense and servant leadership has returned to New York.

My office has no strings attached to political parties and apparatuses back home, so I am free to represent them openly here without the overlords of the GOP over my head in New York and Nassau County.

My office has done instrumental work regarding passports, collaborating with State and local agencies,

working with the Department of State throughout this ongoing Israel crisis for constituents overseas, and countless other requests.

In addition, I am proud to have two fully staffed district offices serving the constituents of New York's Third District, participating in the service academy nominations for dozens of exceptional candidates from Long Island and Northeast Queens, and being involved in the Congressional Art Competition.

One of my highest honors of being in Congress was presenting a Purple Heart medal to a World War I hero's surviving family member after years of them attempting to garner this from my predecessor. I will never cease to honor those who have defended this Republic and our homeland.

From my involvement in assisting residents of New York's Third District being held hostage by Hamas terrorists to my contributions in the effort to close the migrant shelter at the Creedmoor facility in Bellerose, being a champion for the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, and my resolve to clamp down on China's growing influence against American interests, there is one thing consistent and unwavering, and that is dedication to selfless service. This motivates me to work day in and day out on behalf of them and to represent their interests and values.

I am proud to have one of the most conservative voting records in the 118th Congress and the most conservative voting record in New York's delegation. I will never apologize for voting in line with conservative principles and my district.

Let us remember our commitment to justice ensures that the presumption of innocence is upheld in all cases.

I requested that my evaluation be based on the work I do in this body, and you granted me a reprieve earlier this year on the advice of former Speaker of the House KEVIN MCCARTHY. I am asking the Chamber to please uphold those same principles today.

I hope that my colleagues come to their senses and recognize that the perilous consequences of a trial by media are damaging. The loss of the presumption of innocence establishes a dangerous precedent that threatens the very foundation of our legal system, and we risk losing the trust that the American people have placed in us by passing judgment without due process.

If we work together, we can protect the integrity of our system and the rights of all citizens.

I am fighting tooth and nail to clear my name in front of the entire world, Mr. Speaker. It hasn't been easy, but I am fighting by God's grace.

On a final note, as we wear these pins and stand within these Chambers as elected Members of Congress, we cannot speak out of both sides of our mouths. Promising to uphold the principles of the Constitution while simultaneously trampling on the principles that underpin our fundamental rights

granted by the Constitution is hypocrisy.

I hope that the House will understand the scope of this vote and have the courage to do what is right, not what is politically expedient.

I stand firmly in my innocence and my passion to represent the people of New York's Third District if the voters would continue to have me. It is their responsibility and their responsibility alone to elect or remove me from Congress.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me to make my case directly to you.

For God, for country, for liberty. God bless the United States of America, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I first would point out that constitutional due process doesn't apply here.

We have the facts. They have been outlined over the last 10 months, and the facts are that Mr. SANTOS actually admitted to those lies and deceptions.

He references the concern of this body and the fact that we may be losing trust. I want to let everyone in on a stark reminder. Coming from New York, New Yorkers don't agree on much of anything, but 78 percent of the individuals who live in the Third Congressional District do not want GEORGE SANTOS as their Representative, so it seems to me that trust has already been lost.

Like my colleagues mentioned, this is not something we want to do. In fact, I wasn't elected to Congress, nor were my colleagues here from New York, to entertain issues like this. While Mr. SANTOS referenced the work that needs to be done here in the 118th Congress, like fighting the out-of-control spending from the Biden administration, holding President Biden accountable for his lies and deception and failure to uphold the Constitution, securing our southern border, keeping our communities safe, making this country energy independent—yes, that is the work that we want to do. That is the work that our neighbors sent us here to do. Each time we attempt to do that work, we are sidetracked by yet another story involving GEORGE SANTOS.

So you see, we are here today because we have heard all the facts. We know what is at stake, and yes, we understand that there is a precedent. But, by God, if there is ever a time that the American people want to see a new standard, want to see a new precedent set on Capitol Hill, I think now is the time. They have watched over the last 3 or 4 weeks while we tried to find our new Speaker of the House. This government was on hold, and we couldn't do the work of the American people.

Do you know what? They are looking at us and want us to be held to a higher standard. That is why we are putting this resolution on the floor, not because we want to and not for political points.

This resolution would have been put forth by me whether I represent a bright red district or the brightest of blue districts. This is about doing the right thing. It is about putting this institution first, and it is about giving the people of the Third Congressional District the opportunity to be represented.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the resolution.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the adoption of the resolution.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 31, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 31, 2023, at 3:15 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1146.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE NANCY PELOSI, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Member of Congress:

OCTOBER 31, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker Emerita and U.S. Representative for the 11th Congressional District of California, have been served with third-party subpoenas from the prosecution and the defendant to produce documents in a criminal case in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compli-

ance with the subpoenas is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House to the extent it requires production of non-privileged information. The responses to the subpoenas will be identical.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker Emerita.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1826

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN) at 6 o'clock and 26 minutes p.m.

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution that was previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. Res. 829

Whereas in May 2019, Rashida Tlaib said that she celebrated the Holocaust, and felt a "calming feeling" when thinking about the genocide of millions of Jews;

Whereas in 2020, Rashida Tlaib retweeted an illustration with the caption, "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free", and this Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) slogan has been adopted by Hamas and calls for the elimination of Israel and the death of all Jews;

Whereas in September 2022, Rashida Tlaib, as a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, displayed her disdain for Israel, saying, "You cannot claim to hold progressive values yet back Israel's apartheid government.";

Whereas instead of denouncing the horrors of Hamas slaughtering Israelis and demanding the release of all hostages held by Hamas, Rashida Tlaib stated on October 8, 2023, "The path to the future must include lifting the blockade, ending the occupation, and dismantling the apartheid system that creates the suffocating dehumanizing conditions that can lead to resistance.";

Whereas Rashida Tlaib exhibited her hatred for America by reposting a message on October 12, 2023, blaming America for allowing the deaths of Palestinian babies at the hands of Israel;

Whereas Rashida Tlaib led an insurrection at the United States Capitol Complex on October 18, 2023, which put Members of Congress, their staffs, and Capitol visitors in danger by shutting down elevators, stairwells, and points of egress, while obstructing official business in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, including a Senate Foreign Affairs Committee hearing;

Whereas the insurrection led by Rashida Tlaib was organized by Jewish Voice for Peace, which the Anti-Defamation League calls "a radical anti-Israel activist group that advocates for a complete economic, cul-

tural and academic boycott of the state of Israel", and that believes "Israeli policies and actions are motivated by deeply rooted Jewish racial chauvinism and religious supremacism.";

Whereas members of the Southern Poverty Law Center, a far-left nonprofit organization, were present at the insurrection at the Capitol on October 18, 2023;

Whereas several insurrectionists at the Capitol belong to a group messaging chat called, "Global Intifada", which is the Arabic word for "rebellion" or "uprising", and refers to a series of protests and violent riots carried out by Palestinians in Israel during the last century;

Whereas by leading an anti-American and antisemitic insurrection on October 18, 2023, Rashida Tlaib followed Hezbollah's orders to carry out a "day of unprecedented anger" following an explosion at a Gazan hospital, lying about Israel's responsibility for the attack, which United States intelligence agencies said was not perpetrated by Israel; and

Whereas Members of Congress who denounce the United States while praising terrorist organizations are unfit to hold office: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) Representative Rashida Tlaib be censured;

(2) Representative Rashida Tlaib forthwith present herself in the well of the House of Representatives for the pronouncement of censure; and

(3) Representative Rashida Tlaib be censured with the public reading of this resolution by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

MOTION TO TABLE

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Ms. Clark of Massachusetts moves to lay the resolution on the table.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to table.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that they noes appeared to have it.

Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 222, nays 186, not voting 24, as follows:

[Roll No. 559]

YEAS—222

Adams	Carson	Davis (IL)
Aguilar	Carter (LA)	Davis (NC)
Allred	Cartwright	Dean (PA)
Armstrong	Casar	DeGette
Balint	Case	DeLauro
Barragán	Casten	DeBene
Beatty	Castor (FL)	Deluzio
Bera	Castro (TX)	DeSaulnier
Beyer	Cherfilus-	Dingell
Bishop (GA)	McCormick	Doggett
Blumenauer	Chu	Duarte
Blunt Rochester	Clark (MA)	Edwards
Bonamici	Clarke (NY)	Escobar
Bowman	Cleaver	Eshoo
Boyle (PA)	Clyburn	Espallat
Brown	Cohen	Fletcher
Brownley	Connolly	Foster
Buck	Courtney	Foushee
Budzinski	Craig	Frankel, Lois
Bush	Crockett	Frost
Caraveo	Crow	Gallego
Carbajal	Cuellar	Garamendi
Cárdenas	Davids (KS)	García (IL)

Garcia (TX) Lynch
 Garcia, Robert Magaziner
 Golden (ME) Manning
 Goldman (NY) Massie
 Gomez Matsui
 Gonzalez, McBeth
 Vicente McClellan
 Green, Al (TX) McClintock
 Griffith McCollum
 Grijalva McCormick
 Grothman McGarvey
 Hageman McGovern
 Harder (CA) Meeks
 Hayes Menendez
 Higgins (NY) Meng
 Himes Mfume
 Horsford Miller (OH)
 Houlahan Miller-Meeks
 Hoyer Moolenaar
 Hoyle (OR) Moore (WI)
 Huffman Morelle
 Huizenga Moskowitz
 Issa Moulton
 Ivey Mrvan
 Jackson (IL) Mullin
 Jackson (NC) Nadler
 Jacobs Neal
 Jayapal Neguse
 Jeffries Nickel
 Johnson (GA) Norcross
 Johnson (SD) Ocasio-Cortez
 Kamlager-Dove Omar
 Kaptur Pallone
 Keating Panetta
 Kelly (IL) Pappas
 Khanna Pascrell
 Kildee Payne
 Kilmer Pelosi
 Kim (NJ) Peltola
 Krishnamoorthi Perez
 Kuster Peters
 LaMalfa Pettersen
 Landsman Pingree
 Larsen (WA) Pocan
 Larson (CT) Porter
 Lee (CA) Pressley
 Lee (NV) Quigley
 Lee (PA) Ramirez
 Leger Fernandez Raskin
 Levin Ross
 Lieu Roy
 Lofgren Ruiz

NAYS—186

Aderholt De La Cruz
 Alford DesJarlais
 Allen Diaz-Balart
 Amodei Donalds
 Arrington Duncan
 Babin Dunn (FL)
 Bacon Ellzey
 Baird Emmer
 Balderson Estes
 Banks Ezell
 Barr Fallon
 Bean (FL) Feenstra
 Bentz Ferguson
 Bergman Finstad
 Bice Fischbach
 Biggs Fitzgerald
 Bilirakis Fitzpatrick
 Bishop (NC) Fleischmann
 Boebert Flood
 Bost Foxx
 Brecheen Franklin, Scott
 Buchanan Fry
 Bucshon Fulcher
 Burchett Gaetz
 Burgess Gallagher
 Burlison Garcia, Mike
 Calvert Gimenez
 Cammack Gonzales, Tony
 Carey Good (VA)
 Carl Gooden (TX)
 Carter (GA) Gosar
 Carter (TX) Granger
 Chavez-DeRemer Graves (LA)
 Ciscomani Graves (MO)
 Cline Green (TN)
 Cloud Greene (GA)
 Clyde Guest
 Cole Guthrie
 Collins Harris
 Comer Harshbarger
 Crane Hern
 Crawford Higgins (LA)
 Crenshaw Hill
 D'Esposito Hinson
 Davidson Houchin

Ruppersberger
 Ryan
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schneider
 Scholten
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Scott, David
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Slotkin
 Smith (WA)
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spartz
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Swalwell
 Sykes
 Takano
 Thanedar
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Tlaib
 Tokuda
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Van Orden
 Vargas
 Vasquez
 Veasey
 Velázquez
 Walberg
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Williams (GA)
 Wilson (FL)

Norman
 Nunn (IA)
 Ogles
 Owens
 Palmer
 Pence
 Perry
 Pfluger
 Posey
 Reschenthaler
 Rodgers (WA)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Rouzer
 Rutherford

Auchincloss
 Correa
 Costa
 Curtis
 Evans
 Garbarino
 Gottheimer
 Jackson Lee

Salazar
 Santos
 Scalise
 Schweikert
 Self
 Simpson
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smucker
 Stauber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steube
 Strong
 Tenney
 Thompson (PA)

NOT VOTING—24

Joyce (OH)
 Lesko
 Lucas
 Napolitano
 Nehls
 Newhouse
 Obernolte
 Phillips

□ 1907

Messrs. BURLISON, FRY, CARL, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. FULCHER, Ms. BOEBERT, and Mr. SCALISE changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Messrs. HOYER, GOLDMAN of New York, SCHNEIDER, and GROTHMAN changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to table was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 559, I mistakenly voted “yea” when I intended to vote “nay.”

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN). Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 559;

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 340;

The motion to recommit on H.R. 4364, if ordered;

Passage of H.R. 4364; and

Adoption of H. Res. 773.

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, these electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

DECLARING IT IS THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES THAT A NUCLEAR ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN IS NOT ACCEPTABLE

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 agree to the resolution (H. Res. 559) declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 354, nays 53, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 560]

YEAS—354

Adams
 Aderholt
 Aguilar
 Alford
 Allen
 Allred
 Amodei
 Armstrong
 Arrington
 Babin
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Banks
 Barr
 Barragán
 Bean (FL)
 Beatty
 Bentz
 Bera
 Bergman
 Bice
 Biggs
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Blunt Rochester
 Boebert
 Bonamici
 Bost
 Boyle (PA)
 Brecheen
 Brown
 Brownley
 Buchanan
 Buck
 Bucshon
 Budzinski
 Burchett
 Burgess
 Burlison
 Calvert
 Cammack
 Caraveo
 Carbajal
 Cárdenas
 Carey
 Carl
 Carter (GA)
 Carter (LA)
 Carter (TX)
 Cartwright
 Case
 Casten
 Castor (FL)
 Chavez-DeRemer
 Cherfilus-McCormick
 Chu
 Ciscomani
 Clark (MA)
 Cline
 Cloud
 Clyburn
 Clyde
 Cohen
 Cole
 Collins
 Comer
 Connolly
 Courtney
 Craig
 Crane
 Crawford
 Crenshaw
 Crockett
 Cuellar
 D'Esposito
 Davids (KS)
 Davis (IL)
 Davis (NC)
 De La Cruz
 Dean (PA)
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Deluzio
 DesJarlais
 Diaz-Balart
 Donalds
 Duarte
 Duncan
 Dunn (FL)
 Edwards
 Ellzey
 Emmer
 Eshoo
 Espallat
 Estes
 Fallon
 Feenstra
 Ferguson
 Finstad
 Fischbach
 Fitzgerald
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Foushee
 Foxx
 Frankel, Lois
 Franklin, Scott
 Fry
 Fulcher
 Gaetz
 Gallagher
 Gallego
 Garamendi
 Garcia (TX)
 Garcia, Mike
 Gimenez
 Golden (ME)
 Goldman (NY)
 Gomez
 Gonzales, Tony
 Gonzalez, Vicente
 Good (VA)
 Gooden (TX)
 Gosar
 Granger
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Green, Al (TX)
 Griffith
 Grothman
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Hageman
 Harder (CA)
 Harris
 Harshbarger
 Hern
 Higgins (LA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill
 Hinson
 Horsford
 Houchin
 Houlahan
 Hoyer
 Hudson
 Huizenga
 Hunt
 Issa
 Ivey
 Jackson (IL)
 Jackson (NC)
 Jackson (TX)
 James
 Jeffries
 Johnson (OH)
 Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (PA)
 Kaptur
 Kean (NJ)
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Khanna
 Kiggans (VA)
 Kiley
 Kilmer
 Kim (CA)
 Kim (NJ)
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 LaMalfa
 Lamborn
 Landsman
 Langworthy
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 LaTurner
 Lawler
 Lee (FL)
 Lee (NV)
 Leger Fernandez
 Letlow
 Levin
 Lieu
 Loudermilk
 Luetkemeyer
 Luna
 Luttrell
 Lynch
 Mace
 Magaziner
 Malliotakis
 Mann
 Manning
 Mast
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McCarthy
 McCaul
 McClain
 McClellan
 McClintock
 McCormick
 McGarvey
 McHenry
 Meeks
 Menendez
 Meng
 Meuser
 Mfume
 Miller (IL)
 Miller (OH)
 Miller (WV)
 Miller-Meeks
 Mills
 Molinaro
 Moolenaar
 Mooney
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (UT)
 Moran
 Morelle
 Moskowitz
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Murphy
 Nadler
 Neal
 Neguse
 Nickel
 Norcross
 Norman
 Nunn (IA)
 Obernolte
 Ogles
 Owens
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta

Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Porter
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schneider

Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)

Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Orden
Vargas
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—53

Balint
Beyer
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Bowman
Bush
Carson
Casar
Castro (TX)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Crow
Davidson
DeGette
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar

Frost
Garcia (IL)
Garcia, Robert
Grijalva
Hayes
Himes
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Jacobs
Jayapal
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kildee
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Lofgren
Massie
McCollum

McGovern
Moore (WI)
Moulton
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pocan
Pressley
Ramirez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Takano
Tlaib
Tokuda
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Waters

NOT VOTING—25

Auchincloss
Correa
Costa
Curtis
Evans
Ezell
Flood
Garbarino
Gottheimer

Greene (GA)
Jackson Lee
Joyce (OH)
Lesko
Lucas
Napolitano
Nehls
Newhouse
Phillips

Salinas
Schiff
Sessions
Steil
Titus
Van Duyne
Wexton

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1916

Mrs. BEATTY changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall No. 560 on H. Res. 559, I mistakenly recorded my vote as “nay” when I should have voted “yea”.

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 560.

HAMAS AND OTHER PALESTINIAN TERRORIST GROUPS INTERNATIONAL FINANCING PREVENTION 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. 340) to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for terrorist organizations, including Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, 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 Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) 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 363, nays 46, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 561]

YEAS—363

Adams
Aderholt
Aguliar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragan
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Carbajal
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde

Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony

Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlihan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
James
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy

Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCormick
McGarvey
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Neal
Neguse

Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Porter
Posey
Quigley
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)

Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)

NAYS—46

Balint
Blumenauer
Bowman
Bush
Cárdenas
Carson
Casar
Castro (TX)
Chu
Clarke (NY)
DeSaulnier
Escobar
Foushee
Frost
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)

Garcia, Robert
Grijalva
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Kamlager-Dove
Kelly (IL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Lofgren
Massie
McCollum
McGovern
Moore (WI)

Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pocan
Pressley
Ramirez
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Takano
Tlaib
Tokuda
Underwood
Velázquez
Waters
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—23

Auchincloss
Correa
Costa
Curtis
Evans
Garbarino
Gottheimer
Jackson Lee

Joyce (OH)
Lesko
Lucas
Napolitano
Nehls
Newhouse
Phillips
Salazar

Salinas
Schiff
Sessions
Steil
Titus
Van Duyne
Wexton

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1923

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, due to travel delay, had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 559, “yea” on rollcall No. 560, and “yea” on rollcall No. 561.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4364, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. ESPAILLAT moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4364 to the Committee on Appropriations.

The material previously referred to by Mr. ESPAILLAT is as follows:

Mr. Espallat moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4364 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith, with the following amendment:

Page 37, insert after line 17 the following (and redesignate the following section accordingly):

SEC. 212. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an entity may use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act to pay the compensation of an officer or employee without regard to the officer's or employee's immigration status if the officer or employee has been issued an employment authorization document under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program of the Secretary of Homeland Security, as set forth in the Department of Homeland Security's August 24, 2022 final rule entitled “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 201, nays 209, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 562]

YEAS—201

Adams	Barragán	Blumenauer
Aguilar	Beatty	Blunt Rochester
Allred	Bera	Bonamici
Auchincloss	Beyer	Bowman
Balint	Bishop (GA)	Boyle (PA)

Brown	Himes	Payne
Brownley	Horsford	Pelosi
Buddzinski	Houlahan	Peltola
Bush	Hoyer	Perez
Caraveo	Hoyle (OR)	Peters
Carbajal	Huffman	Petterson
Cárdenas	Ivey	Pingree
Carson	Jackson (IL)	Pocan
Carter (LA)	Jackson (NC)	Porter
Cartwright	Jacobs	Pressley
Casar	Jayapal	Quigley
Case	Jeffries	Ramirez
Casten	Johnson (GA)	Raskin
Castor (FL)	Kamlager-Dove	Ross
Castro (TX)	Kaptur	Ruiz
Cherfilus-	Keating	Ruppersberger
McCormick	Kelly (IL)	Ryan
Chu	Khanna	Sánchez
Clark (MA)	Kildee	Sarbanes
Clarke (NY)	Kilmer	Scanlon
Cleaver	Kim (NJ)	Schakowsky
Clyburn	Krishnamoorthi	Schneider
Cohen	Kuster	Scholten
Connolly	Landsman	Schrier
Courtney	Larsen (WA)	Scott (VA)
Craig	Larson (CT)	Scott, David
Crockett	Lee (CA)	Sewell
Crow	Lee (NV)	Sherman
Cuellar	Lee (PA)	Sherrill
Davids (KS)	Leger Fernandez	Slotkin
Davis (IL)	Levin	Smith (WA)
Davis (NC)	Lieu	Sorensen
Dean (PA)	Lofgren	Soto
DeGette	Lynch	Spanberger
DeLauro	Magaziner	Stansbury
DeBene	Manning	Stanton
Deluzio	Matsui	Stevens
DeSaulnier	McBath	Strickland
Dingell	McClellan	Swalwell
Doggett	McCollum	Sykes
Escobar	McGarvey	Takano
Eshoo	McGovern	Thanedar
Espallat	Meeks	Thompson (CA)
Fletcher	Menendez	Thompson (MS)
Foster	Meng	Tlaib
Foushee	Mfume	Tokuda
Frankel, Lois	Moore (WI)	Tonko
Frost	Morelle	Torres (CA)
Gallego	Moskowitz	Torres (NY)
Garamendi	Moulton	Trahan
Garcia (IL)	Mrvan	Trone
Garcia (TX)	Mullin	Underwood
Garcia, Robert	Nadler	Vargas
Golden (ME)	Neal	Vasquez
Goldman (NY)	Neguse	Veasey
Gomez	Nickel	Velázquez
Gonzalez,	Norcross	Wasserman
Vicente	Ocasio-Cortez	Schultz
Green, Al (TX)	Omar	Waters
Grijalva	Pallone	Watson Coleman
Harder (CA)	Panetta	Wild
Hayes	Pappas	Williams (GA)
Higgins (NY)	Pascrell	Wilson (FL)

NAYS—209

Aderholt	Chavez-DeRemer	Foxx
Alford	Ciscomani	Franklin, Scott
Allen	Cline	Fry
Amodei	Cloud	Fulcher
Armstrong	Clyde	Gaetz
Arrington	Cole	Gallagher
Babin	Collins	Garcia, Mike
Bacon	Comer	Jimenez
Baird	Crane	Gonzales, Tony
Balderson	Crawford	Good (VA)
Banks	Crenshaw	Gooden (TX)
Barr	D'Esposito	Gosar
Bean (FL)	Davidson	Granger
Bentz	De La Cruz	Graves (LA)
Bergman	DesJarlais	Graves (MO)
Bice	Diaz-Balart	Green (TN)
Biggs	Donalds	Greene (GA)
Bilirakis	Duarte	Griffith
Bishop (NC)	Duncan	Grothman
Boehert	Dunn (FL)	Guest
Bost	Edwards	Guthrie
Brecheen	Ellzey	Hagaman
Buchanan	Emmer	Harris
Buck	Estes	Harshbarger
Bucshon	Ezell	Hern
Burchett	Fallon	Higgins (LA)
Burgess	Feenstra	Hill
Burlison	Ferguson	Hinson
Calvert	Finstad	Houchin
Cammack	Fischbach	Hudson
Carey	Fitzgerald	Huizenga
Carl	Fitzpatrick	Hunt
Carter (GA)	Fleischmann	Issa
Carter (TX)	Flood	Jackson (TX)

James	McHenry	Schweikert
Johnson (OH)	Meuser	Scott, Austin
Johnson (SD)	Miller (IL)	Self
Jordan	Miller (OH)	Simpson
Joyce (PA)	Miller (WV)	Smith (MO)
Kean (NJ)	Miller-Meeks	Smith (NE)
Kelly (MS)	Mills	Smith (NJ)
Kelly (PA)	Molinaro	Smucker
Kiggans (VA)	Moolenaar	Stauber
Kiley	Mooney	Steel
Kim (CA)	Moore (AL)	Stefanik
Kustoff	Moore (UT)	Steube
LaHood	Moran	Strong
LaLota	Murphy	Tenney
LaMalfa	Norman	Thompson (PA)
Lamborn	Nunn (IA)	Tiffany
Langworthy	Obenolt	Timmons
Latta	Ogles	Turner
LaTurner	Owens	Valadao
Lawler	Palmer	Van Drew
Lee (FL)	Pence	Van Orden
Letlow	Perry	Wagner
Loudermilk	Pfluger	Walberg
Luetkemeyer	Posey	Waltz
Luna	Reschenthaler	Weber (TX)
Luttrell	Rodgers (WA)	Webster (FL)
Mace	Rogers (AL)	Wenstrup
Malliotakis	Rogers (KY)	Westerman
Mann	Rose	Williams (NY)
Massie	Rosendale	Williams (TX)
Mast	Rouzer	Wilson (SC)
McCarthy	Roy	Wittman
McCaul	Rutherford	Womack
McClain	Salazar	Yakym
McClintock	Santos	Zinke
McCormick	Scalise	

NOT VOTING—22

Correa	Lesko	Sessions
Costa	Lucas	Spart
Curtis	Napolitano	Steil
Evans	Nehls	Titus
Garbarino	Newhouse	Van Duyn
Gottheimer	Phillips	Weston
Johnson Lee	Salinas	
Joyce (OH)	Schiff	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1932

Mr. DOGGETT changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

Pursuant to clause 10 of rule XX, the yeas and nays are ordered.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 214, nays 197, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 563]

YEAS—214

Aderholt	Bucshon	DesJarlais
Alford	Burchett	Diaz-Balart
Allen	Burgess	Donalds
Amodei	Burlison	Duarte
Armstrong	Calvert	Duncan
Arrington	Cammack	Dunn (FL)
Babin	Carey	Edwards
Bacon	Carl	Ellzey
Baird	Carter (GA)	Emmer
Balderson	Carter (TX)	Estes
Banks	Chavez-DeRemer	Ezell
Barr	Ciscomani	Fallon
Bean (FL)	Cline	Feenstra
Bentz	Cloud	Ferguson
Bergman	Clyde	Finstad
Bice	Cole	Fischbach
Biggs	Collins	Fitzgerald
Bilirakis	Comer	Fitzpatrick
Bishop (NC)	Crane	Fleischmann
Boehert	Crenshaw	Flood
Bost	D'Esposito	Foxx
Brecheen	Davidson	Franklin, Scott
Buchanan	Davis (NC)	Fry
Buck	De La Cruz	Fulcher

Gaetz	Langworthy	Rogers (AL)	Quigley	Sherrill	Tonko	Hayes	McGovern	Schakowsky
Gallagher	Latta	Rogers (KY)	Ramirez	Slotkin	Torres (CA)	Higgins (NY)	Meeks	Scholten
Garcia, Mike	LaTurner	Rose	Raskin	Smith (WA)	Torres (NY)	Hoyer	Meng	Schweikert
Gimenez	Lawler	Rosendale	Ross	Sorensen	Trahan	Hoyle (OR)	Meuser	Scott, David
Golden (ME)	Lee (FL)	Rouzer	Ruiz	Soto	Trone	Huffman	Mfume	Sewell
Gonzales, Tony	Letlow	Roy	Ruppersberger	Spanberger	Underwood	Ivey	Miller (OH)	Sherrill
Good (VA)	Loudermilk	Rutherford	Ryan	Stansbury	Vargas	Jacobs	Molinaro	Smith (WA)
Gooden (TX)	Luetkemeyer	Salazar	Sánchez	Stanton	Vasquez	James	Moran	Smucker
Gosar	Luna	Santos	Sarbanes	Stevens	Veasey	Jayapal	Morelle	Sorensen
Granger	Luttrell	Scalise	Scanlon	Strickland	Velázquez	Jeffries	Moskowitz	Soto
Graves (LA)	Mace	Schweikert	Schakowsky	Swalwell	Wasserman	Kamlager-Dove	Moulton	Spanberger
Graves (MO)	Malliotakis	Scott, Austin	Schneider	Sykes	Schultz	Kaptur	Mrvan	Stansbury
Green (TN)	Mann	Self	Scholten	Takano	Waters	Kean (NJ)	Mullin	Stanton
Greene (GA)	Massie	Simpson	Schrier	Thanedar	Watson Coleman	Keating	Nadler	Stevens
Griffith	Mast	Smith (MO)	Scott (VA)	Thompson (CA)	Wild	Kelly (IL)	Neal	Strickland
Grothman	McCarthy	Smith (NE)	Scott, David	Thompson (MS)	Williams (GA)	Khanna	Neguse	Swalwell
Guest	McCaul	Smith (NJ)	Sewell	Tlaib	Wilson (FL)	Kildoe	Nickel	Sykes
Guthrie	McClain	Smucker	Sherman	Tokuda		Kiley	Ocasio-Cortez	Thanedar
Hageman	McClintock	Spartz				Kilmer	Omar	Thompson (CA)
Harris	McCormick	Stauber	Correa	Joyce (OH)	Schiff	Kim (NJ)	Pallone	Thompson (MS)
Harshbarger	McHenry	Steel	Costa	Lesko	Sessions	Krishnamoorthi	Panetta	Tokuda
Hern	Meuser	Stefanik	Crawford	Lucas	Steil	Kuster	Pappas	Tonko
Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Steupe	Curtis	Napolitano	Titus	LaLota	Pascrell	Torres (CA)
Hinshon	Miller (OH)	Strong	Evans	Nehls	Van Duyne	Payne	Torres (NY)	Trahan
Houchin	Miller-Meeks	Tenney	Garbarino	Newhouse	Wexton	Langworthy	Pelosi	Trone
Hudson	Mills	Thompson (PA)	Gottheimer	Phillips		Larson (CT)	Peltola	Peters
Huizenga	Molinaro	Tiffany	Jackson Lee	Salinas		Lawler	Pettersen	Underwood
Hunt	Moolenaar	Timmons				Lee (CA)	Pingree	Vargas
Issa	Mooney	Turner				Lee (PA)	Pocan	Vasquez
Jackson (TX)	Moore (AL)	Valadao				Leger Fernandez	Pressley	Velázquez
James	Moore (UT)	Van Drew				Levin	Quigley	Wasserman
Johnson (LA)	Moran	Van Orden				Lieu	Ramirez	Schultz
Johnson (OH)	Murphy	Wagner				Lynch	Ruiz	Waters
Johnson (SD)	Norman	Walberg				Manning	Ryan	Watson Coleman
Jordan	Nunn (IA)	Waltz				Matsui	Sánchez	Williams (NY)
Joyce (PA)	Obernolte	Weber (TX)				McBath	Sarbanes	Wilson (FL)
Kean (NJ)	Ogles	Webster (FL)				McClellan	Scanlon	Womack
Kelly (MS)	Owens	Wenstrup				McCollum		
Kelly (PA)	Palmer	Westerman						
Kiggans (VA)	Peltola	Williams (NY)						
Kiley	Pence	Williams (TX)						
Kim (CA)	Perez	Wilson (SC)						
Kustoff	Perry	Wittman						
LaHood	Pfluger	Womack						
LaLota	Posey	Yakym						
LaMalfa	Reschenthaler	Zinke						
Lamborn	Rodgers (WA)							

NAYS—197

Adams	DelBene	Kuster
Aguilar	Deluzio	Landsman
Allred	DeSaulnier	Larsen (WA)
Auchincloss	Dingell	Larson (CT)
Balint	Doggett	Lee (CA)
Barragán	Escobar	Lee (NV)
Beatty	Eshoo	Lee (PA)
Bera	Espallat	Leger Fernandez
Beyer	Fletcher	Levin
Bishop (GA)	Foster	Lieu
Blumenauer	Foushee	Lofgren
Blunt Rochester	Frankel, Lois	Lynch
Bonamici	Frost	Magaziner
Bowman	Galleo	Manning
Boyle (PA)	Garamendi	Matsui
Brown	Garcia (IL)	McBath
Brownley	Garcia (TX)	McClellan
Budzinski	Garcia, Robert	McCollum
Bush	Goldman (NY)	McGarvey
Caraveo	Gomez	McGovern
Carbajal	Gonzalez,	Meeks
Cardenas	Vicente	Menendez
Carson	Green, Al (TX)	Meng
Carter (LA)	Grijalva	Mfume
Cartwright	Harder (CA)	Moore (WI)
Casar	Hayes	Morelle
Case	Higgins (NY)	Moskowitz
Casten	Himes	Moulton
Castor (FL)	Horsford	Mrvan
Castro (TX)	Houlahan	Mullin
Cherfilus-	Hoyer	Nadler
McCormick	Hoyle (OR)	Neal
Chu	Huffman	Neguse
Clark (MA)	Ivey	Nickel
Clarke (NY)	Jackson (IL)	Norcross
Cleaver	Jackson (NC)	Ocasio-Cortez
Clyburn	Jacobs	Omar
Cohen	Jayapal	Pallone
Connolly	Jeffries	Panetta
Courtney	Johnson (GA)	Pappas
Craig	Kamlager-Dove	Pascrell
Crockett	Kaptur	Payne
Crow	Keating	Pelosi
Cuellar	Kelly (IL)	Peters
Davids (KS)	Khanna	Pettersen
Davis (IL)	Kildee	Pingree
Dean (PA)	Kilmer	Pocan
DeGette	Kim (NJ)	Porter
DeLauro	Krishnamoorthi	Pressley

NOT VOTING—22

Correa	Joyce (OH)	Schiff
Costa	Lesko	Sessions
Crawford	Lucas	Steil
Curtis	Napolitano	Titus
Evans	Nehls	Van Duyne
Garbarino	Newhouse	Wexton
Gottheimer	Phillips	
Jackson Lee	Salinas	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1937

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR THE EXPULSION OF REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE SANTOS FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. CAMMACK). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on adoption of the resolution (H. Res. 773) providing for the expulsion of Representative GEORGE SANTOS from the House of Representatives, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 179, nays 213, answered “present” 19, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 564]

YEAS—179

Adams	Casar	DelBene
Aguilar	Casten	Dingell
Bacon	Castor (FL)	Doggett
Balint	Castro (TX)	Ellzey
Barragán	Chavez-DeRemer	Eshoo
Beatty	Cherfilus-	Espallat
Beyer	McCormick	Fitzpatrick
Bishop (GA)	Chu	Foster
Blumenauer	Clark (MA)	Foushee
Blunt Rochester	Clarke (NY)	Frankel, Lois
Bonamici	Clyburn	Frost
Bowman	Cohen	Galleo
Brown	Comer	Garamendi
Brownley	Courtney	Garcia (IL)
Budzinski	Craig	Garcia (TX)
Bush	Crockett	Garcia, Mike
Caraveo	Crow	Garcia, Robert
Carbajal	D'Esposito	Goldman (NY)
Cardenas	Davis (IL)	Gonzales, Tony
Carey	De La Cruz	Gonzalez,
Carson	Dean (PA)	Vicente
Carter (LA)	DeGette	Grijalva
Cartwright	DeLauro	Harder (CA)

Aderholt	Fallon	Lee (FL)
Alford	Feenstra	Lee (NV)
Allen	Ferguson	Letlow
Allred	Finstad	Lofgren
Amodei	Fitzgerald	Loudermilk
Armstrong	Fleischmann	Luetkemeyer
Arrington	Fletcher	Luna
Auchincloss	Flood	Luttrell
Babin	Fox	Mace
Baird	Franklin, Scott	Magaziner
Balderson	Fry	Malliotakis
Banks	Fulcher	Mann
Barr	Gaetz	Massie
Bean (FL)	Gallagher	Mast
Bentz	Gimenez	McCarthy
Bergman	Golden (ME)	McCaul
Bice	Good (VA)	McClain
Biggs	Gooden (TX)	McClintock
Bilirakis	Gosar	McCormick
Bishop (NC)	Granger	McGarvey
Boebert	Graves (LA)	McHenry
Bost	Graves (MO)	Menendez
Brecheen	Green (TN)	Miller (IL)
Buchanan	Greene (GA)	Miller (WV)
Buck	Griffith	Miller-Meeks
Bucshon	Grothman	Mills
Burchett	Guthrie	Moolenaar
Burgess	Hageman	Mooney
Burlison	Harris	Moore (AL)
Calvert	Harshbarger	Moore (UT)
Cammack	Hern	Moore (WI)
Carl	Higgins (LA)	Norman
Carter (GA)	Hill	Nunn (IA)
Carter (TX)	Himes	Obernolte
Case	Hinshon	Ogles
Ciscomani	Horsford	Owens
Cleaver	Houchin	Palmer
Cline	Hudson	Pence
Cloud	Huizenga	Perez
Clyde	Hunt	Perry
Cole	Issa	Pfluger
Collins	Jackson (NC)	Porter
Crane	Jackson (TX)	Posey
Crawford	Johnson (GA)	Raskin
Crenshaw	Johnson (LA)	Reschenthaler
Cuellar	Johnson (OH)	Rodgers (WA)
Davids (KS)	Johnson (SD)	Rogers (AL)
Davidson	Jordan	Rogers (KY)
Deluzio	Joyce (PA)	Rose
DesJarlais	Kelly (MS)	Rosendale
Diaz-Balart	Kiggans (VA)	Rouzer
Donalds	Kim (CA)	Roy
Duarte	Kustoff	Ruppersberger
Duncan	LaHood	Salazar
Dunn (FL)	LaMalfa	Santos
Edwards	Lamborn	Scalise
Emmer	Larsen (WA)	Schneider
Estes	Latta	Schrier
Ezell	LaTurner	Scott (VA)

Scott, Austin	Strong	Walberg
Self	Takano	Waltz
Simpson	Tenney	Weber (TX)
Slotkin	Thompson (PA)	Webster (FL)
Smith (MO)	Tiffany	Wenstrup
Smith (NE)	Timmons	Westerman
Smith (NJ)	Tlaib	Williams (GA)
Spartz	Turner	Williams (TX)
Stauber	Valadao	Wilson (SC)
Steel	Van Drew	Wittman
Stefanik	Van Orden	Yakym
Steube	Wagner	Zinke

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—19

Bera	Gomez	Ross
Boyle (PA)	Green, Al (TX)	Rutherford
Connolly	Guest	Sherman
Davis (NC)	Houlihan	Veasey
DeSaulnier	Jackson (IL)	Wild
Escobar	Kelly (PA)	
Fischbach	Norcross	

NOT VOTING—22

Correa	Lesko	Schiff
Costa	Lucas	Sessions
Curtis	Murphy	Steil
Evans	Napolitano	Titus
Garbarino	Nehls	Van Duyne
Gotthelmer	Newhouse	Wexton
Jackson Lee	Phillips	
Joyce (OH)	Salinas	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1946

Messrs. NEAL and MCGOVERN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the resolution was not agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the floor and votes on the Motion to Table H. Res. 829, Adoption of H. Res. 559, Final Passage of H. Res. 340, Motion to Recommit H.R. 4364, Final Passage of H.R. 4364, and Adoption of H. Res. 773. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 559, "yea" on rollcall No. 560, "yea" on rollcall No. 561, "yea" on rollcall No. 562, "no" on rollcall No. 563, and "no" on rollcall No. 564.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, due to a cancelled flight and another flight with mechanical issues, I was unable to cast my vote for legislation considered on the House floor today. Had I been able to be present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 559—Motion to Table H. Res. 829, "yea" on rollcall 560—H. Res. 559, "yea" on rollcall 561—H.R. 340, "yea" on rollcall 562—Motion to recommit to H.R. 4364, "nay" on rollcall 563—Final Passage of H.R. 4364, and "yea" on rollcall 564—Adoption of H. Res. 773.

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS IN LEWISTON, MAINE

Mr. GOLDEN of Maine. Madam Speaker, last Wednesday night, a terrible tragedy befell my hometown of Lewiston. The following is a reading from the daily devotional, "Streams in the Desert" from October 25.

"Hitherto have ye asked nothing in My name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." John 16:24.

During the Civil War, a man had an only son who enlisted in the armies of the Union. The father was a banker and, although he consented to his son's going, it seemed as if it would break his heart to let him go.

He became deeply interested in the soldier boys, and whenever he saw a uniform, his heart went out as he thought of his own dear boy. He spent his time, neglected his business, and gave his money to caring for the soldiers who came home invalid. His friends remonstrated with him, saying he had no right to neglect his business and spend so much thought upon the soldiers, so he fully decided to give it all up.

After he had come to this decision, there stepped into his bank one day a private soldier in a faded, worn uniform who showed in his face and hands the marks of the hospital. The poor fellow was fumbling in his pocket to get something or other, when the banker saw him and, perceiving his purpose, said to him: "My dear fellow, I cannot do anything for you today. I am extremely busy. You will have to go to your headquarters; the officers there will look after you."

Still the poor convalescent stood, not seeming to fully understand what was said to him. Still he fumbled in his pockets and, by and by, drew out a scrap of dirty paper on which there were a few lines written with a pencil, and laid the soiled sheet before the banker.

On it he found these words: "Dear father, this is one of my comrades who was wounded in the last fight and has been in the hospital. Please receive him as myself. Charlie."

In a moment, all the resolutions of indifference which this man made flew away. He took the boy to his palatial home, put him in Charlie's room, gave him Charlie's seat at the table, kept him until food and rest and love had brought him back to health, and then sent him back again to imperil his life for the flag.

"Now you will see what I will do." Exodus 6:1.

Madam Speaker, I ask for a moment of silence.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 734

Mr. MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H. Res. 734.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6116

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great regret and hopefully temporarily that I hereby remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 6116.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6116

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 6116.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is granted.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 6116

Mrs. LUNA. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 6116.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's request is granted.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2908

Mrs. LUNA. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 2908.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman's request is granted.

REMEMBERING PATRICK LEON BENNETT

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Patrick Leon Bennett, who passed away on July 28, 2023, at the age of 55.

Patrick was born in Waycross, Georgia, and lived most of his life in Pierce County. He was known for being an endearing and funny person by many and a celebrated member of the Future Farmers of America.

He was passionate for hunting, fishing, and coaching recreational football. Patrick was able to lead his teams to three State championships, two of which he won.

Furthermore, Patrick was active in his teenage years in the FFA organization, including serving as chapter officer, a member of the 1985 State Winner Dairy Judging Team, 1986 State Livestock Judging Team, and recipient of the Green Hand Degree, Chapter Farmer Degree, and Georgia Planter Degree.

He will be remembered by his family and friends and his community, which he served well.

MOMENT OF SILENCE TO HONOR SAMANTHA WOLL

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

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with others from the Michigan delegation and onward to recognize Samantha Woll, a former member of my staff, a member of the House of Representatives' staff, and a passionate advocate who was taken from us on October 21, 2023.

It is important to me, as I know it is to my colleagues who knew her directly, that we honor the way Sam lived.

From working in my very first congressional office to serving as the president of her synagogue in Detroit, Sam had profound faith, not just as a Jewish woman but an abiding faith in humanity and a passion for interfaith relations, something that right now is more than ever important to our country.

In closing, I ask my colleagues for a moment of silence for Sam, for her family, for her community, for our State, and send my deepest condolences to her loved ones in Michigan.

□ 2000

APPLAUDING CLINTON COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY AND WAYNE TOWNSHIP LANDFILL

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to applaud the Clinton County Solid Waste Authority and their Wayne Township Landfill, which has been an essential contributor to our community for half a century.

Originally permitted in 1973 and developed in 1990, this landfill now boasts a state-of-the-art subtitle D facility and recently received approval for a 75-acre expansion, providing an additional 23 years of disposal capacity.

The Wayne Township Landfill is not just a waste management site. It is a beacon of responsible waste disposal, recycling, and community preservation. They are dedicated to ensuring the quality and longevity of Clinton County.

This remarkable institution has been a substantial force for good in our community, providing financial support to local fire companies, offering scholarships, and reducing tipping fees to ease the burden on our citizens.

They actively participate in environmental conservation; contribute to local sports, educational programs, and community events; and have played a crucial role in industrial park expansion and flood cleanup efforts.

The Wayne Township Landfill is a lifeline for our community, employing 81 individuals, stimulating local economic growth, and investing in our community infrastructure.

As they celebrate their 50th anniversary of waste acceptance, it is evident that they are more than a landfill. They are dedicated stewards of our

community's well-being, economic prosperity, and environmental health.

HONORING GOLDIE BURBAGE, A TRAILBLAZER IN EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great trailblazer in my district, Goldie Burbage.

Ms. Burbage made history in East Orange, New Jersey. She was the first African-American woman to serve as the executive assistant to an East Orange mayor. She served under Mayor James Kelly and the city's first African-American mayor, William Hart.

During her time in Mayor Hart's office, Ms. Burbage created the Offices of Employment and Training, Drug Abuse, and Personnel. Her work earned her a promotion to become the city's first chief personnel officer.

Outside of her career, Ms. Burbage was a well-known and respected social justice advocate. She founded the Historical Society of East Orange and served as vice president of the East Orange Chamber of Commerce. Her community support earned her induction into the East Orange Hall of Fame.

Many residents referred to her as the matriarch of their community, and I am proud to honor her on this day.

RECOGNIZING OUR LETTER CARRIERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our letter carriers in southwest Ohio and across the country.

These folks keep our communities connected. They deliver everything from birthday cards to magazines, Social Security checks, and lifesaving medication. They are also facing more and more threats and violence.

Hundreds of letter carriers across the country have been assaulted on the job. Earlier this week, in southwest Ohio, there were two armed robberies of letter carriers within 12 hours. Thankfully, they are both expected to fully recover, but this has to stop.

We need to protect our letter carriers from these assaults. That is why I have sent requests to the Postmaster General urging him to deploy enhanced training and safety measures and to the Attorney General urging the Department of Justice to prosecute these crimes to the fullest extent of the law.

Mr. Speaker, I thank our letter carriers across the country for their service. We will keep working with our colleagues in Congress to fight for them.

SPEAKER JOHNSON'S POLICY APPROACH

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, surely the new Speaker cannot remain committed to his macabre choice of providing military assistance to Israel while denying it to Ukraine, which is fighting against Putin's invasion in the largest land war in Europe since the Second World War, or Taiwan, whose people are fighting so valiantly to oppose Communist Chinese encroachment on their sovereignty.

While posing for photos, the Speaker claimed he cannot identify adequate funds, so he wants to raid the Internal Revenue Service of sophisticated accountants who hold billionaires and corporate tax cheats accountable for not paying their fair share of taxes, including illicit criminal groups funding terrorists.

These cuts will decrease revenue—are you ready?—\$26.7 billion. You heard me right.

Extremist Republicans kneel before the thrones of Wall Street scions while blocking military assistance to valiant nations and people fighting for liberty against evil empires that hate liberty, like Xi's China and Putin's Russia.

Mr. Speaker, that is what I call warped thinking. The Speaker should go back to the drawing board.

Liberty and justice first and always.

CELEBRATING VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, we salute the brave men and women who have served our Nation not only in uniform but also as small business owners.

As we celebrate National Veterans Small Business Week, let's shine a light on a northeastern North Carolina business.

In Roanoke Rapids, the barbershop Super Cut 2 embodies the spirit of precision and camaraderie.

Owned by Ronald Barnes, a disabled veteran who dedicated 7 years to the United States Army, his small business symbolizes an unwavering commitment to service. Barbers uplift the community, making people feel and look good.

Mr. Speaker, let us remember the veteran-owned small businesses like Super Cut 2. They represent the spirit of service and resilience, and these are great contributors to communities across the Nation.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. NAPOLITANO (at the request of Mr. JEFFRIES) for today and the balance of the week.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

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

EC-2217. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Reference Measurement Principle and Calibration Procedure for the Measurement of Ozone in the Atmosphere (Chemiluminescence Method) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0007; FRL-9344-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV63) received October 12, 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-2218. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Reformulated Gasoline Covered Areas [EPA-HQ-OAR-2023-0289; FRL 10290-01-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV87) received October 12, 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-2219. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Virginia; 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard Second Maintenance Plan for the Hampton Roads Area [EPA-R03-OAR-2023-0089; FRL-10213-02-R3] received October 12, 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-2220. A letter from the President, transmitting a notification that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13067, with respect to Sudan, as expanded by Executive Orders 13400 and 14098, must continue in effect beyond November 3, 2023, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1622(d); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 202(d); (90 Stat. 1257) (H. Doc. No. 118—73); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-2221. A letter from the President, transmitting an Executive Order taking additional steps to deal with the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015, as amended by Executive Order 13757 of December 28, 2016, and further amended by Executive Order 13984 of January 19, 2021, Taking Additional Steps to Address the National Emergency with Respect to Significant Malicious Cyber-Enabled Activities, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1703(b); Public Law 95-223, Sec. 204(b); (91 Stat. 1627) (H. Doc. No. 118—75); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed.

EC-2222. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's summary presentation of final rules — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-06; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 5] received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2223. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: Whistleblower Protection for Contractor Employees [FAC 2023-06, FAR Case 2017-005, Item II; Docket No.: 2017-0005; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AN32) received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2224. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: 8(a) Program [FAC 2023-06, FAR Case 2021-012, Item III; Docket No.: FAR-2021-0012; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 9000-AO29) received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2225. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: Technical Amendments [FAC 2023-06; Item IV; Docket No.: FAR-2023-0052; Sequence No. 4] received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2226. A letter from the Director, Office of Acquisition Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's Small Entity Compliance Guide — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2023-06; [Docket No.: FAR-2023-0051, Sequence No. 5] received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

EC-2227. A letter from the Mission Support Specialist, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Optional Alternative 1 to the Physical Document Examination Associated with Employment Eligibility Verification (Form I-9) [DHS Docket No.: ICEB-2021-0010] (RIN: 1653-AA86) received October 19, 2023, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2228. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company Engines [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1988; Project Identifier AD-2023-00991-E; Amendment 39-22567; AD 2023-20-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 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-2229. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Viking Air Limited (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier Inc. and de Havilland Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0190; Project Identifier 2019-CE-048-AD; Amendment 39-22556; AD 2023-19-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 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-2230. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0674; Project Identifier AD-2021-00373-T; Amendment 39-22559; AD 2023-19-

09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 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-2231. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; British Aerospace (Operations) Limited and British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1643; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-01649-A; Amendment 39-22555; AD 2023-19-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 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-2232. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1220; Project Identifier MCAI-2023-00478-T; Amendment 39-22553; AD 2023-19-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received October 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-2233. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31507; Amdt. No. 574] received October 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-2234. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31509; Amdt. No. 4080] received October 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-2235. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31508; Amdt. No. 4079] received October 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-2236. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule, technical amendment — Extension of the Prohibition Against Certain Flights in the Sanaa Flight Information Region (FIR) (OYSC) [Docket No.: FAA-2015-8672; Amdt. No. 91-340D] (RIN: 2120-AL69) received October 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-2237. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Amendment of VOR Federal Airway V-36 and Establishment of RNAV Route T-675; Northcentral United States [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1325; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AGL-17] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2238. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of

Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V-456 and Mankato, MN, Low Altitude Reporting Point; Mankato, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0955; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AGL-37] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2239. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-242; Utqiagvik, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0220; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-67] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2240. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Renaming of Restricted Areas R-6302A, R-6302B, R-6302C, R-6302D, and 6302E, and Updating the Using Agency, U.S. Army, Commanding General, III Armored Corps and Fort Cavazos, Fort Cavazos, TX [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1802; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASW-13] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2241. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Revocation of VOR Federal Airway V-314; Maine [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0215; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ANE-7] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2242. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Establishment of Area Navigation (RNAV) Routes; Eastern United States [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0687; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AEA-16] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2243. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-223; Cape Newenham, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0173; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-59] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2244. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Amendment of V-388 Near Paradise, CA [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0534; Airspace Docket No.: 21-AWP-52] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2245. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule, administrative correction — Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference Amendments [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1785; Amendment No.: 71-55] (RIN:

2120-AA66) received October 12, 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-2246. A letter from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Locomotive Image and Audio Recording Devices for Passenger Trains [Docket No.: FRA-2016-0036, Notice No. 2] (RIN: 2130-AC51) received October 12, 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-2247. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31507; Amdt. No. 574] received October 11, 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-2248. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31507; Amdt. No. 574] received October 11, 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-2249. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31503; Amdt. No. 4075] received October 11, 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-2250. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31504; Amdt. No. 4076] received October 11, 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-2251. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31501; Amdt. No. 4073] received October 11, 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-2252. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31502; Amdt. No. 4074] received October 11, 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-2253. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-230; St. Paul Island, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0216; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-63] (RIN:

2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2254. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airspace Designations; Incorporation by Reference [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1785; Amendment No. 71-55] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2255. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Covington, TN [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1082; Airspace Docket No.: 23-ASO-21] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2256. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule; correction — Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-386 in the Vicinity of Fairbanks, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0265; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-55] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2257. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule; correction — Amendment of Class C Airspace; Palm Beach International Airport, West Palm Beach, FL [Docket No.: FAA-2023-1533; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AWA-4] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2258. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Rush City, MN [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0919; Airspace Docket No.: 23-AGL-11] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2259. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Modification of Class E Airspace; Alliance Municipal Airport, Alliance, NE [Docket No.: FAA-2023-0583; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ACE-20] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received October 11, 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-2260. A letter from the President, transmitting a notification of intent to terminate the designation of the Central African Republic, the Gabonese Republic, Niger, and the Republic of Uganda as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(3)(B); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 506A(a)(3)(B) (as added by Public Law 114-27, Sec. 105(a)(2)); (129 Stat. 365) (H. Doc. No. 118—74); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

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:

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 4509. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage to only pay claims submitted by hospitals that have in place policies and procedures to ensure accurate billing practices, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-258), Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 4508. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify and strengthen the application of certain employer-sponsored health plan disclosure requirements; with an amendment (Rept. 118-259); Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the union.

Ms. FOXX: Committee on Education and the Workforce. H.R. 4527. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries may access de-identified information relating to health claims, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-260), 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 Ms. GRANGER (for herself, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. EMMER, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. CISCOMANI, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. MOLENAAR, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. OGLES, Ms. VAN DUYNE, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. CARL, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. LATURNER, Ms. LETLOW, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. CLYDE, Mrs. HOCHIN, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. HUNT, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. FRY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LAMALFA, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. ZINKE, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. COLE, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SELF, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. GUEST, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Mr. BACON, Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mrs. STEEL, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BEAN of Florida, Mr. CAREY, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. ROSE, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. PENCE, Mr. FLOOD, Mr.

LUTTRELL, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee);

H.R. 6126. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, 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. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Mr. FULCHER):

H.R. 6127. A bill to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself and Ms. PETTERSEN):

H.R. 6128. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain employees engaged in outdoor recreational outfitting or guiding services from maximum hours requirements; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. YAKYM (for himself and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 6129. A bill to require the Council on Environmental Quality to publish an annual report on environmental reviews and causes of action based on compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 6130. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to establish university centers to encourage certain economic development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BABIN (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. POSEY, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Ms. TENNEY):

H.R. 6131. A bill to amend title 51, United States Code, to update government oversight of commercial space activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. BALDERSON (for himself and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 6132. A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a mandatory consumer product safety standard with respect to retractable awnings; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BRECHEEN (for himself, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BURLISON, and Mr. GOSAR):

H.R. 6133. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule, entitled "Safe and Appropriate Foster Care Placement Requirements for Titles IV-E and IV-B"; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 6134. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require certain institutions of higher education to provide notice of tuition levels for students; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. RAMIREZ, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 6135. A bill to implement title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 with respect to elementary and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 6136. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to authorize the Reentry Employment Opportunities Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 6137. A bill to authorize annual appropriations to the Geospatial Management Office of the Department of Homeland Security for the sustainment of innovative GIS technologies to improve emergency response capabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DONALDS (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. GOSAR, and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana):

H.R. 6138. A bill to evaluate U.S. Customs and Border Protection's implementation of a integrated biometric entry and exit data system in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DUARTE:

H.R. 6139. A bill to direct the Postal Service to establish a post office at 73 West Stewart Road in Lathrop, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. EZELL (for himself, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 6140. A bill to facilitate access to swiftly transport goods during a publicly announced state of emergency situation; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 6141. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit sale or purchase of covered financial instruments by Members of Congress and their spouses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. FINSTAD (for himself and Ms. CARAVEO):

H.R. 6142. A bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish a last acre program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. GALLAGHER (for himself, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, and Mr. WITTMAN):

H.R. 6143. A bill to provide for drone security; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California (for himself, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. ZINKE, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mrs. BICE, and Mr. MILLS):

H.R. 6144. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize grant programs to combat fentanyl poisonings; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York (for himself, Ms. SALAZAR, Ms. SCHOLTEN, and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER):

H.R. 6145. A bill to establish the Children's Court to improve the adjudication of immigration cases involving unaccompanied alien children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 6146. A bill to prohibit certain contractors who have previously consulted for certain foreign entities or who fail to make disclosures relating to conflicts of interest that relate to national security or foreign policy from receiving contracts from the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 6147. A bill to establish the Tribal Cultural Areas System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 6148. A bill to protect Native cultural sites located on Federal land, to improve consultation with Indian Tribes, to bring parity to Indian Tribes with regard to Federal public land management laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself and Mr. RYAN):

H.R. 6149. A bill to require that social media platforms verify the age of their users, prohibit the use of algorithmic recommendation systems on individuals under age 18, require parental or guardian consent for social media users under age 18, and prohibit users who are under age 13 from accessing social media platforms; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself and Mr. RYAN):

H.R. 6150. A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to include school security as an element of the National Security Strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JAMES (for himself and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 6151. A bill to encourage local educational agencies to inform parents about gun safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. POCAN, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. BUDZINSKI, Mrs. HINSON,

Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. ESTES, Mr. ALFORD, Mr. BOST, Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. NUNN of Iowa, Mr. BACON, Mr. LATURNER, and Mr. VAN ORDEN):

H.R. 6152. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update the modeling used for lifecycle greenhouse gas assessments for approved fuel pathways under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. MCGOVERN):

H.R. 6153. A bill to provide for a review of sanctions with respect to Hong Kong; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6154. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require licenses to acquire or receive firearms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LALOTA (for himself and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 6155. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on case management personnel turnover of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. LANDSMAN (for himself and Ms. LETLOW):

H.R. 6156. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to designate a point of contact for for-profit child care providers, submit a report to Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ):

H.R. 6157. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require public companies to provide sexual harassment claim disclosures in certain reports, to require public companies to implement mandatory sexual harassment training, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MEUSER:

H.R. 6158. A bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the acquisition and installation of gunshot detection systems under the matching grant program for school security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. BUCSHON, and Mr. RESCIENTHALER):

H.R. 6159. A bill to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself and Mr. CÁRDENAS):

H.R. 6160. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize a lifespan respite care program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOLINARO (for himself, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. CAREY, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. PAPPAS):

H.R. 6161. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow amounts paid for over-the-counter naloxone to be taken into account in determining the deduction for medical expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama (for himself, Mr. CARL, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. PALMER, Mr. STRONG, and Ms. SEWELL):

H.R. 6162. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at

379 North Oates Street in Dothan, Alabama, as the "LaBruce 'Bruce' Tidwell Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mrs. NORTON (for herself, Mr. MOLINARO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. POCAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana):

H.R. 6163. A bill to amend title 11, District of Columbia Official Code, to revise references in such title to individuals with intellectual disabilities; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. OGLES (for himself and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 6164. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from granting certain aliens temporary protected status; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OWENS (for himself and Ms. FOX):

H.R. 6165. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act to require disclosure of certain foreign investments within endowments; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. STEEL, and Ms. LETLOW):

H.R. 6166. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to identify or develop assessments to measure the prior knowledge, skills, competencies, and experiences of an individual, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 6167. A bill to provide additional housing protections for survivors of domestic violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 6168. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to ensure that healthcare providers can assist survivors of domestic violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SYKES (for herself and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio):

H.R. 6169. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to modify the 10-year marriage rule relating to spouse's and surviving spouse's insurance benefits in cases of domestic violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas (for himself, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. SELF, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. OGLES, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 6170. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to cease all immigration functions at ports of entry along the southern border until the United States is secure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. GREENE of Georgia:

H. Res. 829. A resolution censuring Representative Rashida Tlaib for antisemitic activity, sympathizing with terrorist organizations, and leading an insurrection at the United States Capitol Complex.

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. WILLIAMS of New York, Mrs. BICE, and Mr. MILLS):

H. Res. 830. A resolution condemning the Chinese Communist Party for its role in the fentanyl crisis and urging the Biden administration to take certain actions to combat

the flow of fentanyl precursors from China to North America; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. ALLRED, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BROWN, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CHU, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTA, Ms. CROCKETT, Mr. CROW, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. DOGETT, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HOYER, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. IVEY, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. MACE, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGARVEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MFUME, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. NICKEL, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANNETTA, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Ms. ROSS, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. SYKES, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. TITUS, Ms. TOKUDA, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Res. 831. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of October as “National Domestic Violence Awareness Month”; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CASAR, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CORREA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. SALINAS, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Res. 832. A resolution commemorating the annual celebration of Día de los Muertos in the United States and around the world; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. KILEY:

H. Res. 833. A resolution condemning antisemitism on college campuses; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. LAMBORN (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. BOEBERT, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. SCHNEIDER):

H. Res. 834. A resolution supporting, recognizing, and establishing legislation that affirms the sense of Congress that Israel ought to be provided with sufficient material to defend itself against rocket artillery attacks from Hamas and its allies; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H. Res. 835. A resolution condemning the statements of Representative Rashida Tlaib of Michigan; to the Committee on Ethics, and in addition to the Committee on the Ju-

diciary, 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. MOSKOWITZ (for himself and Mr. MILLS):

H. Res. 836. A resolution urging the United States Government to enhance the Middle East region's capacity to dismantle and disrupt the illicit production and trafficking of the amphetamine-type stimulant also known as captagon, including the production of precursor chemicals; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MOYLAN (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H. Res. 837. A resolution reaffirming the ties between the United States and the Philippines; 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 Ms. GRANGER:

H.R. 6126.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7:

“No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of the Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

Making emergency supplemental appropriations to respond to the attacks in Israel.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 6127.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Enhancing access to data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies

By Mr. MOORE of Utah:

H.R. 6128.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 18, section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Labor

By Mr. YAKYM:

H.R. 6129.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation would study the legal and paperwork burden NEPA has on American infrastructure projects.

By Mr. AGUILAR:

H.R. 6130.

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 codifies the Economic Development Administration University Center Program to increase University Centers nationwide.

By Mr. BABIN:

H.R. 6131.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

“The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To update government oversight of commercial space activities, and for other purposes.

By Mr. BALDERSON:

H.R. 6132.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To direct CPSC to promulgate a safety standard related to retractable awnings.

By Mr. BRECHEEN:

H.R. 6133.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing the proposed rule, entitled “Safe and Appropriate Foster Care Placement Requirements for Titles IV-E and IV-B.”

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 6134.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Truth-in-Tuition Act would provide students and parents with transparency as they plan for the future and look for ways to finance college costs.

By Mr. CASTEN:

H.R. 6135.

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:

This bill elaborates on the role and duties of Title IX Coordinators in K–12 schools.

By Mr. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6136.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the powers enumerated under section 8 and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States; or in any Department or Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is: criminal justice

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 6137.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Natural Disasters

By Mr. DONALDS:

H.R. 6138.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Immigration

By Mr. DUARTE:

H.R. 6139.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the U.S. Constitution gives Congress the authority to establish new post offices

The single subject of this legislation is:
Establishing a new post office.

By Mr. EZELL:

H.R. 6140.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To facilitate access to swiftly transport goods during a publicly announced state of emergency situation.

By Mr. FALLON:

H.R. 6141.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Ethical standards for Members of Congress

By Mr. FINSTAD:

H.R. 6142.

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:

To amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish a last acre program.

By Mr. GALLAGHER:

H.R. 6143.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the Constitution of the United States of America

The single subject of this legislation is:

To restrict the executive agency acquisition of covered unmanned aircraft systems

By Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California:

H.R. 6144.

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:

To establish grant programs within Byrne-JAG to combat youth fentanyl poisonings in America

By Mr. GOLDMAN of New York:

H.R. 6145.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. It reads that Congress has the legislative power "to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish the Children's Court to improve the adjudication of immigration cases involving unaccompanied alien children.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 6146.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit contractors from working with the government if they have ties with the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, or any country the State Department has deemed a sponsor of terrorism. Prohibitions will also be placed on individuals who do not disclose conflicts of interest that relate to national security or the foreign policy of the United States.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 6147.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To establish the Tribal Cultural Areas System, and for other purposes.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 6148.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To protect Native cultural sites located on Federal land, to improve consultation with Indian Tribes, to bring parity to Indian Tribes with regard to Federal public land management laws, and for other purposes.

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 6149.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Social Media

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 6150.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

National Security

By Mr. JAMES:

H.R. 6151.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Improve Safety

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 6152.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update the modeling used for lifecycle greenhouse gas assessments for renewable fuels.

By Mrs. KIM of California:

H.R. 6153.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for a review of sanctions with respect to Hong Kong.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 6154.

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:

Crime and Law Enforcement

By Mr. LALOTA:

H.R. 6155.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

FEMA Case Management Staff Turnover Rate

By Mr. LANDSMAN:

H.R. 6156

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to designate a point of contact for for-profit child care providers and submit a report to Congress,

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 6157

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Financial Services

By Mr. MEUSER:

H.R. 6158.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

School Security

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 6159.

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:

Directs the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a pilot program to improve recycling accessibility.

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 6160.

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:

Health care

By Mr. MOLINARO:

H.R. 6161.

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:

Health care

By Mr. MOORE of Alabama:

H.R. 6162.

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 I, Section 8, Clause 18 of 'the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To rename the United States Post Office located at 379 N Oates Street in Dothan, Alabama as the LaBruce 'Bruce' Tidwell Post Office

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 6163.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 17 of section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

The bill would revise references to individuals with intellectual disabilities in title 11 of the District of Columbia Code

By Mr. OGLES:

H.R. 6164.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from granting certain aliens temporary protected status

By Mr. OWENS:

H.R. 6165.

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:

Education

By Ms. STEFANIK:

H.R. 6166.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Amending the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to identify or develop assessments to measure the prior knowledge, skills, competencies, and experiences of an individual.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 6167.

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:

This legislation allows survivors of domestic violence to more easily break rental lease agreements.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 6168.

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:

This legislation authorizes a pilot program to train medical practitioners to better treat and assist survivors of domestic violence.

By Mrs. SYKES:

H.R. 6169.

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:

This legislation decreases for certain survivors of domestic violence the number of years an individual must be married before a divorce to be eligible for spousal Social Security benefits based on the divorced spouse's work record.

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas:

H.R. 6170.

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:

Ceases immigration functions at the Southern Border until the Secretary of Homeland Security can ensure that no individual on the Federal Terrorist Watch list can enter the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 16: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 340: Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Ms. PEREZ.

H.R. 488: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 522: Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 529: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 544: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 547: Ms. MCCLELLAN.

H.R. 618: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 620: Mr. PANETTA, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 681: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 713: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 770: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 800: Mr. TIFFANY.

H.R. 817: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 825: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 894: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 905: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 907: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 936: Ms. TENNEY.

H.R. 953: Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. BEYER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TAKANO, and Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.

H.R. 974: Mr. COURTNEY.

H.R. 976: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 977: Mr. BARR and Mr. SCHWEIKERT.

H.R. 984: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio and Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK.

H.R. 1065: Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GOMEZ, and Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 1173: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 1228: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 1232: Mr. CARSON and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 1235: Ms. SCHRIER and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1247: Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts and Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 1249: Mr. MOONEY.

H.R. 1255: Mr. TORRES of New York and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 1277: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 1279: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 1331: Mr. BARR and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 1359: Ms. WILD.

H.R. 1398: Mr. NEHLS and Mr. WILLIAMS of New York.

H.R. 1406: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 1447: Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 1477: Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. HAGEMAN, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.

H.R. 1492: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. DONALDS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. NEHLS, and Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 1610: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Ms. TITUS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 1614: Mr. ROSENDALE.

H.R. 1649: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 1685: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.

H.R. 1708: Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 1770: Ms. ROSS, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. BALDERSON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Ms. BROWN.

H.R. 1788: Ms. ADAMS and Ms. ROSS.

H.R. 1795: Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 1818: Ms. GREENE of Georgia.

H.R. 1819: Mr. ROUZER.

H.R. 2367: Ms. HAGEMAN.

H.R. 2370: Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 2371: Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 2377: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 2395: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2402: Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California.

H.R. 2407: Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 2412: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 2416: Ms. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 2439: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 2474: Mr. MANN and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 2501: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 2534: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 2583: Ms. NORTON and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 2584: Mr. BERA and Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 2666: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2667: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 2685: Ms. HAGEMAN.

H.R. 2700: Ms. GRANGER.

H.R. 2718: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 2742: Mr. NEHLS, Mr. ZINKE, and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2757: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 2760: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 2762: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2766: Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 2814: Mr. BURLISON.

H.R. 2851: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. SORENSEN, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 2871: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 2949: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2957: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 2973: Mr. MCCAUL and Mr. CROW.

H.R. 2987: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 2992: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 3038: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3039: Mr. ROSE.

H.R. 3080: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 3133: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 3139: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 3148: Ms. KUSTER.

H.R. 3183: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 3207: Ms. SALINAS.

H.R. 3240: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 3266: Mr. NEWHOUSE and Mr. EDWARDS.

H.R. 3269: Mr. NEHLS.

H.R. 3380: Mr. PAPPAS and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 3394: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. CASAR.

H.R. 3409: Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 3475: Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. DELUZIO, and Mr. BERA.

H.R. 3477: Ms. OMAR, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GARCIA of Illinois, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 3481: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ and Mr. AGUILAR.

H.R. 3541: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 3596: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 3608: Mr. HUFFMAN.

H.R. 3611: Mr. BUCK.

H.R. 3635: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 3651: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 3661: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 3702: Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. SEWELL, Mrs. PELTOLA, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 3713: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 3730: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 3752: Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 3768: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 3773: Mr. LALOTA.

H.R. 3774: Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. ESTES, Mr. HUNT, Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 3850: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. COSTA.

H.R. 3851: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 3876: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 3910: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 3916: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.

H.R. 3933: Mr. MILLER of Ohio and Ms. STEFANK.

H.R. 3940: Mr. LAWLER and Mrs. HINSON.

H.R. 3949: Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 3955: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 4050: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 4059: Mr. SIMPSON and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 4117: Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. KHANNA, and Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 4150: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 4167: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 4173: Ms. TOKUDA.

H.R. 4175: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. STEEL, and Mr. YAKYM.

H.R. 4212: Ms. SANCHEZ.

H.R. 4217: Mr. CROW, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 4261: Mr. HIMES.

H.R. 4273: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4281: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4323: Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 4393: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4439: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 4442: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 4456: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 4541: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 4562: Mr. VAN ORDEN.

H.R. 4569: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. CARSON, Mr. MRVAN, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 4572: Ms. BUSH, Mr. BOWMAN, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mrs. FOUSHEE, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. IVEY, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. THANEDAR, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. FROST.

H.R. 4581: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 4582: Ms. CARAVEO.

H.R. 4619: Mr. MAGAZINER.

H.R. 4683: Mr. NUNN of Iowa and Mr. NEWHOUSE.

H.R. 4713: Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 4714: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 4764: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

H.R. 4776: Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 4844: Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 4896: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 4897: Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. MOLINARO, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 4933: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 4937: Mr. ROSE.
H.R. 4942: Ms. SALINAS, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. STANSBURY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. THANEDAR, Mr. RUTHERFORD, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.
H.R. 4968: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 4993: Mr. NEHLS.
H.R. 4999: Mr. CASE and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5008: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 5013: Mr. GROTHMAN and Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 5044: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 5077: Ms. HOULAHAN and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 5097: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5099: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 5141: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 5145: Ms. BALINT, Ms. STANSBURY, and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 5159: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. CASAR, Mr. BURGESS, and Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 5180: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5212: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 5246: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5248: Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 5266: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 5275: Mr. MOORE of Utah and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.
H.R. 5290: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5291: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5292: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5293: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5294: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 5295: Ms. STANSBURY and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 5383: Ms. MACE and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 5397: Mr. FERGUSON.
H.R. 5399: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 5419: Mr. JAMES.
H.R. 5420: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 5443: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5455: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5467: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 5469: Ms. CARAVEO.
H.R. 5476: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5501: Mrs. WAGNER and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 5530: Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 5545: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 5547: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 5560: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5572: Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 5610: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 5618: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 5625: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5635: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 5648: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 5686: Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 5718: Mr. SMUCKER.
H.R. 5738: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5740: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 5765: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 5766: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 5791: Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 5796: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 5806: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 5817: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.
H.R. 5826: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 5829: Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 5848: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 5849: Mr. STAUBER.
H.R. 5864: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 5867: Ms. LEE of Florida.
H.R. 5871: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 5897: Ms. ESCOBAR and Mr. CROW.
H.R. 5920: Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5928: Mr. COSTA and Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 5932: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. LAWLER.
H.R. 5936: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 5937: Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 5947: Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 5976: Ms. BUDZINSKI, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 5988: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY and Mr. MOULTON.
H.R. 5989: Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 5996: Mr. BAIRD, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. JACKSON of Texas.
H.R. 6000: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 6001: Mr. CARSON and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 6009: Mr. DONALDS and Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 6029: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 6030: Mr. KIM of New Jersey.
H.R. 6040: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 6045: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 6047: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 6049: Mr. RUIZ.
H.R. 6067: Ms. MACE.
H.R. 6072: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
H.R. 6077: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6079: Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. BALINT, Ms. TOKUDA, and Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 6086: Mr. LIEU, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, and Mr. CASE.
H.R. 6089: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. COLE, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. MACE.
H.R. 6090: Mr. RYAN and Mr. LALOTA.
H.R. 6093: Mr. FEENSTRA.
H.R. 6094: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 6096: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.
H.R. 6105: Ms. TOKUDA.
H.R. 6114: Mr. LAWLER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 6118: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida and Ms. TENNEY.
H.J. Res. 18: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine and Mr. ALLEN.
H.J. Res. 76: Mr. LIEU, Mrs. FOUSHEE, and Mr. SCHNEIDER.
H. Con. Res. 44: Mr. PALLONE.
H. Con. Res. 56: Ms. MATSUI.
H. Con. Res. 74: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H. Res. 13: Mr. STRONG and Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H. Res. 451: Ms. TOKUDA.
H. Res. 481: Mr. LAWLER.
H. Res. 527: Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. PETERS, and Ms. STEVENS.
H. Res. 559: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. ROSE.
H. Res. 561: Mr. TONKO, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Ms. BALINT, and Mrs. TORRES of California.

H. Res. 599: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. VAN ORDEN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. YAKYM, and Ms. PORTER.
H. Res. 627: Mr. VALADAO and Mr. VARGAS.
H. Res. 677: Ms. TITUS.
H. Res. 694: Ms. PETERSEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Ms. SEWELL.
H. Res. 697: Ms. WILD.
H. Res. 733: Mr. ALLRED.
H. Res. 735: Mr. PETERS.
H. Res. 744: Mr. KHANNA.
H. Res. 769: Mr. LAMALFA.
H. Res. 793: Ms. SALINAS, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. LALOTA, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H. Res. 796: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. MILLS, and Mr. GUEST.
H. Res. 798: Mr. BENTZ, Mr. SELF, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. LANGWORTHY, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. BICE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. STRONG, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. MAST, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Mr. PFLUGER, Ms. VAN DUYN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. LALOTA, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Mr. STAUBER.
H. Res. 806: Ms. NORTON, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. CHU, Ms. BARRACÁN, and Ms. PLASKETT.
H. Res. 807: Mr. FRY.
H. Res. 808: Mr. BERGMAN.
H. Res. 814: Mr. LAWLER.
H. Res. 819: Mr. CASTEN and Mr. RASKIN.
H. Res. 824: Mr. MEUSER, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. DONALDS.
H. Res. 828: Mr. LANDSMAN.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MS. GRANGER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Appropriations in H.R. 6126, the "Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1024", do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 2908: Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 6116: Mr. GAETZ, Mrs. LUNA, and Mr. STEUBE.
H. Res. 734: Mr. MCCORMICK.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023

No. 180

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Merciful God, the fountain of wisdom, as we witnessed what is euphemistically called collateral damage, we wrestled with what our eyes have seen, ears have heard, and hearts have felt.

Lord, some of us asked the question, When does the end justify the means? We reflected on Gandhi's words that "the end is inherent in the means."

Lord, across time, You have shown us how peace following a war can be jeopardized because of the long-term consequences of how the war was fought. Give our lawmakers the faith, wisdom, and courage for the living of these turbulent days.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024—Resumed

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 4366, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4366) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer (for Murray-Collins) amendment No. 1092, in the nature of a substitute.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The majority leader is recognized.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, so last night, I filed cloture on President Biden's nominees to serve as Chief of Naval Operations and Chief of Staff to the Air Force, the remaining vacancies on the Joint Chiefs of Staff which we said we would fill. We will move on these critical military appointments soon here on the floor.

I also filed on the nomination of Lieutenant General Mahoney to be second in command of the U.S. Marine Corps. His appointment has become urgent because this weekend the Commandant of the Marines, Gen. Eric Smith, was unexpectedly hospitalized after a serious medical emergency. Now, normally, Lieutenant General Mahoney would have been able to immediately step in to temporarily serve as Commandant. But, unfortunately, because of the blanket holds of just one Senator, Senator TUBERVILLE, that cannot happen. The situation at the Marine Corps is precisely the kind of avoidable emergency that Senator

TUBERVILLE has provoked through his reckless holds. Lieutenant General Mahoney is one of more than 300 nominees Senator TUBERVILLE is currently blocking. So while the Senate will proceed quickly to vote on Lieutenant General Mahoney's nomination, these holds cannot and must not continue.

Yesterday, my colleague Senator REED, the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, introduced a resolution that will allow the Senate to quickly confirm the nominations that are currently being blocked by the Senator from Alabama. The resolution will be referred to the Rules Committee; and when the time comes, I will bring it to the floor of the Senate for consideration.

We must—we absolutely must—ensure that our military is fully staffed and fully equipped to defend the American people, and it begins by confirming these vital nominations that are currently on hold. Every day that Senator TUBERVILLE continues his blanket holds, our military preparedness is degraded. Our military families—most of whom have served decades in the Armed Forces—suffer. Our military appointments risk being further ensnared in partisan politics. These nominees must be confirmed, and both parties should work together to make sure we fulfill our obligation to America's servicemembers.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, now on the minibuss, for the information of Senators, today we will pass the first of three bipartisan appropriations bills: Agriculture, MILCON-VA, and T-HUD.

When these bills pass, they will be the only—I underscore—the only bipartisan appropriations bills that have passed either Chamber. These bills will make a huge difference for America's farmers, for our infrastructure, for housing on our military bases, and for veterans. Bipartisanship isn't easy. On the contrary, it is very difficult. But here in the Senate, we are making sure

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



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that the appropriations process is succeeding. I want to thank the good work of Chair MURRAY, Vice Chair COLLINS, and all the appropriators. Passing these appropriations bills today is not just terrific news for the country, but an affirmation of what I have said since the start of the year: The only way to get things done in a divided government is bipartisanship.

The House is going through a futile exercise in passing partisan appropriations bills that have no input or support from Democrats. They are going nowhere. The House ought to learn its lesson. The Speaker ought to understand that the 30 hard-right people should not be dictating what the entire House or the entire country does. Those bills are filled with poison pills. They break the agreement and cut below the agreement that we made when we wanted to avoid the debt from being not fulfilled, and they are nowhere.

On the other hand, the Senate has bipartisan bills. And that is the real difference here. Sooner or later, the House and the new Speaker will learn the lesson: If you don't do it bipartisan, it ain't getting done. The Senate has been a strong model for how bipartisanship can work, even amidst the deep disagreement, and I thank my colleagues on both sides for their work on these bills.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. President, now, we continue on our AI Insight Forums. Today, as leaders gather in London for the first AI summit, the Senate will hold our third and fourth bipartisan AI Insight Forums. This morning will be focused on the intersection of AI in the workforce. We will hear from a balanced group of leaders in labor, tech, civil rights, and business about both the opportunities and risks that AI presents to the American worker and to our economy.

People are worried. Many people worry, Will I still have my job as AI kicks in? We want to make sure that we have guardrails that protect workers, not make the mistake that was done with globalization, where so many were thrown out of work through no fault of their own.

And then this afternoon, we will discuss AI's use in high-impact areas like finance, healthcare, law enforcement. We will focus especially on the potential bias in AI technologies in these high-impact areas and how Congress can create guardrails to protect our civil rights in the age of AI.

The Senate is continuing to be all hands on deck when it comes to trying to pass AI legislation. Yesterday our bipartisan AI gang—Senators ROUNDS, HEINRICH, YOUNG, and I—had a great meeting with President Biden at the White House on AI. So we are making good progress, but we still have more to learn about AI as we work to develop bipartisan legislation. And the world is paying attention. There is a forum in London today where the Vice President will attend. And, inevitably,

they will be looking. The whole world will be looking to the Senate to see whether and what kind of legislation we can pass. We will work hard to get the best possible bipartisan legislation done.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. President, about the supplemental, on Monday, Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans released a totally unserious and woefully inadequate package that omitted aid to Ukraine, omitted humanitarian assistance to Gaza, had no funding for the Indo-Pacific, and made funding for Israel conditional on hard-right, never-going-to-pass proposals. What a joke.

Yesterday afternoon, President Biden issued a veto threat on the GOP proposal, and it is no wonder why: It needlessly politicizes aid to Israel. It balloons the Federal deficit. Here the House is talking about we need to pay for, to reduce the deficit, and they put in a provision that actually increases the deficit. Why? Because they don't want their superrich, megawealthy friends to be audited by the IRS like every other citizen is.

As we know, when Trump was President, he almost exempted them from auditing. Someone making \$40,000 a year had a greater chance of being audited than someone making \$4 million a year.

It is amazing that the main focus as the world is in crisis—in the Middle East, in Ukraine, in the Indo-Pacific—our House Republicans are spending more time trying to further reduce taxes of those who don't pay much tax at all. So I am so glad that President Biden issued a strong veto message. I would urge every House Republican, every House Democrat, every Senate Member to read the President's veto message. It is strong and well thought out. He talks about it politicizing aid to Israel, it ballooning the Federal deficit, and it failing to address the national security threats America faces around the globe—particularly our need to help Ukraine, provide humanitarian aid to Gaza, and help in the Indo-Pacific.

So the House GOP proposal is not going anywhere. It is dead before it even is voted on. The Speaker should start over—this time without terrible, partisan poison pills; this time sitting down with Democrats and working this issue through.

Israel has suffered the worst terrorist attack in its history. It needs help. But House Republicans are asking a price for helping them by cutting off funding that holds rich tax cheats accountable. That ain't happening, House. It ain't happening.

Now, Speaker JOHNSON says that this supposed pay is needed because of his concern about the national debt; but as I mentioned, every independent estimate shows this partisan bill raises the deficit by billions of dollars. So, what hypocrisy. It is not responsible. It is reckless. It is utterly baffling—baffling—that at a moment that demands

maximum bipartisanship, when the country is in crisis and our friends in Israel and Ukraine are in crisis, that the House GOP is, instead, trying to pick an egregiously partisan fight over wealthy tax cheats.

Years back, both parties would have come together for the good of the country and the good of security in the world when crises like these happen. But the House GOP—continuing the kind of recklessness, the kind of inability to get their act together—continues to do these kinds of things.

Their proposal is simply not a serious one. And, worse, it still wastes precious time at a moment when we need to help Israel, Ukraine, and send humanitarian aid to Gaza ASAP.

All friends of Israel should loudly and clearly say that any move to make the United States-Israel relationship a partisan one, as the House is doing, is a move that hurts Israel. That is what they do, unfortunately: harming our partnership with Israel by politicizing their aid package. I urge Speaker JOHNSON: Quickly change course, Speaker JOHNSON, because this stunningly unserious proposal is not going to be the answer. It is not going anywhere. As I said: It is dead almost before it is born.

OIL INDUSTRY MERGERS

Mr. President, the FTC letter that we sent this morning—and I think people should pay attention to this because this is a very serious issue. Last month, America's two largest oil companies, ExxonMobil and Chevron, announced two of the largest oil acquisitions of the 21st century—in fact, some of the largest mergers in the history—in the whole history—of the United States. And where are these mergers occurring? In the heavily concentrated oil industry where the consumer has almost no say whatsoever.

These deals have all the hallmarks of harmful, anticompetitive effect. And if they are allowed to happen, Americans could see the consequences through higher prices at the pump. People are complaining, justifiably, that gas prices are too high, and these mergers inevitably will make the price even higher.

So today, I am leading a group of 22 Senators calling on the Federal Trade Commission to use the full powers of the FTC to investigate these mergers. In our letter, we say that if any antitrust laws may be violated, the FTC should step in and oppose the mergers.

We broke up Standard Oil's illegal monopoly in 1911. We are quickly getting back to that place. The FTC should also investigate whether it is time to break up today's anticompetitive oil conglomerates. When America's largest oil companies can just buy some of their largest competitors—here we have Exxon, the biggest oil company in America, buying the largest oil driller in the Permian Basin, which is the biggest U.S. oil field—it is outrageous. When the largest companies can control the lion's share of the supply chain, when they are able to act

with little accountability, the result is a raw deal for American consumers, American workers, and the American economy.

And this isn't speculation. We have seen this happen before. In the 1990s, there were over 2,600 mergers across the petroleum industry. The number of major oil companies was cut in half.

I will never forget the day. This was a Democratic President. President Clinton, unfortunately, allowed the merger between Exxon and Mobil—two of the biggest oil companies. I opposed it at the time. The result of these mergers and lax accountability was market manipulation, an unstable supply, and, ultimately, price hikes for Americans.

Well, why repeat that mistake? We cannot allow it.

With ExxonMobil's merger with Pioneer and Chevron's merger with Hess, we are seeing history repeat itself. More consolidation and less competition may be good for the shareholders and the big oil company execs, but it ain't good for America, and it certainly ain't good for the consumer, who will inevitably pay more for gas, oil, and so many other things.

There is something deeply wrong about seeing the largest oil and gas companies in the world manipulate their way to higher profits as Americans are struggling at the pump. Last year alone, the world's five largest oil companies saw record profits—\$219 billion—more than double the profits of 2021.

And where did the profits go? Did they translate to lower prices for Americans? Did the companies invest in worker productivity or in finding new, clean energy sources? No. The soaring profits fueled soaring stock buybacks. Americans, meanwhile, saw higher prices every time they filled up the tank.

And one other point about these mergers: At one point, the big oil companies said: Hmm, we understand that the world is moving in a direction of clean energy. We are going to move that way, too.

These mergers show they are not. They are not. They are simply investing in the old carbon resources that we know, in the long run, will do such damage to our world and our world economy. Yet they are just moving headlong in that direction—short-term gain, long-term loss.

Mergers will accelerate these disturbing trends of high gas prices and less competition. So we are calling on the FTC to look into the announcements made by ExxonMobil and Chevron and step in if necessary.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have spoken frequently about the clear links between the biggest national security challenges facing our country and about what we need to do to address them, but let's not lose sight of a few overarching points.

America's adversaries don't ease up when we lose our resolve. In fact, they press their advantage. How many of our colleagues would disagree that withdrawing from Afghanistan caused America's friends and foes to question the credibility of our commitments?

How many would disagree that failing to respond decisively to hundreds of terrorist attacks against U.S. forces in Syria and Iraq has weakened our deterrence against Iran?

How many Senators would disagree that the Biden administration shouldn't have withheld lethal assistance to Ukraine in the summer of 2021 or that they should have shipped lethal weapons more quickly as Russia's preparations became glaringly obvious that fall and winter?

How many would disagree that the President's caution and hesitation to provide critical weapons—like HIMARS, Patriots, tanks, and ATACMs—has prolonged the conflict in Ukraine?

Over and over again, history has taught us that the costs of disengaging from the world are far higher than the costs of engaging. And just as the threats we face aren't isolated, neither are the benefits of investing in American leadership.

So here is the plain truth: The overwhelming majority of the resources approved by the Senate as security assistance for Ukraine has, in fact, gone directly—directly—to American manufacturers, supporting American jobs, expanding the American industrial base, and producing new weapons for America's military, with almost \$70 billion in investments spread across at least 38 different States. The production of artillery rounds alone has distributed multiple billions into facilities from Arkansas to Virginia and Texas to Ohio—all to improve our ability to equip the United States and our allies for the growing challenges we face.

These investments are not just replacing what is being used to destroy Russia's military strength; they are expanding production capacity to meet the soaring demand from allies. NATO countries have invested \$90 billion in capabilities produced here in America since last February, and they are helping equip U.S. forces for our own long-term competition with China.

Take the Patriot interceptor. This air defense system is arguably the most in-demand weapon in the United States' arsenal. It has saved thousands of American and allied lives. It is de-

ployed across Europe, the Middle East, and the Indo-Pacific. It is produced in Tucson, AZ, with components coming from all over our country; and the supplemental resources we are working on could expand production capacity by nearly 20 percent.

Or take the 155-millimeter round. It is relevant in nearly every conflict imaginable. More than 75 percent of our investments marked for this munition has gone toward capacity expansion. Today, U.S. manufacturers are able to produce double what they could before our response to the Russian aggression last year. With the further investment of so-called Ukraine spending, American production would reach 1 million rounds per year.

The notion that this money is distracting from America's other security priorities is nonsense. Anyone making this claim doesn't understand how critical production lines work. The truth is the investments we have made in expanding production capacity to respond to Putin's escalation are helping American manufacturers produce more of the weapons Israel and Taiwan need.

I have spoken at length about America's clear national security interest in helping Ukraine demolish Russian military strength and in a secure and peaceful Europe. I have spelled out the glaring and immediate threats we face from Iran-backed terror and of the importance of supporting our closest ally in the Middle East. I have emphasized the gravity of strategic competition with China and the urgency of the threat facing our friends out in the Indo-Pacific.

But, as foolish as it is to deny the clear link between America's adversaries and the threats we face, it is every bit as dangerous to pretend that, as a global superpower, our Nation cannot or should not face each of them down. We have the means to lead the free world and ensure our own security. In the face of coordinated aggression from our adversaries, we have the clearest possible objective: We win. They lose.

BORDER SECURITY

Now, Mr. President, on a related matter, as I mentioned last week, illegal crossings at our southern border are setting alltime records. In just 3 years, under the Biden administration, the CBP has recorded 6 million border encounters—6 million. And yet, in the face of these astonishing statistics, the Secretary of Homeland Security continues to say: "Our approach to managing the border . . . is working."

The White House Press Secretary has reiterated this insanity, saying:

It's not like someone walks over [the border]. . . . That's not how it works.

Well, of course, we know that is exactly—exactly—how it works. The Border Patrol has been tracking 1,000 known "got-aways" per day—1,000 "got-aways" per day.

The facts on the ground send a clear message: The Biden administration's handling of the border crisis is a complete and utter failure.

Yesterday, Senator CRUZ and Senator BARRASSO both shared an encounter they witnessed on the border, over the weekend, of a 10-year-old girl and a man claiming to be her father. They described the terror on the girl's face as the man attempted to use the Biden administration's family unit loophole to cut the line at the border. As Senator CRUZ put it, "the cartels are renting children to grown men."

The crisis that has unfolded on President Biden's watch is inhumane and dangerous. Fiscal year 2022 was the deadliest year on record at the southern border, and fiscal year 2023 set an alltime record for terror watchlist encounters. We are watching a humanitarian crisis that has become a glaring national security vulnerability.

The solution is pretty clear. The solution isn't billions of dollars to make it easier and faster to process illegal immigrants or "money for a welcome wagon," as Senator BARRASSO put it yesterday. The solution is a clear and commonsense policy that forces the Biden administration to enforce the law and treat the border with the legal consequences that it demands.

So I am grateful to my Republican colleagues who are working hard on a policy proposal to deliver actual border security and drawing on ideas put forward by Senator LANKFORD, Senator CRUZ, Senator GRASSLEY, and others.

Washington Democrats have proved that their border security approach is simply not working. President Biden's border supplemental request is just more of the same. It is time to wake up and embrace policy changes that will keep Americans safe.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we recently learned that fiscal year 2023 set a new record for the number of illegal immigrants apprehended at the southern border—the third recordbreaking year of illegal immigration under the Biden administration.

First, fiscal year 2021 set an alltime record. Then, fiscal year 2022 broke that record. And, now, fiscal 2023 has broken that record. In other words, we have had 3 straight years of the Biden border crisis getting worse and worse and worse.

Since the President took office, more than 6.2 million individuals have been caught attempting to illegally cross our southern border—6.2 million. If every one of those individuals lived in one city, it would be the second largest in the country.

I don't need to tell anyone that the kind of unchecked illegal immigration we are experiencing represents a serious security threat.

The Department of Homeland Security recently noted in its 2024 threat assessment:

Terrorists and criminal actors may exploit the elevated flow [of migration] and increasingly complex security environment to enter the United States.

And by all indications, bad actors are, in fact, taking advantage of the chaos at the border to try and enter the United States. During fiscal year 2023 alone, 169 individuals on the Terrorist Watchlist were caught attempting to illegally cross our southern border—169 on the Terrorist Watchlist. Those are the ones they apprehended. That is more than in the previous 6 years combined.

The head of the Border Patrol recently said that his Agency is arresting an average of more than 47 people per day who have "serious criminal histories"—more than 47 people per day with serious criminal histories. Those are just the individuals who are being caught.

Since January 2021, when President Biden took office, there have been more than 1.7 million known "got-aways." Those are individuals the Border Patrol saw but was unable to apprehend. We can only imagine the number of unknown "got-aways" who have sneaked into the country.

How many of those individuals have "serious criminal histories" or hail from hostile countries? We just don't know, but we can be pretty confident that among those "got-aways" are dangerous individuals who should not be entering our country.

This is a serious issue, and we need a serious course correction from this administration.

Vice President HARRIS, who is in charge of overseeing border policies for this administration, recently told "60 Minutes" that "we need a safe, orderly, and humane border policy." This has been the purported goal of the Biden administration for almost 3 years now, but the administration has been failing on all three counts.

The current crisis we are experiencing is a predictable result of the Biden administration's decisions. Before the President took office, his team was warned of the possibility of a migrant surge. Yet the moment the President took office, he set about dismantling the immigration policies of his predecessor and weakening our border's security, and the result has been, as I said, 3 successive years of record-breaking illegal immigration.

While the Biden administration has finally started to, at least halfheartedly, acknowledge our Nation's border crisis and put in place policies attempting to encourage legal migration and penalize illegal border crossings, the changes are insufficient—far too little, far too late—or, as one columnist recently put it in the Washington Post, "The Biden administration's various efforts have amounted to Band-Aids on a massive, open wound."

The President's recent supplemental funding request has not left me hopeful that the administration is suddenly going to become more effective. Potentially billions of dollars in reimbursement for blue States struggling to house illegal immigrants won't do a single thing to solve the crisis we are facing at the border.

While the President's proposal does include some funding that would actually go toward security, funding alone is simply not enough. We need meaningful policy changes that will, for starters, end the rampant abuse of our asylum system and sweeping parole designations.

Senators GRAHAM, LANKFORD, and COTTON, among several others, are working hard to craft a set of changes to our asylum and parole policies that would stem the flow at our southern border. These changes would address obvious flaws in President Biden's immigration policies and make tangible progress toward getting our border crisis under control.

Recent events have underscored the importance of national security, and a porous southern border is a huge—huge—vulnerability when it comes to our national security. We need to use every tool we can to secure the border and keep terrorists and criminals out of the United States.

Senate Republicans are committed to putting policies in place at the border that keep Americans safe, and I hope that, in the days and weeks to come, Senate Democrats will join us to make securing our border a priority.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ISRAEL

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, the situation in Gaza today is a disaster. Congress must take action. The administration must take action. The world must take action.

Today, 3 weeks after Hamas's barbaric attack against civilians in Israel, which began this war, many hundreds of thousands of innocent men, women, and children in Gaza are on the brink. Over the past 3 weeks, it is estimated that some 8,000 people in Gaza have been killed in bombings, including more than 3,000 children, and far more have been wounded.

More than a million people in Gaza have been displaced from their homes, and some 670,000 are sheltering in U.N. installations, where they are down to 1 liter of water per person per day. They lack sufficient food, water, medical supplies, or fuel. The hospitals and medical facilities there are in nightmarish conditions, with hundreds of

babies in incubators and patients on life support at risk of death should the generators that sustain them run out of fuel. Corridors are lined with injured and displaced people, and overwhelmed doctors must turn patients away or operate without anesthesia or antibiotics.

The humanitarian crisis is dire and getting worse by the minute. There must be a humanitarian pause now so that sufficient supplies—food, water, medicine, fuel—can reach the people of Gaza. If not, thousands more will die needlessly. We cannot allow that to happen. A stop to the bombing is critical to save innocent lives and secure the safe return of hostages.

Let us never forget the lives of all children—all people—are sacred, whether they are Palestinian children, Israeli children, or American children, and we must do everything we can to protect them. But if we are going to make any real progress in addressing this never-ending conflict between Israel and Hamas—there have been five wars in the last 15 years—we need to understand somewhat as to how we got to where we are today. If peace is to come to that troubled region and if the Palestinian people are ever going to be able to enjoy lives of security and dignity, there must be a vision of where we go in the future.

So, let us be clear, the living conditions in Gaza before October 7 were horrific and inhumane, and that is before Hamas ignited the latest war. Before this conflict, in Gaza, nearly 80 percent of people there lived in poverty, and two-thirds were reliant on humanitarian assistance. Almost half the population and over 70 percent of young people were unemployed in Gaza. What kind of life could they look forward to? Electricity there was intermittent, with 11- to 12-hour blackouts every day. Water and sanitation systems were inadequate, and there were constant shortages of all basic necessities.

Gaza was mostly cut off from the world, with Israel and Egypt severely limiting the number of people and types of goods that could go in or out. In fact, many observers described Gaza as “an open-air prison”—and all of that is before October 7.

If we are serious about bringing freedom and dignity to the Palestinian people, that is a situation that can never be allowed to be returned to. The Palestinian people are entitled to much more than that.

In Gaza, Hamas, an authoritarian terrorist organization, ruled by force, stockpiling arms and war materiel, taxing the desperately poor population, and stealing resources to build tunnels and rockets. Make no mistake about it, Hamas is a terrorist organization bent on the destruction of Israel, and long before this horrific attack, they had killed countless innocent people, including Americans. They advance a fundamentalist ideology which treats women as inferior, second-class citi-

zens and which threatens to kill people who are gay.

Hamas is an authoritarian nightmare, repressing dissent and stealing from Gazans not just many materials of life but the dream of a better future. And that was the situation before October 7.

And what was going on in Israel before Hamas's terrorist attack? What was going on there? That country had the most rightwing government in its history, a Cabinet that included outright racist Ministers who consistently dehumanized the Palestinian population. Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, was under indictment for a litany of corruption charges, and many believe that Israel's intelligence—or lack of intelligence—on October 7 had everything to do with his government's preoccupation with his political problems.

Before the war, this rightwing Israeli Government had systematically undermined the prospects of peace. Netanyahu and his extreme partners in the Cabinet had worked to marginalize Palestinian voices committed to peace, pursued settlement policies designed to foreclose the possibility of a two-state solution, stymied economic development in Palestinian areas, and passed laws that entrenched systemic inequality between Jewish and Palestinian citizens of Israel.

This last year saw record Israeli settlement growth in the West Bank, where more than 700,000 Israelis now live in areas the United Nations and United States agree are occupied territories. Despite that, the Israeli Government authorized thousands of new homes for settlers and opened up new areas to construction, while bulldozing thousands of Palestinian homes and schools and further restricting Palestinian movement.

Legal experts agree, these policies constituted nothing less than illegal annexation. All of these policies and more greatly increased tension in the West Bank. Before October 7, 179 Palestinians had been killed in 2023—179 Palestinians in the West Bank—which made it the deadliest year in two decades. Since October 7, 121 more Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, including some by settlers.

These tensions were part of why so much of the IDF, the Israel Defense Forces, was deployed in the West Bank rather than the border with Gaza.

And then came October 7 and Hamas's atrocities that began this latest and horrific war. The Hamas attack was unspeakable. Over 1,300 innocent men, women, and children in Israel were killed; over 200 Israelis and Americans taken hostage, including young children and grandparents. Young people were gunned down in cold blood at a music festival, babies and older people brutally murdered in their homes.

And let's remember that Hamas did not primarily target the military—no. They intentionally targeted civilians. Their goal was to kill civilians. Their

attack was designed to provoke a response, and in that they succeeded.

Many Israelis are now understandably furious, and they want to strike back forcefully. I think we can all understand that. But rage and revenge do not make useful policy. And here in the United States, after the attack on 9/11 in this country, we acted with rage and revenge, and I think many people now understand that that was a horrific mistake.

Killing innocent Palestinian women and children in Gaza will not bring back to life the innocent Israeli women and children who have been killed by Hamas. Like any other country, Israel has the right to defend itself and destroy Hamas terrorism, but it does not have the right to kill thousands of innocent men, women, and children in Gaza.

Israel does not have the right to endanger the lives of millions of Palestinians—half of whom are children—by shutting off water, food, fuel, and electricity. That type of action against a helpless and impoverished population is morally unacceptable and in violation of international law.

Israel does not have the right to bomb an entire neighborhood to target one Hamas leader or installation, but that is what the Israeli Government is doing. One need only look at the satellite imagery and photography of Gaza to see that this is not a carefully calibrated campaign. These are not surgical strikes.

Yesterday, Israel struck the densely populated Jabalia refugee camp and killed a Hamas commander, but they also killed some 50 other people and injured hundreds more, although the exact toll is not yet known. That was actually the fourth airstrike on that community. An October 9 airstrike killed 60, an October 19 airstrike killed 18, and an October 22 airstrike killed 30, according to outside researchers.

UNRWA reported yesterday that their head of security—that is the United Nations Relief Agency—their head of security was killed, along with his wife and eight children. In total, 67 United Nations Relief Agency workers have been killed, and 44 United Nations facilities have been damaged since October 7.

The current Israeli strategy must end. Israel must begin the process of restoring water and electrical services to areas where they are still operable. The international community must also rush generators and solar capacity to Gazan medical facilities to address acute needs and reduce Israeli fears of diversion to Hamas.

Israel will not stop going after Hamas, but it must do it in a very, very different way, and additional pauses will be needed.

Let me conclude by saying that Israel must also begin the process of laying out a political strategy. It cannot bomb its way to a solution. Such a strategy must include as minimum first steps a clear promise that Palestinians displaced in the fighting will

have the absolute right to safely return to their homes; a commitment to broader peace talks to advance a two-state solution in the wake of this war; an abandonment of Israeli efforts to carve up and annex the West Bank; and a commitment to work with the Palestinian Authority to build genuine governing capacity.

The United States must make it clear that these are the conditions of our solidarity. Just as we want justice for the Israelis murdered by Hamas, we also want justice for the Palestinian people, and that is not going to happen with Hamas. Palestinians need a state of their own, contiguous, with the freedom of movement and access that can sustain a vibrant economy.

This will be a long and difficult road. It will take concerted U.S. and international support and a doubling down of our political commitment to a two-state solution. But the first step right now must be to stop the bombing and bring in as much humanitarian aid as possible.

I think Secretary Blinken said it well when he said:

Providing immediate aid and protection for Palestinian civilians in the conflict is a necessary foundation for finding partners in Gaza who have a different vision for the future than Hamas—and who are willing to help make it real.

This is a dreadful situation. It is part of a very, very long-term conflict between Israel and its neighbors. But the immediate crisis is to save lives, to stop the bombing, to bring forth a humanitarian pause, and then to go forward to bring peace and stability to the region.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

S.J. RES 42

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I rise today about a resolution to make it harder for students—all students—to have access to school meals. I am referring to S.J. Res. 42. We deal with a lot of complex issues here every day. This is not a complex issue.

First, the Federal policy: the USDA memo clarifying that State agencies and programs participating in Federal school meal programs are required to abide by our Nation's anti-discrimination laws. This means that they cannot deny access to kids on the basis of their gender identity or sexual orientation. In other words, schools may not deny lunch to LGBTQ+ kids.

Now, this isn't some strange, new interpretation of the law that USDA came up with and announced out of the blue; this is the USDA implementing anti-discrimination laws that apply across government, in line with the Supreme Court's reading. This is what the Republicans attempted to overturn with S.J. Res. 42.

Of course, S.J. Res. 42 was never really just about school lunches. The goal was to send a message to LGBTQ+ kids that they are not welcome, to send a message that it is OK to discriminate

against these kids because of who they are. I want to be very clear. That is wrong. We proudly stand with LGBTQ+ kids.

Your rights matter. You are welcome at school.

The USDA guidance will help kids. It will also reduce discrimination and bring Agency guidance in line with Supreme Court precedent.

The USDA policy will also ensure that hungry kids get the food they need to grow and to do well in school. According to census data, LGBTQ+ individuals are almost twice as likely to live in a household that experiences food insecurity, and trans individuals are almost three times more likely not to have enough food to eat, as compared to cisgender individuals.

The last thing our kids need is adults behaving like classroom bullies and trying to justify taking away their lunches. I am glad the Senate rejected this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

AMENDMENT NO. 1241

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1241 and ask that it be reported by number, as I intend to withdraw the amendment shortly due to majority party mischief.

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

The clerk will report by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from North Dakota [Mr. CRAMER], for himself and Mr. MANCHIN, proposes an amendment numbered 1241 to amendment No. 1092.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of funds to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule of the Federal Highway Administration relating to greenhouse gas emissions performance measures)

In title I of division C, insert after section 127 the following:

SEC. 128. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rulemaking entitled "National Performance Management Measures; Assessing Performance of the National Highway System, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Measure" (87 Fed. Reg. 42401 (July 15, 2022)) or a successor regulation.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, the Senate has been preaching regular order for some time, and I have been cheering them on. I have been a strong advocate for regular order because we need a process that engages all of the Members of this body. But one has to ask why my bipartisan, germane amendment is deemed a "poison pill" and now needs 60 votes to pass. Well, I know the answer. It is simple. Because it was going to pass. That is why. That is why suddenly it is a "poison pill." Senate Democrats would rather provide the Biden administration cover by taking a show vote designed to fail than follow real regular order. The will of the Senate should prevail here, but they are not going to let it.

This appropriation limitation amendment would prevent the U.S. Depart-

ment of Transportation from finalizing their illegal rule requiring States to measure CO₂ tailpipe emissions and then set declining targets for individual States on their roadways.

Congress has not provided any authority for the Department of Transportation to dictate CO₂ performance requirements. They can't do what they don't have the authority to do. And even if we had, it is not a workable solution. It may be hard for bureaucrats in Washington, DC, to imagine this, but you cannot tell States like North Dakota and Montana that to reduce tailpipe emissions is easy. Just build a subway. Build a subway or dedicate bus lanes on your gravel roads. That is why a majority of the States in this country have submitted comments expressing their concern and opposing—out-right opposing—this rule.

When the Environment and Public Works Committee negotiated the last highway bill, we expressly left this authority out. We made the decision to not give this authority to the Department of Transportation.

I would note that that bill moved out of committee unanimously and then became the cornerstone of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Ironically, the Biden administration created the "poison pill" that this amendment is meant to address.

I am not interested in show votes, so I am going to withdraw the amendment.

The administration should scrap this rule, but if they finalize it, I will be back. I will be back with a CRA resolution, and then Senate Democrats can't force a 60-vote majority on that one, and I will lead an amicus brief pointing to the major questions doctrine, which the Department of Transportation clearly violates with their rule.

With that, I yield.

AMENDMENT NO. 1241 WITHDRAWN

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 1241) was withdrawn.

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

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

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there be up to 4 minutes of debate equally divided on Senate amendments Nos. 1217 and 1347.

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1217

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1217 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 1217 to amendment No. 1092.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____ . AUDIT REFORM AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 714 of title 31, United States Code, or any other provision of law, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete an audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks under subsection (b) of that section not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the audit required pursuant to subsection (a) is completed, the Comptroller General of the United States—

(A) shall submit to Congress a report on the audit; and

(B) shall make the report described in subparagraph (A) available to the Speaker of the House, the majority and minority leaders of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, the Chair and Ranking Member of the committee and each subcommittee of jurisdiction in the House of Representatives and the Senate, and any other Member of Congress who requests the report.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include a detailed description of the findings and conclusion of the Comptroller General of the United States with respect to the audit that is the subject of the report, together with such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as the Comptroller General of the United States may determine to be appropriate.

(c) REPEAL OF CERTAIN LIMITATIONS.—Subsection (b) of section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by striking the second sentence.

(d) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 714 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)(3), by striking “or (f)” each place the term appears;

(B) in subsection (e), by striking “the third undesignated paragraph of section 13” and inserting “section 13(3)”; and

(C) by striking subsection (f).

(2) FEDERAL RESERVE ACT.—Subsection (s) (relating to “Federal Reserve Transparency and Release of Information”) of section 11 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking “has the same meaning as in section 714(f)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code” and inserting “means a program or facility, including any special purpose vehicle or other entity established by or on behalf of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or a Federal reserve bank, authorized by the Board of Governors under section 13(3), that is not subject to audit under section 714(e) of title 31, United States Code”; and

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “or in section 714(f)(3)(C) of title 31, United States Code, the information described in paragraph (1) and information concerning the transactions described in section 714(f) of such title,” and inserting “the information described in paragraph (1)”; and

(C) in paragraph (7), by striking “and section 13(3)(C), section 714(f)(3)(C) of title 31, United States Code, and” and inserting “, section 13(3)(C), and”.

Mr. PAUL. The Federal Reserve effectively controls the economy but without scrutiny. No other institution has so much unchecked power.

The Fed demonstrated its unlimited authority during the pandemic. The Fed printed money, purchased government-backed securities, and doled out massive amounts of money to favorite industries. The result added almost \$5 trillion to the Fed's balance sheet, the largest in our history.

When Dodd-Frank ordered a limited, one-time audit of Fed actions, the Government Accountability Office uncovered that during the financial crisis, the Fed doled out over \$16 trillion to domestic and foreign banks. This kind of inflationary bailout should not be kept secret from the public.

While the Fed's easy money policies make the rich richer, the side effect is high inflation. As Milton Friedman famously explained, “Inflation is taxation without legislation.”

Congress cannot control the Fed's actions, but Fed actions can cost Americans dearly. Just ask any parent who has to feed his or her family during historically high inflation rates.

My amendment would require a full audit of the Fed within 1 year. It is time for the Federal Reserve to operate in a manner that is transparent and accountable to the taxpayers. I ask for a “yes” vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in opposition to the Paul amendment.

Members of both parties have always agreed an independent—underscore independent—central bank is critical to a functioning economy. Congress put in place restrictions to shield the Fed's monetary policy from political influence. This longstanding restriction ensures that the Fed isn't subject to the whims of Congress, to the partisanship, to the nihilism—if I could use another word—of, too often, people in this body.

Whether it is threatening a default or a government shutdown, all too common because of dysfunction and chaos in the House of Representatives—whether it is threatening a default or government shutdown, we have already seen how partisanship so negatively impacts people's pocketbooks in the broader economy. We don't need it here too.

This amendment would make the Fed less effective. It would open it up to all kinds of nefarious political pressure. Congress already requires that the Fed undergo regular review of their operations, of their programs, of their balance sheet, of their financial statements. These are some of the ways Congress holds the Fed accountable while avoiding dangerous political interference.

This amendment is irrelevant to what we are voting on today. It is yet another impediment to keeping our government open. It shouldn't be partisan. It shouldn't be political. Those antics should stay out of this debate.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the Paul amendment.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1217

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 280 Leg.]

YEAS—46

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

NAYS—51

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

NOT VOTING—3

Lee	Scott (SC)	Tillis
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 46, the nays are 51.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1217) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate, starting at 2:30 p.m. today, the following amendments are expected to be called up and made pending: Cruz No. 1249 and Lee No. 1121. Upon disposition of the amendments, the Senate will vote on

adoption of the substitute amendment No. 1092, as amended, and on passage of H.R. 4366, as amended; further, that upon disposition of H.R. 4366, the Senate will vote on passage of H.R. 662, as amended, and that all previous provisions of the order from October 24 remain in effect.

So for the information of all Senators, there will be four rollcall votes beginning at 2:30 p.m. today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 1347 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1092

(Purpose: To reduce the amounts appropriated in divisions B and C and to rescind amounts appropriated to the Internal Revenue Service.)

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1347 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 Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 1347 to amendment No. 1092.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be up to 4 minutes of debate, equally divided.

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, the national debt just recently surpassed \$33 trillion. That is \$280,000 per household. Unless we change course, the debt only increases.

CBO predicts trillion-dollar deficits as far as the eye can see. We borrow over \$176,000,000 every hour, \$3,000,000 is borrowed every minute, and \$50,000 every second. It is out of control.

Net interest payments are anticipated to double, from \$475 billion to a trillion dollars by fiscal year 2028. Interest will be the largest item of expenditure for the Federal Government.

Americans could pay dearly for Congress's inability to say no to the welfare and warfare state. It could mean confiscatory tax rates, high inflation, and a weak economy. But it doesn't have to be this way.

My amendment begins the path toward fiscal health by saving the taxpayers \$30 billion. My amendment also cuts \$25 billion that the Biden administration wants to use to sic the IRS on taxpayers to squeeze them for even more money. That is a reduction of \$55 billion for what the government is on track to spend.

I urge a "yes" vote on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, we have a bipartisan package before us. This amendment that is being offered would slash funding supported unanimously in our committee in the Ag and T-HUD bills—kicking women and kids off of WIC or gutting funding for our farmers and agricultural research, making our food supplies less safe; lay-

ing off air traffic controllers, leading to flight delays and cancellations; booting people from their homes as housing assistance would be cut off; eliminating resources for communities to invest in important local infrastructure needs and a lot more. This would be catastrophic.

The bills we are considering today have been carefully drafted. They are written to the spending levels that were set by the debt ceiling agreement that the House Republicans and the President agreed on. Congress passed it in July, so I urge my colleagues to vote no.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1347

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 23, nays 74, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 281 Leg.]

YEAS—23

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Rubio
Braun	Johnson	Schmitt
Budd	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cornyn	Lummis	Sullivan
Cotton	Mullin	Tuberville
Crapo	Paul	Vance
Cruz	Ricketts	

NAYS—74

Baldwin	Graham	Padilla
Bennet	Hagerty	Peters
Blumenthal	Hassan	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Romney
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Britt	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeven	Sanders
Butler	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Shaheen
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Klobuchar	Smith
Casey	Lankford	Stabenow
Cassidy	Lujan	Tester
Collins	Manchin	Thune
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Warner
Cramer	McConnell	Warnock
Daines	Menendez	Warren
Duckworth	Merkley	Welch
Durbin	Moran	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fetterman	Murphy	Wyden
Fischer	Murray	Young
Gillibrand	Ossoff	

NOT VOTING—3

Lee Scott (SC) Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). On this vote, the yeas are 23, the nays are 74.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1347) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I rise today to address this Chamber at an increasingly important moment in our Nation's history, to discuss the national security issues that we are currently facing and the ways in which the U.S. Senate can address them.

On the floor, over the past several weeks, I have repeatedly called for American leadership in support of our allies abroad and in support of the many challenges that we face here at home. Again, today, I renew that call for American leadership and continue to stress the urgency created by the trials at hand: from the vicious, horrific attacks on our allies in Israel by Hamas to Putin's aggression we see in Europe; from North Korea's brazen nuclear posturing to Iranian militias attacking our men and women overseas in uniform; and, of course, the increasing tensions that we see in the Indo-Pacific, where China continues to threaten stability and to pursue the largest military buildup since World War II.

We are currently living in times and are tasked in making decisions that will greatly shape the world in which we and the young people here today will be living in. Our Nation is being tested. Our resolve is being tested. And a country as powerful as ours needs to show strength, clarity, and control that only the United States of America can generate.

This is something I have addressed repeatedly with my constituents across West Virginia and something that I am confident they understand and agree with. The Mountain State is incredibly patriotic. We are very proud Americans. Pride in our country and a steadfast belief in the ideals and values that we stand for are invaluable, both now and in our future. I agree with my fellow patriotic West Virginians that this is the greatest country on Earth and that the title requires us to make critical investments in both our own national security and in the security of our allies, before it is too late.

It is imperative that Americans across this country recognize this and that we come together as our adversaries attempt to turn us against one another.

I am appreciative of the Biden administration for proposing a supplemental appropriations package that addresses key areas of concern that I have talked to, but those key areas of concern that we see across our country and the world. That being said, the administration's supplemental request needs to be recognized for what it is—a request. The Senate must and will have a say in how this is formulated. The Biden administration has not shown the strength it needs to during these challenging times.

We need to unabashedly stand with Israel. We need to responsibly support

Ukraine as they further deteriorate Putin's military. They are getting back land that they lost. They are regaining it. We need to strengthen our allies and our own defense capabilities in the Indo-Pacific. And we may need to make strong changes to policies that have allowed our southern border to remain in chaos for years now. Any response from the Senate must reflect these four categories because they are directly tied to what is in the best interest of our country and our national security.

Yesterday, I participated in a Senate Appropriations hearing to examine President Biden's request. This was an important step. It allowed us to grow consensus as we move toward a supplemental that will be crafted by the Senate. I firmly believe that this was one of our most important Appropriations Committee hearings, and I congratulate the chair and the vice chair. This hearing highlighted how investments into the defense of Israel and Ukraine go a long way to strengthening our own defense capabilities and how the lack of deterrence and enforcement at our southern border is creating elevated threats to our national security.

This further underscores the importance of responsible relief efforts that need to be included in a response from the Senate. It is critical that a Senate-crafted supplemental address all four areas that I have mentioned and that we provide the tools needed for our allies to win and to strengthen our own defense capabilities, at the same time, in the process.

Israel is currently under attack by Hamas and Hezbollah and terrorists who are supported by America's most evil adversaries. American lives have been lost, and far too many innocent families have been left without a home and without their loved ones.

Ukraine is facing an unjust and unprovoked ground war, the likes of which we have not seen in generations—nor did we think we would see in this generation. Putin's aggression creates dangers all around the globe. The Ukrainian military is decimating Russia's military strength without putting one American troop in harm's way.

Additionally, funding toward Ukraine goes straight into replenishing our own stockpiles with new and more advanced weapons. These are weapons that are made in the U.S.A., for the U.S.A., some of which are made in my home State of West Virginia.

Our Indo-Pacific allies remain on heightened alert. I saw this directly when I visited the region last summer. It is irresponsible to neglect the tie between the attacks on Israel, the war in Ukraine, and the security of Taiwan and the increasing aggression from China—and on our southern border, which remains in chaos.

President Biden's policies have led to record after record of illegal crossings, with an alarming amount of encounters with individuals on our own country's Terrorist Watch List. I saw where

Secretary Mayorkas testified yesterday that 600,000 "got-aways"—we don't even count them in the over 2 million who were apprehended. This is 600,000 people who are believed to have entered our country without any interdiction at all. We don't know who these people are.

We do not just need funding for a border wall; we need substantial changes in policy, as I said earlier, that will strengthen our security and protect our homeland, which has been left under siege for far too long.

It is important that Congress and the American public recognize the importance of support across those four categories. The investments will support our own defense industrial base. It will increase the security of the United States. We will support our allies in their time of need, and, most importantly, we will keep U.S. servicemembers from fighting in these battles. Each of these categories is in the direct and best interest of the United States and the security of our homeland and the security of our allies.

There is no doubt that now is the time to act. If we fail to meet our obligations in any of the four areas, we weaken the overall impact of all of them. I am confident in the ability of this Chamber to craft a supplemental that meets the growing and urgent national security needs of our country and our world.

The time for American leadership is now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nebraska.

ISRAEL

Mrs. FISCHER. Madam President, we have heard story after story this past month about Hamas's brutal ground attacks on Israel. Hamas militants murdered Israelis and Americans alike as they stormed places, from border towns to music festivals. Hamas didn't just attack from the ground; they continue to rain rockets on Israel. These rockets have destroyed people's homes, ruptured their livelihoods, and taken their lives.

Throughout this conflict, Israel's Iron Dome defense system has played a crucial role. The Iron Dome acts as a shield, detecting rockets and firing missiles to intercept them before they hit the ground.

The United States has stood by Israel—our closest ally in the Middle East—since the country's inception. We have always pledged our support in times of crisis. So it is critical that my colleagues and I on the Senate Appropriations Committee work together to ensure that Israel receives the defensive and offensive capabilities that it has requested from the United States. That includes replenishing the Iron Dome system so that Israel is able to protect its people from rocket attacks by terrorist groups. It includes replenishing Israel's David's Sling system and investing in the development of the Iron Beam system. These defensive systems set Israel up for an effective

response to the havoc that Hamas and Hezbollah continue to wreak.

We must provide Israel with the time and resources its government needs to eliminate those threats. But as we consider the aid we will provide to Israel, we also need to consider the question, how do we better position the United States to support our allies as well as bolster our own defense systems amid the escalating global threats?

A few days after the heinous attacks on Israel, a bipartisan, bicameral congressional commission released its report on the strategic posture of the United States. This report, based on the consensus of respected national security experts from across the political spectrum, concluded that the United States will be woefully underprepared for the threats we are facing.

Our two peer nuclear adversaries, Russia and China, have dramatically expanded their nuclear forces over the decades. They continue to develop novel nuclear weapons and delivery systems. Meanwhile, the United States is barely keeping up with modernizing our nuclear forces.

The report emphasized the need to grow our nuclear and conventional forces and, above all else, to expand our production capability, including our workforce, supply chain, and infrastructure.

As Senators, we regularly receive briefings and intelligence reports that clearly outline the threats we face from actors like Russia and China. I have often said that if the American people had access to more of this information themselves, they would better understand the nature and the severity of the threats we face. Investment in national security would move to the top of their priority list.

These events—the release of a disquieting defense report and the assault against our ally Israel—should serve as a wake-up call for the United States of America. We must expand our production capacity to meet the needs of our country. If we don't expand our production capacity, we also won't be able to support our allies and our partners or supply them with the lethal aid they desperately need.

Building out our capacity so we can meet future threats—that is going to take time, and it is going to take resources. But we can start now, and we can start by making targeted investments in munitions production.

The administration's supplemental request includes \$25 billion just to replenish our own weapons stockpiles and expand the critical munition production capacity—initiatives that, frankly, should have already begun. Including this funding in the supplemental will be a step in the right direction.

The supplemental request must bring together our goals of strengthening our own military readiness, supporting our troops in Europe and the Middle East, and providing our allies and our partners with lethal aid. I look forward to

working with my colleagues to ensure that the supplemental includes these priorities.

We have been asleep to changes in the global threat environment for too long, and now is the time to wake up. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. HOEVEN. Madam President, yesterday, the Senate Appropriations Committee heard from the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State about the administration's request for supplemental appropriations. We heard about a wide range of threats to the national security and the national interests of the American people.

Now, I believe that we need to support Israel, our staunch ally. We see the Israelis fighting for their very existence. They need our help, and they need it now. I believe this includes not only military assistance but also standing against Iran. Various attacks have been launched at U.S. forces across the Middle East since October 7, and they have been launched at the behest of Iran—we know that—and we must make it clear to Iran that there are consequences for attacking U.S. forces.

In addition to support for Israel, I also recognize that we need to support Ukraine. We know from history that tyrants like Putin do not stop. They must be stopped. And as we support Ukraine, we need a strategy for victory to end this war, not to have a continued stalemate. Ukraine does not want the war to drag on, and neither do we. So I will continue to press the Defense Department, as I did yesterday with the Secretary of Defense, to ensure that we are on a path to win, that Ukraine is on a path to win and end the conflict, not to have an ongoing war.

So we need to support Israel, and we need to support Ukraine. But, at the same time, enhancing our national security means we also need to secure the homeland, and that means securing our southern border.

Border security is national security—I will repeat that: Border security is national security. But this administration, the Biden administration, does not have a plan in place to secure the border. They are doing just the opposite. We have an open border—an open border at a time when we are concerned about attacks from terrorists.

Last month, we had a record 270,000 illegal encounters at the southern border. Last year, we had 2.5 million illegal encounters—also a record. That includes 169 individuals who are on the Terrorist Watchlist. I am sure our adversaries are very much aware of this vulnerability.

The supplemental calls for funding to support “border security.” This administration's definition of “border security” is processing migrants who illegally come across the southern border and then providing them with housing, transportation, and other services once

they enter the United States. That will only encourage more illegal immigration when we should be making every effort to get the border under control.

The keys to securing the border and stopping the illegal crossings at our southern border are simple, and we know what they are. The solutions are there, but the administration won't apply them. And we know—we are not guessing at this—because the last administration put these in place, and they worked. They are reinstating the Migrant Protection Protocols, meaning the “Remain in Mexico” policy, and enforcing the safe third country agreements. They work. We know they work. We have seen them work. The Biden administration has those tools, but they won't use them. They won't enforce the law. As a result, we have an open border, with 270,000 illegal encounters last month, 2.5 million last year, and 169 people encountered who are on the Terrorist Watchlist.

How many came across who are on the Terrorist Watchlist whom we don't know about—the “got-aways”—at a time when we are worried about the possibility of there being a terrorist attack in our country? What is going on?

We need to also recontinue the construction of the border wall so that the CBP can truly control this border. It is way past time to get this done. These are the things that, I think, must be included as we consider this funding. We need to secure our border as well. If we are talking national security, we have to recognize that border security is a vital part of national security, and that must be part of what we include as we consider this funding. Again, I emphasize that border security is national security.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. ROSEN). The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, we just heard from the Senator of North Dakota talking about the imperative of ensuring that our borders are secure, particularly at the southern border.

We had an opportunity yesterday in the Senate Appropriations Committee to hear from Secretary Austin and Secretary Blinken about the administration's supplemental funding request. If there were one common thread there that was underscored over and over, it was the dire need—the immediate need—of support for our allies, our allies who are locked, really, in two existential wars that threaten both their sovereignties and their people. So the support for Israel and the support for Ukraine, in my view, is one that I shared with the two Secretaries: that they are inextricably linked and our support for both must be inextricably linked.

We have all watched with horror as Hamas has unleashed this terrorist attack on civilians, killing more than 1,400 Israelites and taking at least 240 Israelites hostage; then in Ukraine, with Russia's brutal invasion of

Ukraine homeland killing over 70,000 Ukrainians in just a hellbent mission to reclaim their old Soviet territory.

It is times like this when I think we look to the role that the United States should be playing. We are not—no, we are not—the police force for the world. We are not there to fight the wars for others. But when the world is watching democracy face direct assaults from terrorists and from authoritarian regimes, this is the time that the United States must be leading from the front. We have a responsibility to our allies, and we have a responsibility to the world at large, whether that is providing humanitarian aid, promoting stability, or lending support through the most powerful military in the world.

This is the United States. These are responsibilities that, I think, are significant, and, again, others from around the world look to us for that leadership.

Now, there are some who would suggest that we have supported Ukraine enough; that we should move and direct our attention only to our own borders; that the situation in Israel is such that we should focus exclusively there. As we heard yesterday in the Appropriations hearing, we do not have the luxury of dealing with one crisis at a time. That would certainly make things easier, but we do not have that.

So to those who would suggest that we must abandon our allies in their most desperate hour, I would remind them that this defense spending comes right back to the United States through our own defense industrial base, providing an opportunity to refresh outdated war-readiness items, making the United States stronger in return as well as providing jobs to Americans. So this is not just about providing aid to others outside our borders. This is also helping to strengthen us.

There was a comment that I had read: The United States can lead through the power of example; but in order to be most effective, we need the example of our power.

It is that industrial base that we know we have work to do there.

Then, to those who say we need to be looking at home—again, as the Senator from North Dakota mentioned—we do. We must pay attention to those who are coming across our border illegally, those who would threaten us from within. We cannot ever, ever lose sight of that obligation and the responsibility; but I think it is important to recognize that this supplemental request does include support for our Department of Homeland Security to strengthen our border. It also provides over \$1 billion toward combating fentanyl—just the devastating drug that has taken the lives of far, far, far too many Americans. So that also must be part of this.

What we are talking about with this supplemental is, effectively, four legs of a chair. Think about what makes

that chair that you are sitting in stable. You have got four pillars here. One essential imperative: We must be there to support our friends in Israel. We must be there. An imperative is to continue our support for Ukraine. We must address our southern border—an absolute imperative. Then that fourth underpinning that provides for that greater stability is the threat from the Indo-Pacific.

So I think we know that, within the contours of this package that the President has sent to us, there is room to move things around; there is room to subtract or add. But I think it is these four fundamental pillars here that are so inextricably linked that we cannot lose sight of what it means and what our role here in the United States is.

The violence that we see may be across the globe, but the eyes of the world are squarely on us. Our enemies are probing. They are waiting for our response. They want to see what the United States is capable of. Can they only do one thing at a time? Can they only do one thing? And, if they can only do one thing, who are they going to choose? Are they going to be there for their allies in words only or, when things get hot over here, are they going to walk away over there? We have seen how that failure in Afghanistan has reverberated around the world and what it has meant to our friends and allies.

I would suggest that this supplemental package is measured, and it is necessary as a strategic response. I will tell you, our opponents are praying that we fail to take this up—as, again, that balance. So we will and we should discuss and debate the contours within, but I would hope that we would stand together and unite on a package that is good, that is solid, and that is stable for our country and for our friends and allies.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, let me say that I associate myself with the remarks that were just made by the previous two speakers—the senior Senator from the State of North Dakota and the distinguished Senator from Alaska.

I rise today to follow on with the importance of national defense and, in that regard, to speak specifically about the historic Australia, United Kingdom, United States agreement known as AUKUS.

This pact, AUKUS, builds upon a bond forged during the First World War between the United States and Australia and made unshakable in the second. That bond remains strong today as we face the greatest challenge of our lifetime—the Chinese Communist Party.

The Senator from Alaska just spoke about the importance of building our defenses in the Indo-Pacific, and that is exactly what the AUKUS agreement is designed to address.

Our military leadership has made the stakes clear. The Secretary of the Air Force, Frank Kendall, recently said:

The intelligence couldn't be clearer. . . . China is preparing for a war and specifically for a war with the United States.

Now is the time for free nations across the Pacific to prepare for this sobering possibility. The AUKUS deal will help prevent that war from happening. Indeed, the AUKUS agreement is vital, but there is more work to do beyond that. We have yet to take the actions necessary to ensure that our industrial base can support both the United States and Australia.

The basic fact is this: Our defense industrial base is not where it needs to be. Workforce shortages, a shrinking base of contractors, and insufficient resources have damaged our military readiness. Year after year, we have deferred maintenance on our surface ships, even as these ships are spending more days deployed and the fleet continues to shrink. Our capabilities are stalling as we hurtle toward a window of maximum danger with the Chinese Communist Party.

The story for our submarines is no better. We are not prepared to fulfill our Navy's submarine construction and maintenance needs, let alone fulfill the prospective commitments in the critical AUKUS agreement.

Our Navy's requirement is to have 66 attack submarines at 80 percent readiness. We currently have 49 attack submarines at 67 percent readiness. Let me say that again. We need 66 attack submarines. We have only 49. They need to be at 80 percent readiness. They are only at 67 percent.

We should be building two attack submarines per year, but we are really building 1.2 attack submarines per year. The demands of the AUKUS agreement would push this requirement higher to above 2.3 attack submarines per year. We should do that, but we can't meet that challenge right now. To meet this challenge, our defense industry will need to handle more demand than ever before.

To handle this demand, our defense industry will need to reverse its current trajectory. Since the so-called peace dividend of the 1990s, we have closed two nuclear submarine repair yards and one construction yard. COVID-19 took a sledgehammer to an already declining workforce, and our government is expecting that same inexperienced workforce to meet deadlines not just on our *Virginia*-class submarines but also the critically important, nuclear-armed *Columbia*-class.

Our submarine fleet, just like our surface fleet, is still living off the Reagan-era defense buildup. Many vessels are in a deteriorating state and will soon need to be retired, but replacements are not waiting in the wings. The remaining ships will face longer deployments and fewer opportunities for maintenance. This is not a blueprint for American command of the seas, nor does it put us in a posi-

tion to provide our Australian friends the submarines which they need.

These cascading problems create what some have called a debt spiral of submarine construction and readiness. This spiral keeps us from hitting our shipbuilding targets. Moreover, today's threats mean the current targets are actually too small. China's navy is now the world's largest navy. Russia is increasing its nuclear submarine activity in the Atlantic. Keeping up with these challenges means raising our shipbuilding goals in the first place, then expanding our industrial capacity to meet them.

According to our Acting Chief of Naval Operations, *Virginia*-class construction needs to nearly double. This is the man whom we have put in charge and confirmed to let us know about the readiness of our Navy.

I am grateful for past congressional and executive branch efforts to fund this work; otherwise, we would construct fewer than one *Virginia*-class submarine each year. But even those funding increases have not matched our need. At the current rate, we will be at least nine submarines short by 2030.

Our defense policy cannot continue to hinge upon a hope and a prayer. To make good on AUKUS and stand by our friends in Australia, the administration and Congress need to make the investments necessary to improve submarine construction.

Our first step is clear. We must enact into law the nearly \$3.4 billion in submarine funding, including in the defense supplemental Congress is considering. We need every bit of this funding increased and more.

These funds will be spread throughout our industrial base in the United States—inside the United States, employing American workers. It will modernize our shipyards, accelerate maintenance on our existing submarine fleet, and put capital investments in place for future submarine components to be built in our country. They will put Americans to work, showing that economic development and national security go hand in hand.

This additional funding is a welcome first step, but we must do more to show our allies and the U.S. industry and our adversaries that we can meet the obligations of the AUKUS agreement without putting our own submarine fleet in jeopardy. We should sustain investments in our shipbuilders, public shipyards, and the nearly 16,000 suppliers across the Nation, many of them—most of them—small businesses around the Nation. This industry network supports American undersea supremacy and prevents conflicts on the seas, but it needs more long-term investment to stay afloat.

We already have some sense of what this investment should look like. I want to emphasize this. The Biden administration commissioned the "Submarine Industrial Base 2025" study to examine the best way to execute

AUKUS. From what I understand, the study will document what we already know: We need significant additional funding to fulfill Australia's needs alongside those of our fleet. But here is the problem: We commissioned the study. Inexplicably, the Biden administration has yet to let Congress actually see the specifics of the study—not Members of the Democratic leadership, not Members of the Republican leadership. Until the elected Members of the U.S. Senate and the House see this study, Congress cannot make its strongest argument for submarine investment.

I led a letter, signed by a bipartisan group of defense leaders, asking the administration to send us the study without delay. This was a bipartisan letter. Friends from both sides of the aisle joined me on that. We are an equal part of the government. We have authorized this study, and, for heaven's sake, the elected Senators and Representatives of the people need to see this.

If the President desires the same success for the AUKUS deal that many of us in Congress desire—and I believe he does, given the funding request included in the supplemental—then the administration ought to release the study promptly. They ought to release the study to us today.

This study is just one element of strengthening AUKUS. Of course, the most crucial element is increasing overall American sea power. For years, I have cast a vision for restoring American maritime supremacy, following President Reagan's own defense buildup. Again, this is not something that sprung from the brow of Senator WICKER. These are requirements given to us by the top military Navy and Marine leadership, in particular, across the Nation. AUKUS ought to be part of that buildup.

This vision will require historic investment to ensure we have the necessary shipbuilding capacity. It is not an easy task, but history suggests it would underwrite and protect American security for decades.

It will also include strengthening the U.S.-Australian alliance throughout the 21st century. This alliance is symbolized by Australian Prime Minister Albanese's travel to Washington last week. I was honored to meet with him and his team several times during that visit.

The bond between our two nations is deep and abiding. It stood the test of World War II, and it will continue to stand as we confront the challenge of Xi Jinping's communist Chinese fleet.

I can think of no action more emblematic of our bond than the AUKUS agreement, which, again, I fully support. I know the Australians do. They told me last week. They show this also by committing \$3 billion to our industrial base. The best way to honor our special relationship would be to back AUKUS with funds of our own. Australia's economy is a tenth the size of ours, and the United States should

commit a proportional investment. The current plan doesn't get us there.

We have never pursued a defense technology partnership at this scale and level of sophistication, but we have moments in our history to draw upon that inform our path forward. Since its invention in the American midcentury, our nuclear Navy has been second to none because we have never accepted anything less.

Our adversaries knew this. When Admiral Rickover, the founding father of our nuclear Navy, traveled to discuss nuclear submarines with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev and his aides, Admiral Rickover boasted:

Although the United States is a democracy, it can act fast. . . . Can't Russia act as fast as the United States?

The answer was that Russia could not act as fast as we could. The strength of our free enterprise system, the clarity of our mission set by our Federal leaders, and our collective appreciation of the Soviet threat gave us a focus, a singular focus, and it allowed the American system to unleash our arsenal of democracy, and we prevented war with the Soviet Union by maintaining our naval supremacy. We need to unleash that arsenal again.

In the words of Admiral Rickover, "We shall let nothing deter us from building a nuclear Navy in the shortest possible time."

Once more, we cannot let anything deter our skilled shipbuilders from cutting the steel and constructing the fleet that will safeguard America for a generation to come.

We have submarines to build. Let's get to work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic whip.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise to discuss the Senate's urgent need to confirm nominations of Rebecca Lutzko to be U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio and April Perry to serve as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Illinois.

On five previous occasions, I have come to the floor of the Senate to request unanimous consent to move these nominees forward. Each time, the junior Senator from Ohio has objected. He campaigned for the Senate, claiming he would be tough on crime, but now that he is here, he proudly brags that he wants to "grind the Department of Justice to a halt."

These communities desperately need these nominees in place. There are 85 U.S. attorneys across the United States. Under President Donald Trump, we approved all 85 without a record rollcall—voice vote. It was the understanding that we would voice—we would debate the issue of an attorney general. When it came to the U.S. attorneys in individual cities and States, it was too important for us to slow these down with additional procedural requirements on the floor. And so we

do background checks on these U.S. attorney nominees on a bipartisan basis. And once they clear, we add them to the calendar. That is when the junior Senator from Ohio stepped in and decided he would try to stop the process.

How important is the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio that he is holding up? The entire Nation has been impacted by the opioid epidemic, but Ohio has been especially hard-hit.

In recent years, fentanyl has been involved in 80 percent of unintentional drug overdose deaths within the State of Ohio. Last year, Federal law enforcement officials and local partners in Ohio seized over 87,000 fentanyl-laced tablets in a span of less than 4 months. And over the course of 1 year, from April 2022 to April 2023, more than 5,000 Ohioans lost their lives to drug overdoses—5,000. Let that sink in.

On average, every day, 14 Ohio families lose a loved one to drugs. How important is it to have a U.S. attorney in Ohio—and in Illinois—working on this drug crisis that claims so many lives every single day? Can we really make an excuse that we have some political petulance at work on the floor of the Senate that stops us from putting a prosecutor in place to stop this drug trafficking?

The U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio plays a significant role in holding drug traffickers accountable. Last month, the office secured a 320-month sentence for a Toledo-based man who was a local drug distributor for the Sinaloa Cartel and had helped traffic fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine into the State of Ohio. In addition, Federal prosecutors found this defendant engaged in sex trafficking and secured a 140-month sentence after he was convicted.

Notably, the U.S. Attorney's Office coordinated this with both the Toledo Metro Drug Task Force and the Toledo Human Trafficking and Child Exploitation Task Force. That is what an efficient U.S. Attorney's Office does to keep the people of Ohio and Illinois safe.

Why in the world would any Senator stand up and object to a U.S. attorney prosecutor who is working to stop this drug trafficking across his State?

Well, the Senator from Ohio explained it. He is upset, Madam President. He is upset that the U.S. Department of Justice, through a special counsel, would actually consider indicting the former President of the United States. And because he is upset—and he calls it weaponization—he is going to make sure that, in his own State, there is not a Federal prosecutor doing the job that should be done to stop the sale of narcotics and, in my State of Illinois, the same thing.

This is unprecedented. It has not happened in the history of the Senate. You can be upset, petulant, worried, hate it that a friend of yours in politics has been indicted, but to hold that against the people of Ohio and the families who are dying on such a regular

basis from these narcotics—that is shortsighted. That does not really reach the level that we, as Senators, should aspire to.

So, Madam President, I make the following request: I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, with the Republican leader's consultation, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 314 and 315; that there be 2 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form, on each nomination; that following the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VANCE. Madam President, reserving the right to object, the Senator from Illinois has made two comments that I would like to respond to.

First of all, I think it takes a special amount of gall to be from Joe Biden's political party and to complain about the fentanyl crisis that is ravaging not just Ohio but the entire country, because it is Joe Biden's border policies that have invited this fentanyl into our country at record levels. I heard a briefing from the Department of Homeland Security and Customs and Border Protection today that confirmed that very fact.

Second of all, the Senator said something I actually agree with: that this whole policy that I have implemented on Department of Justice nominees is unprecedented. He mentions that we have in the past in this body, before I got here, approved a number of Department of Justice nominees through unanimous consent.

What the Senator from Illinois doesn't mention is that, in that time, when these nominations sailed through unanimous consent, the Department of Justice was not trying to throw the political rival of the President of the United States in prison.

I object to this because we are living in a banana republic where the President is using his Department of Justice to go after his chief political rival, the person he will appear on the ballot with in about a year.

If the Department of Justice will use these nominations for law instead of politics, I am happy to end this whole policy. But so long as the Department of Justice uses its nominations and uses its personnel to go after its political opponents—from the President of the United States on down—I will object. And, because of that, Madam President, I do object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, so, on average, every day, 14 Ohio families lose a loved one to drugs.

The explanation: We want to send a message to the Department of Justice. We want to keep the U.S. attorney off the job who would try to attack this narcotics epidemic.

It just doesn't make sense. How can you explain to the people of Ohio and Illinois that you are trying to get some way to make it even on political grounds at their expense? For goodness' sake, for the sake of families in your own home State, give these U.S. attorneys a chance to fight to make life safer for these families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

AMENDMENT NO. 1249 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1092

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 1249 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 Texas [Mr. CRUZ], for himself and Mr. CORNYN, proposes an amendment numbered 1249 to amendment No. 1092.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To ensure that United States diplomats and officials of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission are able to advance efforts seeking compliance by the United Mexican States with the 1944 Treaty on Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ADVANCING EFFORTS SEEKING COMPLIANCE BY MEXICO WITH TREATY ON UTILIZATION OF WATERS OF THE COLORADO AND TIJUANA RIVERS AND OF THE RIO GRANDE.

The Secretary of State shall use the voice, vote, diplomatic capital, and resources of the United States to ensure that United States diplomats and officials of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission are able to advance efforts seeking compliance by the United Mexican States with the Treaty on Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande, signed at Washington February 3, 1944, and to establish understandings to provide predictable and reliable future deliveries of water by the United Mexican States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be up to 2 minutes of debate, equally divided.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, this is an amendment that should be a simple and bipartisan, commonsense amendment.

Under a treaty in 1944, Mexico is obliged to provide 350,000 acre-feet of water per year to the Rio Grande Valley. Farmers in the Rio Grande Valley are facing drought right now, and Mexico has been slow in meeting its treaty commitments. This amendment simply instructs the water negotiators to press Mexico to meet its treaty agreements and provide the water that is owed.

I would note that the language of this amendment was worked out in a

bipartisan manner and was cleared by both Democrats and Republicans on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. This language was also worked out directly with the negotiators of the International Boundary and Water Commission. It is designed not to negatively impact any other State but to instruct States to urge Mexico to meet its treaty commitments so that farmers who need water can get the water they need.

I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to support the amendment.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. We yield back our time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1249

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 45, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 282 Leg.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—45

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

NOT VOTING—3

Lee	Scott (SC)	Tillis
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 45.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1249) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1092.

(Purpose: To require congressional review of certain agency rulemaking)

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I call up my amendment, No. 1121, and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL], for Mr. LEE, proposes an amendment numbered 1121 to amendment No. 1092.

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of September 12, 2023, under "Text of Amendments.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be up to 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The junior Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, our Declaration of Independence asserts that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. While voters may elect Members of Congress, Americans are increasingly governed by bureaucrats they do not know, will never meet, and cannot hold accountable.

In 2022, the Biden administration imposed \$117.1 billion in regulatory costs on the American people. Unelected, unknown, and unaccountable bureaucrats should not unilaterally develop the most significant public policies that impose costly burdens on American families and businesses.

To restore republican accountability to our government, Senator LEE and I propose that we adopt as an amendment a bill that I have introduced for several years called the REINS Act. The REINS Act would require Congress to affirmatively approve every new major rule proposed by the executive branch before it is permitted to become effective.

By passing the REINS Act, the American people, through their elected officials, will reclaim the ability to prevent unnecessary government interference in everyday life.

I ask for a "yes" vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, this amendment would prevent Federal Agencies from effectively serving the American people. It would weaken the government's ability to enact key health and safety standards. It would endanger a range of public protections for the environment, American workers, and people with disabilities. It would stifle innovation for emerging technologies, such as self-driving cars, artificial intelligence, and other tools that will help carry our country forward.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on this amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1121

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on agreeing to amendment No. 1121.

Mrs. FISCHER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 46, nays 51, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 283 Leg.]

YEAS—46

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

NAYS—51

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

NOT VOTING—3

Lee Scott (SC) Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). On this vote, the yeas are 46, the nays are 51.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is not agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1121) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the 60-affirmative vote threshold for the adoption of the substitute amendment, No. 1092, as amended, be withdrawn.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the substitute amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1092

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on

agreeing to the amendment, No. 1092, as amended.

The amendment (No. 1092) in the nature of a substitute, as amended, was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I am proud to say that today the Senate becomes the first Chamber in Congress to pass bipartisan, responsible appropriations bills: MILCON-VA, Agriculture, and Transportation-HUD. These bipartisan bills deliver big wins for America's farmers, for our infrastructure, for housing, and for our military bases and veterans and more. And passing these bills affirms what I have said all year long: The only way—the only way—to get things done in divided government is bipartisanship.

I hope the Senate's success today shows Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans that bipartisanship is the way to go. The American people won't support futile exercise of passing partisan, extremist legislation that has no chance of becoming law, which is what the House is doing right now. Their appropriations bills, A, are loaded with poison pills that they know are not going to be accepted in this Chamber or by Democrats in their Chamber, and they make cuts in the budget that go against the agreement we made during the debt ceiling.

I told Speaker JOHNSON last week that if we can figure out how to work on appropriations together, we can get good things done for the country, which is what both sides, I am proud to say, in the Senate want to do. I urged Speaker JOHNSON not to repeat the mistakes of Speaker MCCARTHY's team, who pushed party-line funding bills that went way below the agreement from June, without input from Democrats. Only—only—bipartisan appropriation bills will be able to fully fund the government.

I want to recognize my colleague. Chair PATTY MURRAY has done excellent work in her first year as chair of the Appropriations Committee. She has been outstanding. I also wish to thank Vice Chair SUSAN COLLINS for her terrific work, as well as all the appropriators on both sides of the aisle.

Pursuing bipartisanship isn't always easy. Most of the time, it is difficult—more difficult now than ever. But if you stick with it, we can do it. And we have stuck with it, and we have done it. Thanks to both sides, we are reaching a good outcome for the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, I want to thank everyone who has worked with me and the senior Senator from Maine to get our bipartisan spending package here.

Over the last few days, we have had a truly robust amendment process and considered 40 amendments, and this vote is now our chance to get Congress back on track so that we can fund our

government in a bipartisan way, avoid another massive, end-of-the-year omnibus, and address pressing issues like aid to our allies, disaster relief, childcare prices, and more.

By passing this bill today, we can send a crucial message to the American people and the world that, yes, Democrats and Republicans can work together; and, yes, the United States is still strong and still responsive to the challenges before us.

So I urge everyone who wants to avoid another year-end omnibus, everyone who has worked with us to put this package together, to vote with us to pass it. Let's get the job done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, the Senate is about to cast its vote—a key vote—on passage of the first package of fiscal year 2024 appropriations bills. They include the Military Construction-VA bill, the Agriculture and FDA legislation, and the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development appropriations.

I want to thank everyone involved for their cooperation for getting us to the point of passing this significant package.

First, let me thank Chair MURRAY for her strong, persistent, and dedicated leadership.

The support of Leaders MCCONNELL and THUNE and Leader SCHUMER were also absolutely essential.

I want to express my thanks to our hard-working staff, led by Betsy McDonnell and Evan Schatz.

We have a great Republican team on the Appropriations Committee. And I want to thank all of them for working with their Democratic counterparts to bring about truly bipartisan bills. Particularly, I want to thank on the Agriculture Subcommittee, the chairman, Senator HEINRICH, and the ranking member, Senator HOEVEN.

I want to thank my Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Committee, Senator MURRAY, for playing a double role there, as well as Senator BOOZMAN.

And on the Transportation-HUD Subcommittee—a subcommittee I chaired for many years and was ranking member on—I want to thank Senator SCHATZ and Senator HYDE-SMITH. They all worked incredibly hard.

After working for weeks with our colleagues, we considered 40 amendments to these three bills. All three of these bills passed the Appropriations Committee unanimously this past summer. And I appreciate the hard work of every single one of our members.

Giving Senators a voice in funding decisions through a robust committee and floor process was an early goal that Chair MURRAY and I established. It guided our process as the committee approved all 12 of the appropriations bills by the end of July for the first time in 5 years. It also has guided our process on the Senate floor. Well, it

was certainly not easy and certainly took far longer than either the chair or I would have liked. The amendment process allowed for Senators of both parties to fully debate these bills and be heard.

I look forward to working with Chair MURRAY and her colleagues to build on this progress by continuing to process our committee-approved appropriations bills on the Senate floor.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important legislative package that honors and serves our Nation's veterans, supports our farmers, ranchers, and rural communities, and improves transportation infrastructure and housing opportunities all across our great country.

I urge a yeas vote on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill, as amended, pass?

Mrs. MURRAY. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

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

The result was announced—yeas 82, nays 15, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 284 Leg.]

YEAS—82

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hagerty	Reed
Blackburn	Hassan	Romney
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Rosen
Booker	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Boozman	Hirono	Rubio
Britt	Hoeven	Sanders
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Butler	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Shaheen
Capito	Kennedy	Sinema
Cardin	King	Smith
Carper	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Casey	Lankford	Sullivan
Cassidy	Lujan	Tester
Collins	Manchin	Thune
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Marshall	Vance
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Warner
Cotton	Menendez	Warnock
Cramer	Merkley	Warren
Daines	Moran	Welch
Duckworth	Mullin	Whitehouse
Durbin	Murkowski	Wicker
Fetterman	Murphy	Wyden
Fischer	Murray	Young
Gillibrand	Ossoff	
Graham	Padilla	

NAYS—15

Barrasso	Ernst	Ricketts
Braun	Hawley	Risch
Budd	Johnson	Schmitt
Crapo	Lummis	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Paul	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—3

Lee	Scott (SC)	Tillis
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The bill (H.R. 4366), as amended, was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. (Mr. KAINE). The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, what we have just done is really important, and I want to thank everyone who helped us get here: my vice chair, the senior Senator from Maine; our subcommittee leaders, the Senators from Arkansas, New Mexico, North Dakota, Hawaii, and Mississippi; and all of our colleagues—all of our colleagues—who worked hard to craft and strengthen these bills. I want to thank Senate leadership and, of course, all of our tireless staff who have met every challenge this process has thrown at us.

Today, months of hard work paid off. We just passed a strong bipartisan spending package—the only bipartisan spending bills in Congress, by the way—and we did it with an 82-to-15 vote.

So let us be crystal clear about what that means. Unlike the funding measures we have seen pushed through the House, these are serious and reasonable bipartisan bills that can actually be signed into law.

They are the product of months of hard work, careful negotiation, and thoughtful input from Members on both sides of the aisle.

They stick to the spending levels that House Republicans and President Biden signed and negotiated and that we all passed into law this past spring.

And despite the tough funding constraints, these bills move our country forward, not back, with important investments to keep our promise to our Nation's veterans, to get Americans where they need to go safely, to increase our housing supply, address the homelessness crisis, support our farmers, our ranchers, and keep American families healthy and safe and more.

What we have done here—finding common ground to produce reasonable, bipartisan bills—is not just a template; it is the only way to get our jobs done in a divided government. There is a clear lesson from the last few months here in Congress, and it is that we must work together, not retreat to extreme partisan corners.

So let us be clear to my colleagues. We have a lot more work to do. Our mission here isn't just to send a message or pass a bill through the Senate. We have to work to get these bills signed into law. And I don't just mean these investments but crucial funding in all of our bipartisan appropriations bills.

While we may need another CR before our work is done, we absolutely have to remember: Long-term CRs are no way to govern, and they certainly

are no way to lead. When we operate under long-term CRs, our Agencies are stuck in neutral. They cannot plan for the future. They have to delay initiatives and investments. They are far less equipped to meet the pressing challenges we face. Governing by CRs hurts families who need a government that works reliably, seriously stunts our economy and American innovation, and dangerously impedes our national security.

I think we all know that our competitors across the world are not putting their budgets on autopilot. They are doing everything they can to get ahead, and they are hoping that we fall behind into the chaos of partisan infighting. We cannot let that happen. We need to pass full-year funding with the investments we need to keep the United States strong and safe and competitive—especially in a moment that truly calls for American leadership.

There is no question we have got our work cut out for us, but today, we have shown a clear roadmap for how we can get our work done. So I am talking with my vice chair about the next set of bills we will work to move in the Senate and continuing work to move a comprehensive, bipartisan supplemental funding package.

We need to start conferencing our appropriations bills. That will require House Republicans to get serious about governing, to get back to the spending agreement that they negotiated and work with us to finalize these bipartisan bills. It is critical that happens.

We do not have time to waste. The clock is ticking. The American people are tired of watching Congress wait until the last second before kicking the can down the road. Our constituents do not want to see chaos. They do not want to see shutdowns or threats, and they don't want to see our country's future limited by CRs. They do want to see their elected officials roll up their sleeves, sit down at the table, and do the hard work of governing to help people and solve problems. That is what we have done today. So let's get it, and let's get our work done.

I yield the floor.

BLOCK GRANT ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2023

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Committee on Appropriations is discharged from further consideration of H.R. 662, and the Senate will proceed to consideration of the bill, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

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

AMENDMENT NO. 1357

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, substitute amendment No. 1357 is considered and agreed to.

The amendment (No. 1357) was agreed to.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Block Grant Assistance Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2023, AMENDMENT.

Title I of the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (division N of Public Law 117–328; 136 Stat. 5201), is amended, in the matter under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE—AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS—PROCESSING, RESEARCH AND MARKETING—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY”, by inserting “: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Agriculture may provide assistance for losses described under this heading in this Act in the form of block grants to eligible States and territories” before the period at the end.

SEC. 3. EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.

Amounts repurposed under the amendment made by section 2 that were previously designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4001(a)(1) of S. Con. Res. 14 (117th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022, and section 1(e) of H. Res. 1151 (117th Congress), as engrossed in the House of Representatives on June 8, 2022, are designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 4 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to the next rollcall vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as we work to get the agriculture community back on their feet, I won't stop fighting to make sure the Federal Government keeps showing up.

Following natural disasters in prior years, USDA has administered block grants to many of our States. The Block Grant Assistance Act would explicitly give USDA the authority to provide block grants as an option to States and territories to assist agricultural producers with losses due to natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2022.

Importantly, it provides streamlined relief to growers by freeing up USDA resources at State FSA offices; allowing States to allocate funds directly to growers impacted most by covered disasters; and allowing farmers to perform necessary and time-sensitive tasks on their farms without the danger of forgoing disaster aid.

This bill does not mandate States to request disaster funding through State block grants; it only opens up this option.

I have talked to many of you about this bill in the last few days, and I understand that some of my Democrat colleagues have concerns about this legislation. I want to address those concerns directly and why we are even talking about this right now.

First, this bill doesn't take anything away from anyone's State. It creates an option for block grants that help our growers and ranchers who have been impacted by disasters. Again, this bill will not negatively impact any State. I want to make sure that is clear.

I have also heard some of my colleagues say that this isn't needed because just this week, after refusing to take action for 14 months, Biden's Ag Department finally opened up the ERP portal for growers and ranchers to apply for assistance just as this was to come to a vote. Our farmers have still not received a dime.

Here is the deal: I don't trust this process—I know my constituents sure don't—and I don't think the assistance being offered is anything close to what is needed for our farmers to actually recover.

This bill helps farmers all across the country, but let me speak for Florida. We have been waiting for more than a year—14 months to be exact—and nothing was done by the Biden administration until they knew that the Senate would be voting on my bill, and it is still just an application process. I don't think anyone can blame us for feeling uneasy about this process.

If we pass this bill today, we can give certainty to growers and ranchers in all of our States that they have a reliable partner in the Federal Government to make sure they can recover from natural disasters. That seems like something we can support.

Folks across the country who put food on our tables and create jobs in our States are hurting. I have been clear to the ag community in Florida: I won't stop fighting to make sure the Federal Government keeps showing up.

This is a good bill that helps hard-working people. It has already unanimously passed in the House, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it in the Senate today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, our Nation has experienced a series of recent natural disasters: the tragic Maui wildfires, flooding in Vermont and California, and the damage caused by Hurricane Idalia. Communities in my home State of New Mexico have been impacted by destructive floods and mudslides following last year's historic wildfire season.

We must get these Americans the help they need during these difficult times, and we must do it as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, this bill would do the opposite.

On Friday, the Biden administration announced that producers impacted by disasters last year are now eligible to apply for critical emergency assistance. H.R. 662 would delay that funding, essentially stopping the application process that the U.S. Department of Agriculture just got underway. In addition, the administration already has the authority under law to provide

funding to States through block grants. So this bill is both counter-productive and unnecessary.

For these reasons, I would urge my colleagues to vote no.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

VOTE ON H.R. 662

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. 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 senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS).

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 53, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 285 Leg.]

YEAS—43

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

NAYS—53

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

NOT VOTING—4

Lee	Scott (SC)
Manchin	Tillis

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. OSSOFF). On this vote, the yeas are 43, the nays 53.

The 60-vote threshold having not been achieved, the bill, as amended, fails passage.

The bill (H.R. 662), as amended, was rejected.

The Senator from New Mexico.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Alaska.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleagues for coming down here tonight. It is a very important issue that we are getting ready to talk about.

We are in a very dangerous world right now. Our country is being challenged on multiple fronts across the globe. We literally have American troops under attack in the Middle East.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee, as a U.S. Marine Corps colonel, I know—we all know here in the Senate—that America needs to have our best players, our most combat-capable leaders on the field, and, right now, that is not happening. It needs to change.

I just want to begin by saying something very clear. You are going to hear this a lot. I am as pro-life as they come. I strongly disagree with what Secretary Austin and President Biden have done with their politicization of the military on a whole host of fronts, including the abortion policy, which I think is illegal and violates the Hyde amendment.

And I have been working with many colleagues, but especially Senator TUBERVILLE from Alabama, side by side, for months, trying to get this reversed, trying to get compromises. At the same time, we have been telling the majority leader: Do your job. Do your job. Bring up nominees so we can vote on them.

Now, we have had to force them to do it. Tomorrow, we are going to be voting on the CNO of the Navy, a member of the Joint Chiefs; the Chief of Staff of the Air Force; the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps—not because the majority leader brought them up, but because we forced them to. He needs to do his job.

But I also firmly believe that one of our most core basic principles—certainly, as Republicans—which I think in many ways distinguishes us from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle, is our serious focus on national security, readiness, a strong military, and taking care of our troops and their families.

We all know there are current holds on our military. I want the American people to know right now, 376 promotions to one-, two-, three-, and four-star generals and admirals are being held. It is estimated that, by the end of this year, 89 percent of all general offi-

cer positions in the U.S. military will be affected by the current holds from Senator TUBERVILLE. Either the members have to be forced to retire, positions not filled, in acting capacity, or will be unable to retire—this is pretty much the entire officer corps. This is hugely disruptive to readiness.

A couple of examples: 288 one- and two-star generals are being held. These are the men and women who run the military right now. We are going to talk about other places. The First Marine Expeditionary Force, the Third Marine Expeditionary Force—these are the war fighting organizations of the Marine Corps—the Seventh Fleet, which is our fighting naval force in the Taiwan Strait; the Fifth Fleet, the fighting naval force in the Middle East. It goes on and on. NATO Deputy Chairman, a three-star job, empty; Deputy U.S. CENTCOM Commander, empty. The head of the Navy nuclear program, the head of missile defense—all non-confirmed.

We have a big challenge right now. Let me be a bit more blunt on the issue of morale. The military has a huge readiness and retention problem. These holds are not helping.

As I mentioned, I am a senior colonel in the Marines. Many of the one-star and two-star who are being held right now are in my peer group. I have known these men and women for 30 years. There is growing bitterness within the ranks of our military, driven by this fact, and I want people to understand this. The men and women in the military who served our country so well for decades—probably the most combat-experienced generation since World War II—have made huge sacrifices, multiple deployments, and now their careers are being punished over a policy dispute they had nothing to do with and no power to resolve.

That is what is happening right now, and the idea that some of these officers are supposedly woke or desk jockeys is ridiculous. These are some of the most combat-experienced generals and admirals we have ever had in our country.

Finally, these holds also pose strategic risks to our force. What does that mean? We are starting to see military officers saying: Admirals and generals, I am getting out. Or they have to get out if they are going to be timed out.

We had a scandal in the U.S. Navy several years ago called the “Fat Leonard” scandal. It literally wiped out a generation of Navy officers who had Pacific experience. We do not want to be responsible for a Senate-inflicted hollowing out of our most experienced military officers, especially given how dangerous the world is right now.

So I have mentioned this before. I have worked closely with Senator TUBERVILLE for months, always defending his holds, always looking for compromise. The one we are working on now: Lift the hold on the military officers who have nothing to do with this dispute and can't resolve it anyway, and put a hold on the Under Secretary

of Defense for Policy, who is in charge of this issue. Let's do that. That is a good compromise.

But we haven't made progress, and the world is a dangerous place. So tonight we are taking another approach. For months, Senator TUBERVILLE has said, if individual nominees are brought up for a vote one at a time, he will be fine with that. On September 6, he said: I am not holding up nominations for being approved. They can bring them to the floor one at a time.

Well, tonight, that is exactly what we are going to do—individual votes on individual nominees, just as Senator TUBERVILLE has requested. We have dozens. I hope the Senator from Alabama meant what he said on this issue, and he backs our troops, who are true warriors and, yes, heroes, who along with their families have dedicated their lives to this country, risked their lives for this country, and have nothing to do with this current policy dispute—nothing at all.

Last night on TV, Senator TUBERVILLE said he was "all for the military"—in particular, our military heroes.

You are going to hear a lot about military heroes tonight, and, hopefully, we are going to get a bunch of them confirmed, one by one, as we bring them up.

I yield the floor to my colleague from Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, the world is on fire because of Joe Biden's failed leadership and ongoing weakness. Our enemies are on the march. Our servicemembers are under attack by Iran-backed proxies. And our country is under greater threat than it has been in years.

Innocent lives are on the line here at home and abroad. At home, the Biden DOD is waging a war on the unborn—a war that is immoral and unlawful.

I am a mother. I have carried a baby girl in my womb who is now a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, and my baby girl is now carrying a baby of her own. And I am proudly, adamantly, and unabashedly pro-life. I always will be. That is why I have—I have—led the legislation to overturn this woke Dodd policy and will not rest in this fight for life, especially as we work through this year's Defense bill.

Abroad, our friend and ally Israel is under assault by ruthless Iran-backed Hamas. Jewish babies have been murdered, burned in ovens, and some even stripped from their mothers' wombs.

As a 23-year combat veteran and retired lieutenant colonel of our great U.S. Army, I firmly believe the Pentagon should be focused on protecting innocent life, not destroying it.

Joe Biden and Secretary Austin are weak and woke. The architects of this immoral policy should be held accountable. Anyone trying to insert their radical agenda into the military has no place in the Pentagon. No Senator

should support any person or dollar that threatens the lethality of our warfighters.

Catering to the far left does not win wars or keep Americans safe. Our servicemembers have been failed by their Commander in Chief, and we must do right by them and the security and protection of our own Nation.

For over 9 months now, CHUCK SCHUMER has used our military men and women as political pawns, refusing to allow the Senate to do its job of vetting and voting on military nominees. Only when Republicans forced the majority leader's hand did he finally relent and move on a few of those nominees.

Tonight, we are once again standing up for valiant individuals who have answered the call to selfless service. Unlike in the past, when promotions were quietly approved en bloc with no discussion, tonight we will be highlighting the distinguished careers of each and then putting their nomination before the Senate for confirmation individually by voice vote.

And with that, I will yield the floor. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Thank you to my colleagues. Thank you for your leadership here.

Senator TUBERVILLE, I hope we can find a way to get this behind us, if possible. So my contribution to the debate is as follows: The bedrock of our democracy is that the military will be subordinate to civilian control. That has served our Nation well—that no matter who is in uniform, they answer to civilian authorities, and they are subordinate to the will of the civilian leadership elected and appointed. That has really helped our country be who we are today.

One of the things that I can't understand is, if you require our military to be subordinate to the people above them in the civilian world, why would you punish them for something they have nothing to do with?

All of these people—and if we need to call all 376, I will be glad to do it. I will get some rest this weekend and come back next week. I am going to start with two. All I am asking is to allow Major General Lenderman to get promoted. I will make that request in a minute.

Major General Lenderman is a two-star general. She got promoted to three-star because her peers—the military promotion system—saw in her leadership qualities. And after I read her bio, I now know why she got promoted.

But the job she is going into, she is going to be the Deputy Commander, Headquarters, Pacific Air Force, Hawaii. She would be responsible for Air Force activities over half the globe. The command supports 46,000 Airmen serving principally in Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Alaska and Guam. That has a lot to do with the Indo-Pacific theater.

She has 3,000 flight hours as a KC-135, KC-10, KC-46 pilot. In case you don't

know what that means, she flies the air refueling tankers that our fighters and our bombers come up to to stay in the fight. This is some of the hardest flying in the Air Force. You have to have your stuff together because refueling at night is not some easy thing. I have actually seen it done. I am an Air Force lawyer. They shouldn't let me near an airplane, but they did.

I can tell you this, this lady has proven herself time and time again: 3,000 hours—I am sure most of it is combat—doing some of the hardest things any pilot can do in the Air Force. And she has zero to do with what happened. I don't know what her beliefs are about the life issue. I am pro-life, too, but I don't want to start asking our military members litmus test questions.

She deserves to be promoted. You are not going to change policy that she didn't make by denying her the ability to be promoted. We need this lady as a three-star yesterday to deal with the threats coming from China and that part of the world.

She is a graduate of Duke University. She has had every major job I can think of in Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base in Illinois, which I have been to several times.

I am asking tonight that she be allowed to be promoted because she has had nothing to do with the policy we all object with. Holding her hostage doesn't help the pro-life cause. It hurts the military. The most pro-life people I know are the ones willing to die for us. She is willing to die for this country. She has proven herself time and time again. She needs to be promoted.

Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive calendar No. 189, Laura L. Lenderman, to lieutenant general and Deputy Commander, Pacific Air Forces; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Reserving the right to object, I want to start by thanking my colleagues for their service in the Armed Forces in the greatest country ever. There is no institution in this world I honor more than the U.S. military. I am thankful to every veteran in this country.

I also want to note that I respect my colleagues' strong pro-life voting record. The Republican Party has been the pro-life party for half a century. We ought to be proud that we stand for life. We stand for the most vulnerable of our society: the unborn. I know my colleagues here share that conviction. The disagreement we are having today is about tactics.

Let me explain why I am doing it, how we got here, and where we go from

here. Nine months ago, the Pentagon announced that they would start using our taxpayer dollars to facilitate abortion. Let me say that one more time. Nine months ago, the Pentagon announced—announced by memo—that they would start using our taxpayer dollars to facilitate abortion. The Pentagon is now paying for travel and extra time off for servicemembers and their dependents to get abortions.

Congress never voted for this. We also never appropriated the money for this. There is no law that allows them to do this. In fact, there is a law that says they can't do this. One more time: There is a law that says they can't do this, created in this room. It is 10 USC, Section 1093. It says the only time the Pentagon can spend taxpayer dollars on abortion is in cases of rape, incest, and threat to the health of the mom. So this is a policy that is illegal and immoral. This is about life, and it is also about the rule of law. It is about our Constitution. It is about whether we make laws at the Pentagon or whether we follow the Constitution.

This is also about the integrity of our military. The only thing in this world I honor more than our military is the Constitution. We all swore to uphold the Constitution. I also feel very strongly about the obligation to uphold it every day in this room. I cannot simply sit idly by while the Biden administration injects politics in our military—again—injects politics in our military from the White House and spends taxpayers' dollars on abortion.

The only power that a Senator in the minority has is to put a hold on a nomination—the only thing. I am not the first person to do this. Holds on nominations happen all the time. Holds on military nominations have happened many, many, many, many times before. Typically, they don't last as long because the administration will work with a Senator until the issue is resolved. But that has not happened this time. Zero negotiation.

Abortion is the most important thing to the Democrats that they have, and they won't negotiate. One more time: Abortion is the most important thing the Democrats have, and they will not negotiate.

This has been going on for 9 months. Every day this continues is a day that Democrats think abortion is more important than the nomination at our military. I support many of these nominees, and I agree that these are very, very important jobs. But we could have been voting on these nominees the entire 9 months.

The Senate has had more than 90 days off this year, not including weekends. Each nomination could take as little as 2 hours. In fact, tomorrow we will be voting on three of the most important nominees that we forced the leader of the Senate to bring to the floor. The nominees at the very top ought to be voted on anyway. These jobs are too important not to receive the advice and consent of the Senate.

I have to respectfully disagree with my colleagues about the effect of my hold on readiness. My hold is not affecting readiness. The Biden administration has been saying this for months, but nobody has an explanation. Nobody. The fact is, no jobs are going unfilled. Every job is being done. In fact, GEN Mark Milley said recently that our readiness is the best it has been in years. Time and again, generals and servicemembers have assured me that they are ready to go. I believe them.

I am going to keep my holds in place. If Senators want to vote on these nominees one by one, I am all in. I am happy to do that. But I will keep my hold in place until the Pentagon follows the law or the Democrats change the law. This is about our Constitution. This is about the rule of law. That is what we are about in here. It is about the integrity of our military. It is about keeping politics out of the military. I did not put it in the military. Joe Biden and Secretary Austin put politics in the military. And it is about the right to life. These are some of the most important things in the world to me. And so I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. I will have another one.

Let me respond to my colleague respectfully. We have courts. If you think they have done something illegal, go to court. That is how you handle these things. The Pentagon has issued a legal opinion I disagree with, saying this doesn't violate the Hyde Amendment. I disagree with it.

Here is what is going to happen. You just denied this lady a promotion. You did that. All of us are ready to promote her because she deserves to be promoted. She had nothing to do with this policy. Let me say it again. Everybody in this body could find an issue with any administration they don't agree with. And what we are going to do is open up Pandora's box. Today is abortion policy.

If we take back the White House, we will go back to the Mexico City policy, limiting dollars to be given to overseas entities that are engaged in the abortion business. Some pro-choice people don't like that. What would happen if they put a hold on all of the officers because they don't agree with the Republican administration? There is a reason this has not been done this way for a couple hundred years.

No matter whether you believe it or not, Senator TUBERVILLE, this is doing great damage to our military. I don't say that lightly. I have been trying to work with you for 9 months. Folks, if this keeps going, people are going to leave.

Let me tell you how the system works. You have 18 months, I think, from the time you are promoted to pen on. If you don't make that gate, your time and grade up-or-out rule kicks in.

There are some people that are waiting to be promoted that if they don't get promoted soon, they will be out of the military.

Now, how does that help anybody if they are qualified? There is not one Senator in here that cannot find a reason to object to an administration policy in the military. None of us. We could all find something. I just hope we don't do this routinely, because if this is the norm, who the hell wants to serve in the military when your promotion can be canned based on something you had nothing to do with? She had nothing to do with this. If you think it is illegal, go to court. We have courts in this country.

I have one more: Rear Admiral Fred Kacher. Fred, sorry if I mispronounced your name. He has been promoted to three-star. OK? That is a pretty big deal. I made colonel and that is as far as I could go and that is probably a gift.

What job does he have? He is going to be the Commander of the 7th Fleet, Japan. Somebody is doing his job right now, but they are not a three-star. We have a military promotion system to reward people who are good at what they do so they can have more responsibility. This officer had zero to do with the Pentagon's decision, which I don't like and you don't like, but he can't get promoted because of one of us.

There is no end to this, folks. If this gets to be the norm, you are going to wreck the military promotion system. You are punishing people who, by law under the Constitution, require to be subservient to civilian control. They have to follow civilian control. And you are punishing them for something they didn't do. Punish the civilians who made the policy. That is the way to do it.

I am going to move that Rear Admiral Fred Kacher be immediately promoted to three-star, 7th Fleet, Japan, Commander. It is the largest forward-deployed fleet operating around China, Russia, and North Korea. Given the threats coming from that area, I think we need this guy, like, yesterday.

He is a 1990 U.S. Naval graduate. He commanded guided-missile destroyers. He has been—this is amazing; you need to read about this guy. We want this guy. Coach, we need this guy. We are in a fight. We need the best people on the field. He is off the field for something he had nothing to do with.

And if this gets to be normal—I will end where I started. If this gets to be normal, God help the military because every one of us could find some reason to object to policy. Let's just don't hold hostage the men and women who have to follow civilian control. Let's don't ruin the lives of all these people who have been serving our Nation for decades.

Their families can't enroll in school. Some of them are going to be knocked out of promotion because of time and grade problems. There are families

struggling out there because they can't move to the next assignment. This doesn't help anybody. It doesn't help any cause.

So I ask unanimous consent that this promotion be taken up under Executive Calendar No. 189; Rear Admiral Kacher, 7th Fleet Commander; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator will hold.

Mr. GRAHAM. Oh, sorry, sorry. This is why I didn't get promoted. Executive Calendar No. 85.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. GRAHAM. Frederick W. Kacher. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. GRAHAM. And we will be doing this 376 times.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I thank the President for the recognition.

Let me begin with the obvious because I think Senator GRAHAM did a great job of laying out what is at stake. He offered multiple arguments for why these amazing patriots who dedicated their professional lives to defending our safety, our security, our way of life should be promoted and should be promoted this evening.

But a different take is just to begin with the obvious: We are in the midst of the most complicated and, therefore, the most complex and perilous security environment that I have ever experienced in my adult lifetime, certainly.

Israel, our closest friend, our ally, is at war. Ukrainian freedom fighters remain at war against our adversary, Russia. We have a porous southern border. Last month alone, we had 18 individuals apprehended who are—just those who were apprehended—who are on the Terrorist Watchlist. There are all sorts of concerns about what might happen in the Indo-Pacific amidst this environment. We need a fully staffed, fully competent, fully engaged, and focused security establishment.

We need these individuals to be put in place to assume the jobs that they are prepared for. So the security environment is incredibly dangerous. That means Mr. TUBERVILLE's constituents in Alabama, my constituents in Indiana, and Americans all across the country, all across the world, their safety and security is in danger amidst this perilous time. So that is unique, but what is also unique is the number of holds.

My friend—and he is my friend. He is a genuine friend. I have got a lot of respect for this man, Senator

TUBERVILLE, to my right. But the number of holds is certainly extraordinary. I think he would concede that because he is also a smart colleague.

The length of the holds is extraordinary as well, but the tactics here, this is something that Senator SUL-LIVAN, who showed great leadership on this issue, Senator ERNST, myself, and many other colleagues have questioned. I am fervently, I am passionately, I am unapologetically pro-life in conviction and in deed. My reputation is untarnished, and it is unambiguous in that regard.

So I have every interest in seeing that we assume a smart tactic, a smart game plan, if you will. And to hold responsible, effectively, 300 nominated patriots who ought to be pinning on a star or another star right now—hold them professionally responsible for this and, by extension, to undermine the safety and security of the American people during this perilous time just doesn't make any sense to me.

Instead, it makes more sense for us to hold accountable someone whom the President has nominated to fill the policy position at the Pentagon who would actually oversee implementation and administration of this horrible policy. I said that publicly, and to the extent Mr. TUBERVILLE would remain open—to put it indelicately—to taking that hostage, I would be open to that tactic. But because that is not the case, we have a disagreement here, and it is going to have to be reconciled. I know Senator TUBERVILLE wants to be a good teammate, a good pro-life teammate and a good national security teammate. There is an opportunity here for him to agree to at least—to at least—allow the following patriot to be confirmed this evening.

Mr. President, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 131, VADM Karl Thomas, U.S. Navy, to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination, Executive Calendar No. 131, Karl Thomas, to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Information Warfare, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Director of Naval Intelligence; that the Senate vote on the nomination of this esteemed individual, with whom I visited when I was in Japan earlier this year, without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider would be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I rise out of great concern for our military,

for its readiness in a time of great peril but also out of concern for the men and women who are being held up and whose careers and prospects and families and plans are being interrupted by virtue of the decision by, in this case, two people—one is Secretary Austin and the other is Senator TUBERVILLE—to take intractable positions.

And it is simply a, in my opinion, an abuse of the powers we have as Senators to say if there is something we vehemently disagree with, that we are going to use that power to hold up the promotion of over 350 men and women in our military.

We each have things we might disagree with, with the military, and some would come with deep personal convictions about their morality. But if each Senator felt empowered to hold up all promotions in our military unless we got our way on one of those issues, why, our military would grind to a halt.

This power is extraordinary that we are given as individual Senators, but it is incumbent upon us to use it in a reasonable way and not to abuse it in such a way that we end up putting in harm's way the capabilities of our military and the well-being of our men and women in uniform.

Senator TUBERVILLE correctly pointed out—I believe he is absolutely right—that what Secretary Austin did was in contravention of the Hyde amendment, against the law. We have a process for pursuing things that are done by an administration that are against the law. It is the court process. I am happy to join with an amicus brief or even file a legal action to reverse the Pentagon's policy. That is the process we should follow in a circumstance like this, not one that is being exacted upon 350 men and women whom we need to have in service and whose lives are being so badly disrupted.

I would also offer this: Senator TUBERVILLE, if the Department of Defense, Secretary Austin were to say: OK. We will no longer pay for the travel of these individuals and their dependents but instead allow a private charity to do so, would that be acceptable to you and allow this to go away?

I am looking for—yes. So for instance, if Secretary Austin agrees, all right, we will eliminate this policy, but we will allow a private charity to provide for the travel for someone who wants to receive an abortion in a State where that procedure is legal, would that satisfy you and allow this impasse to be resolved?

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Senator, that was the type of negotiation I have been looking for, for the last 9 months. Nobody—zero—has come to me with any alternatives to bypass to get this done.

Mr. ROMNEY. Would that be an acceptable alternative?

Mr. TUBERVILLE. It would; it would be a good starting point. We can sit down and work this out, but we can't do it without negotiations. That is

what I was saying earlier. There have been zero negotiations. There has been no give. It has all been take—three 1-minute calls with the Secretary. I haven't talked to him since June. There has been no more conversation. So how do you work out a problem without communication?

Mr. ROMNEY. Yes. Well, I have ways of doing that, which is I will pick up the phone and have that conversation. But we have to make sure that we do not continue to hold up 350-plus people from being able to get promoted. That is essential to our military.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we are going to start moving through some of these nominations. My colleague from Alabama has said publicly, hey, bring them up one at a time. And we are asking for a voice vote, so that is a vote. So we are doing what he said, not sure why he is objecting. Maybe he can explain that in a minute when I bring up another—a real hero by the way.

And, look, what Senator TUBERVILLE said about the policy and Austin and Biden on this abortion policy, I fully agree with him. We should be suing to stop it. I think it is illegal. And he is also right; everybody uses holds. I certainly use holds.

But the key is you put a hold on someone who typically has some kind of control over the issue that you are trying to fix, some kind of responsibility. One of the things I have been talking to the Senator from Alabama on is, all right, let's put a hold on the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. He is the guy. He is a civilian, and he is in charge of this policy dispute. Let's put a hold on him—that is the right guy—and squeeze him. But why are we putting holds on war heroes? I am going to get to one here in a minute.

Again, I just—I don't understand. And, look, we can go in and out of readiness, but my colleague from Alabama is 100 percent wrong, no kidding. The readiness is being impacted when you have—I will just give a couple of examples here. This is just from one theater: EUCOM, the Deputy Chairman of NATO, pretty important job. It is a three-star billet. It is empty.

The Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe—really important job—empty.

Like I said, I MEF—that is the big Marine Corps combined force that fights anywhere in the world; 25,000 marines, commanded by a three-star—it is a two-star. Now, for those who did serve in the military, we understand this is a problem. Same with III MEF. OK. This is just from EUCOM, European Command—72 officers are unable to assume their new positions. These 72 officers include 52 who cannot move because they have been nominated for a position that requires Senate confirmation, as well as 20 other officers who are projected to be assigned to a new position now held by one of the pre-

vious 52 officers. It is creating a giant blockage in the way in which the military operates.

To say there are no readiness issues—I am the ranking member of the Readiness Subcommittee on the Armed Services Committee. There are readiness issues. And that is the whole point. We have a really dangerous world, a really dangerous world right now, and to say, "Oh, don't worry; this isn't impacting readiness," with all due respect to my colleague, that is just wrong. It is not even a close call. It is wrong, and it matters to this country.

Let me give you another example: the head of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, the nuclear navy—one of the best run organizations on planet Earth, if you know anything about the military or just its organizations. It was started by Admiral Rickover. To not have the leadership in charge of the nuclear navy? That is a problem. To not have the leadership in charge of missile defense for America? That is a problem.

So, look, we can debate readiness, but my colleague on this, in my view, is respectfully quite misinformed.

I am going to bring up my first nominee. Now, this goes to the issue of some comments that have come out during this: Well, these one-star and two-star generals are kind of desk jockeys, right?

These comments have been made.

They are not warriors, right? The real warriors are the captains and the sergeants.

Look, I love the whole military, but the one- and two-star Generals—I know a lot of them. That is my peer group in the Marine Corps. I am a little bit behind them. I am not going to be promoted. I am getting out here probably soon. But I know these guys, and the idea that somehow these are desk jockeys? Do you know who these people were, the one- and two-stars we are holding up right now, 289 of them? These were the Captains and Lieutenants who were going fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq after 9/11.

The current Commandant of the Marine Corps—by the way, every American should be praying for him; big health issues—he has a Purple Heart, distinguished combat.

These were the people who were kicking in doors in Fallujah, shooting terrorists in the face, and we have people saying they are desk jockeys and they are not warriors? That is just ridiculous. It is ridiculous, and it is insulting.

So I am going to talk about a warrior. I am getting ready to call up Col. Robert Weiler. He has been nominated to be a one-star Brigadier General, to be the 1st Marine Division Assistant Commander. That is the big division on the west coast of the U.S. Marine Corps infantry. I used to be part of the 1st Marine Division. I am proud of that. You need a Deputy Commander. They don't have one, OK?

Let's talk about Colonel Weiler—28-year career; commanded the 5th Ma-

rine Regiment—I was in that regiment, the most decorated regiment in the Marine Corps; 2d Battalion 4th Marines; 2d Battalion 24th Marines; deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan I think six times.

Think about what his family went through, OK? Think about what his family has sacrificed. And right now, people are being told: You are not going anywhere, Colonel, because we have a dispute on an issue you have nothing to do with that you can't resolve.

Let's hear a little bit more about this Colonel in the Marine Corps. He received a Silver Star for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action against the enemy while serving as Commanding Officer, Weapons Company, 2d Battalion 4th Marines, 5th Marine Regiment, 6 through 10 April 2004, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; heavily engaged by enemy forces for an over 4-hour firefight while wounded by enemy fire, OK? Purple Heart. He continued to fearlessly lead marines as they destroyed this tenacious enemy. He is no woke guy. He is no desk jockey. Oh, what else did he do? He got a Purple Heart in that vicious combat.

He received a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with a combat distinguishing device for heroic action in another deployment—2d Battalion 4th Marines, 1st Marine Division, on 6 September in Ramadi, Iraq. He took decisive action by directing fires of his raid force, quickly gaining fire superiority and suppressing and killing the enemy. Although dazed by a major blast, he continued to lead and direct his team in combat, where they killed and captured all five insurgents on their target raid list. So we are going to block him tonight?

The Senator from Alabama last night on TV said he respects all military, especially the heroes.

Well, you got one coming. You got one coming, Senator.

So we are going to do what you asked, which is do a vote individually on this American hero.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination: Col. Robert S. Weiler to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Marine Corps under Executive Calendar No. 95; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Reserving the right to object, first of all, I would like to correct something my colleague just said. Not one time in my life have I ever said anything about anybody in our military was a desk jockey. I don't know where he got that from. I guess that is a military term. I would not do

that. I would not disrespect anybody in any job in the military that they have ever done. So I just want to set that story straight with people who will write a little bit about this disagreement tonight.

But with that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, I know this is a frustrating exercise, but we are going to flesh out some of these nominees tonight, truly incredible individuals who have served our Nation through thick and thin. These are folks who deserve to be promoted.

So I rise today to talk about Lt. Gen. Gregory M. Guillot on his promotion to the grade of General and his nomination to be the next Commander of U.S. Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command, also known as NORAD.

General Guillot is from Tucson, AZ, and he is a proud graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. I am sorry he could not get into West Point. He has successfully commanded a flying squadron operations group, two flying wings, a numbered Air Force, and has admirably served on numbered Air Force, major command, and combatant command staffs.

He is an expert in his field, as demonstrated by having been an Air Force Weapons School instructor and graduate of the National War College.

General Guillot is a decorated warfighter and a senior air battle manager by training who is currently the Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command. He has been instrumental integrating air, missile, and drone defense systems across the Middle East—experience that is applicable to the challenges facing NORTHCOM's air and missile defenses.

I believe that General Guillot's qualifications, his record, and his outstanding character make him the right nominee to serve in this important role.

So we can confirm this nomination by voice vote right here, now, and therefore I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 236, Lt. Gen. Gregory M. Guillot to be General; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, if I can just address this very briefly before we move to my colleague from Indiana, I have a discharge petition that was signed at our conference lunch the

other day for Lt. Gen. General M. Guillot. That discharge petition was signed by Senator TUBERVILLE, meaning that Senator TUBERVILLE believed that we should be voting on General Guillot. I was asking for a voice vote for General Guillot this evening.

I am not sure how we remedy this situation, but I can tell you we will keep working on these nominations, and we will get answers someday, and they will be confirmed someday if we have the intestinal fortitude to do what is right by our military men and women, who have absolutely nothing to do with the policy that was put in place by Secretary Lloyd Austin and President Joe Biden.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 238, Lt. Gen. Jeffrey A. Kruse, U.S. Air Force, to be Lieutenant General and Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency.

General Kruse currently serves as the Director's Advisor for Military Affairs at the Office of the DNI. This is a post he has held since 2020. One need not have me explain to them—especially if they are tuned in to matters of national security—the importance of our Defense Intelligence Agency at a time like this.

Previously, Mr. Kruse served as the Director for Defense Intelligence for Warfighter Support in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security.

Prior to his OSD and interagency roles, General Kruse served as the Director for Intelligence at U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, deployed as Director of Intelligence for Combined Joint Task Force Operation Inherent Resolve, and served as Senior Special Advisor for the Commander of U.S. European Command and Supreme Allied Commander in Europe.

He has commanded Air Force units at all levels across seemingly every geography, and he has deployed on multiple occasions to combat theaters around the globe.

Feeling good about this one. We can confirm this nomination by voice vote right now.

Feeling really good, Senator TUBERVILLE.

It is for that reason that I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of Executive Calendar No. 238, Jeffrey A. Kruse to be Lieutenant General and Director, Defense Intelligence Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. YOUNG. I further request that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. YOUNG. Well, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 188, Lt. Gen. Kevin B. Schneider, U.S. Air Force, to be General and the Commander of Pacific Air Forces.

General Schneider has been serving as the Director of Staff for the Air Force since 2021. He has commanded at all levels, including a combat wing in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility. General Schneider is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flight hours, with 530 combat flight hours on multiple airframes. He has also earned numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star and the Air Medal.

We can confirm this nomination by voice vote right now. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 188, Kevin B. Schneider, to be General and the Commander of Pacific Air Forces; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, that being the case, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 107, Lt. Gen. James W. Bierman, Jr., USMC, to be Lieutenant General and the Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations for Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps.

General Bierman has held numerous command postings, most recently serving as the Commander of the Third Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Forces Japan. He has shown a true commitment to service in this posting, ensuring that marines remain prepared to face any future threats. General Bierman has also deployed multiple times, including to Afghanistan and Iraq, where he led marines in combat operations. His many commendations include the Bronze Star with Combat Distinguishing Device and the Legion of Merit.

We can confirm this nomination by voice vote right now. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 107, James W. Bierman, Jr., to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon

the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. YOUNG. Having heard that objection, Madam President, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 132, Lt. Gen. Michael S. Cederholm, U.S. Marine Corps, to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

General Cederholm has been Deputy Commandant for Aviation since July 2022, a position he held with high distinction. He has held many operational assignments, including in U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command and as a TOPGUN Instructor Pilot. He has flown operational tours in all aircraft that the Marine Corps has to offer. General Cederholm has held numerous other assignments, including the deployments in furtherance of Operation Enduring Freedom, Joint Task Force Southern Watch, and Iraqi Freedom. He has also served in many Commanding Officer postings, including Commanding General of Task Force Baltic Watchtower and Commanding General of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

We can confirm this nomination by voice vote right now. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 132, Michael S. Cederholm, to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I am going to make one further attempt.

I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 84, RADM George M. Wikoff, USN, to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Fifth Fleet.

Admiral Wikoff currently serves as Acting Commander for Naval Air Forces. He began his career serving as a naval aviator, moving up to command Strike Fighter Squadron 211, Strike Fighter Squadron 122, Carrier Air Wing 3, and Carrier Strike Group 5. Among many command assignments, General Wikoff has notably served as the Commander of Strike Fighter Squadron 211, Carrier Air Wing 3, and Strike Fighter Squadron 122. His shore assignments include a posting at the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, as a TOPGUN Training Officer, as Bat-

tle Director at the Combined Air and Space Operations Center in Qatar, and many other critical postings.

We can confirm this nomination by voice vote right now. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 84, RADM George M. Wikoff, to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Fifth Fleet; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, just for people who are watching, as to that last nominee for Fifth Fleet Commander, you may have heard there are two carrier strike groups in the Middle East. He is the naval officer who would be in charge of all of them—right there. We could have put him in charge. It is pretty important to have a Fifth Fleet Commander ready to go.

He just objected to it. I am not sure why. Again, we are bringing these up one by one, which is what I thought my colleague from Alabama said he was good to go with.

Before I start going through my list, I just want to say, if anyone is watching—Senator ERNST and I were just talking about this—just listen to these bios. This is the best of America. This is the best of America. These men and women have been serving and sacrificing honorably for literally decades—all of them for almost 30 years at least. So when you think about it, think about the families behind these men and women. Think about their sacrifices. They are sacrificing a lot right now, and there is a lot of uncertainty. In my view, it is just a big mistake.

Again, I am with Senator TUBERVILLE on the policy of the Biden administration and Secretary Austin. We have got to fix that. But this tactic of making the military members who have nothing to do with it, of punishing them and their careers—which is what is happening, don't kid yourself—it is hurting their families. It is the wrong way to go about it, especially at this very dangerous time.

So, Madam President, I am going to call up the next promotion: VADM James W. Kilby to be U.S. Navy Admiral and Vice Chief of Naval Operations.

Now, if you want to talk about a readiness issue, the Vice Chief of Naval Operations is the person who is going to be in charge, for America, of our very decrepit shipbuilding and industrial base. Everybody knows that that is a readiness problem, and I have been told by many military officers that Ad-

miral Kilby is the person—the leader—who can turn America's shipbuilding in the right direction. We have a giant readiness issue on shipbuilding. This person is the individual who can turn it around.

I have been told by many, and here is why: In over 30 years in the Navy, he commanded the USS *Russell*, which is a DDG-59, and the USS *Monterey*, a CG-61. Vice Admiral Kilby's additional sea tours were on the USS *Sampson*, a DDG-10; the USS *Philippine Sea*, a CG-58, two tours on the USS *San Jacinto*. Vice Admiral Kilby most recently served as the Deputy Commander of all U.S. Fleet Forces Command.

So he is a very important person. We could get moving right now to help our very weak industrial capacity and build ships, which everybody knows, as it relates to China, is probably one of the most important readiness issues we have to deal with. This person tonight—this leader tonight—could be confirmed to start that shipbuilding capacity for America tomorrow as the Vice CNO.

So with that, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 335, James W. Kilby, to be Admiral and Vice Chief of Naval Operations; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, the next nominee—again, we are doing them one at a time, one at a time. I thought that is what my colleague and friend from Alabama wanted. He still hasn't explained why “one at a time” is not what he wanted, but maybe he will do that.

This is regular order, by the way. For those who wonder, Well, it is not regular order, nobody knows what that means, but this is regular order because, in the Senate for 200 years, we have brought up and confirmed one- and two- and three-star Generals just like this: regular order voice votes.

So when my colleague said: I am good to go with bringing up individuals for a voice vote, for a vote, that is what we are doing. That is what we are doing. There is no explanation over there so far.

OK. Let me talk about MG Sean A. Gainey of the U.S. Army. We are trying to get him promoted to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. Wow. That is a really important billet, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. So we want a leader on those issues.

Here is a little bit about Major General Gainey: 33 years—33 years—of patriotic service. He has served as Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Army Cadet Command, the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, and on the Joint Staff as the Deputy Director for Force Protection, J8, overseeing the Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization. Major General Gainey has deployed in support of Operation Joint Task Force-East and Operation Enduring Freedom. Most recently, Major General Gainey served as the Director, Joint C-UAS Office, and Director of Fires in the G3/5/7 at Headquarters of the Army.

In essence, this general is an expert not just on missile command but on fires to protect our Nation—very qualified. I hope we can confirm him right now. Our country needs him.

Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 47, Sean A. Gainey, to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command—a really important billet and a really important command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let me move on to another Army officer and the same kind of billet that, again, really matters. This would be again on missile defense. This is Lt. Gen. Philip A. Garrant of the U.S. Space Force—I apologize. I mentioned he was in the Army. He is actually in the U.S. Space Force—to be Lieutenant General Commander, Space Systems Command, U.S. Space Force—again a really important billet.

Once again, if you look at this career, it is 29 years—29 years—of patriotic service to our country. Think about what his family has been through—multiple deployments.

Lieutenant General Garrant has served as the Commander of the 689 ARSS Air Armament Center, Eglin Air Force Base, and Vice Commander and Deputy Air Force Program Executive Officer for the Space and Missiles Systems Center, Los Angeles Air Force Base.

By the way, these officers who are doing all of the space work—Space Force, Army, Navy—are brilliant. We don't have their resumes in terms of their schools, but I guarantee you these are physicists—brilliant, brilliant Army, Space Force, Air Force officers whom all Americans should be proud of.

Lieutenant General Garrant most recently served as Deputy Chief of Space Operations Strategy, Plans, Programs, and Requirements for the U.S. Space Force.

We can confirm him right now by an individual voice vote, Madam President. So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 293, Lt. Gen. Philip A. Garrant, U.S. Space Force, to be Lieutenant General and Commander, Space Systems Command, U.S. Space Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I am going to bring up another important Lieutenant General. When we talk about mental health and we talk about taking care of our troops—we have got a big suicide problem in our military in Alaska—having the top Surgeon General in the military is also really important. These aren't just combat positions. These are other really important positions.

I want to talk about BG Mary V. Krueger, U.S. Army, to be Lieutenant General and the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army. Brigadier General Krueger has had a 32-year career in the Army. She has served as the Supervisory Assistant for Deputy Health Affairs, Assistant Secretary for the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, the Commander of U.S. Army Health Clinic, and the Division Surgeon for the 4th Infantry Division.

Again, boy, do we need that. In my State, with my troops, my military, the mental health issues are so important. Having the leader in the Army as Surgeon General will only enhance that issue. And we are to say that none of this impacts readiness?

The Brigadier General's deployments include to Tikrit, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn, from 2009 to 2012. Most recently, Brigadier General Krueger served as the Commanding General of the Regional Health Command—Atlantic.

I, therefore, ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 283, Mary V. Krueger, to be Lieutenant General and the Surgeon General of the U.S. Army; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let me move on to another service. This is RADM Daniel Cheever, U.S. Navy, to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Naval Air Force, U.S. Pacific.

One thing that we always think about in the military, when you think 28, 29, 30 years and the combat experience, is that the experience that they bring is just remarkable. It is, by the way, the best military in the world. And this Rear Admiral, in his career, has this in spades.

With 34 years in the Navy so far, Rear Admiral Cheever commanded Carrier Strike Group 4, Strike Fighter Squadron 147—the VFA 147. So a carrier strike group—that is commanding a carrier strike group. That is several ships around an aircraft carrier. That is giant experience, and we are making this person, this great leader, sit on the bench when our country is in peril.

Rear Admiral Cheever has extensive EUCOM and CENTCOM experience as a Naval Amphibious Liaison Element for the Commander, U.S. Sixth Fleet and 17th Air Force, and as a battle director at Combined Air and Space Operations Center, U.S. Central Command.

Most recently, Rear Admiral Cheever served as the Director of Plans, Policies, and Strategy at the North American Aerospace Defense Command and Director of Policy and Strategy at U.S. Northern Command—so, again, a great warrior right here, a carrier strike group commander. Only America produces these great warriors.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 181, Daniel L. Cheever, to be Vice Admiral and Commander of the Naval Air Forces; Commander, Naval Air Force U.S. Pacific Fleet, the fleet that will take on China—we have a war there; we need this officer—that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President immediately be notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, this one is special to me, since we are doing all the different services: Space Force, Navy, Army, Air Force. This is Maj. Gen. Roger Turner, U.S. Marine Corps, to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General, Third Marine Expeditionary Force and Commander of Marine Forces Japan.

The III MEF, as we call it in the Marine Corps—we only have three MEFs

in the entire Marine Corps: I MEF, II MEF, and III MEF. This is the MEF in Okinawa, forward deployed, waiting, ready to protect our interests in the Taiwan Strait, in Indo-PACOM. Right now, III MEF doesn't have a three-star general; neither does I MEF.

Again, that doesn't impact readiness? Of course, it does. Anyone who knows anything about the military knows that that impacts readiness. One of the most important fighting forces in the American military, III MEF, needs a Lieutenant General in charge.

Maj. Gen. Roger Turner has served in the Marine Corps since 1984. He most recently served as Commanding General of the First Marine Division. That is at Camp Pendleton—really important, big division, infantry division, great experience.

Previously, he served as a Commanding General of the Marine Air Ground Task Force Command and the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center—incredible combat experience, ready to go if there is a Taiwan Strait crisis or another challenge in the Indo-PACOM theater. We really need this general.

For that reason, we can confirm him right now—right now—by voice vote, singular, what the Senator from Alabama has been asking for. We will see.

So, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 191, Roger B. Turner, Jr., to be Lieutenant General and Commanding General, Third Marine Expeditionary Force, and Commander of Marine Forces Japan; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, we have got another incredible officer that we are bringing to the floor this evening for a voice vote, and I do hope my colleague from Alabama will explain to everyone out there who is watching why he has asked for individual votes, and, when given the opportunity, he is objecting to individual votes. I feel like we are in a holding pattern. But maybe he will care to explain that to us in a moment.

But, right now, I do want to focus on this really incredible officer. I have had the opportunity to work with this officer, and I will talk about the most recent time that I interacted with him.

I am bringing to the floor right now VADM Brad Cooper on his nomination to be the next Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command.

I just saw Admiral Cooper in Bahrain. The day I saw him in Bahrain was

October 7—October 7, the day that Hamas overran defenses that separated the Gaza Strip and Israel; the day that Hamas went into Israel and murdered babies, raped women, cut babies out of their mother's stomachs, killed innocent elderly men and women, abducted Americans and took them into the Gaza Strip. That is the last day that I saw Brad Cooper—October 7, the terrorist strikes against Israel.

Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command—what region is that? That is the region where Israel is located. They need fine men and women at U.S. Central Command. This is an area where we have seen great terrorist threats.

Our dear friends, the Israelis, are struggling under the weight of Iran-backed terrorist proxies. At U.S. Central Command, we need leadership.

I am bringing forward VADM Brad Cooper. I will remind the body, just as I did with General Guillot, that I passed around the Republican conference the other day a discharge petition, which means we would have a vote on VADM Brad Cooper. One of the signatures on that petition is of my colleague from Alabama. He agreed to vote on this nominee, and we are giving him the opportunity to vote on this nominee, who will be the Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command, where we have what could be World War III brewing. Our friends the Israelis need every last good man and woman that the United States has serving in these important positions.

A little bit about VADM Brad Cooper: He is the son of a career Army officer. He attended high school in Montgomery, AL. Vice Admiral Cooper joined the Navy and received his commission from the U.S. Naval Academy. He is a career surface warfare officer. He served on guided missile cruisers, guided missile destroyers, aircraft carriers, amphibious assault ships, and successfully commanded both the USS *Russell* and the USS *Gettysburg*.

If anyone knows Admiral Cooper, he is a very humble man. He is very proud of the extraordinary men and women with whom he served on sea duty during his 9 deployments and 13 real-world operations all around our globe.

He has served in a variety of positions throughout his career, and he has been nominated to serve in the U.S. Central Command as their Deputy Commander.

He has been instrumental in maintaining the stability and security of the Middle East regions' maritime environment through NAVCENT. His skills and experience gained in this position at NAVCENT make him absolutely the right choice to be the Deputy Commander of U.S. Central Command, and I am excited to see him confirmed.

So, Madam President, we can confirm that nomination by voice vote tonight—tonight. We will vote on this man: 9 deployments, 13 real-world operations. He is a warrior.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 196, Charles B. Cooper, II, to be Vice Admiral; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, we see another one bite the dust. It is a good thing I still have that discharge petition, and we will see Vice Admiral Cooper on the floor once again, and I hope that my colleague will choose to support him.

So I served in the Iowa Army National Guard, and I am really proud of that service. So I deployed overseas with the Iowa Army National Guard as a young Company Commander. I was the first female to command my unit. It was the same unit that my father had served in when he was a young Sergeant in the Iowa Army National Guard. He was a mechanic. He is the salt of the Earth.

And I was so proud to grow up and serve alongside some really incredible Iowa Army National Guardsmen. They worked so hard. They worked so hard on that deployment, Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Now, I was gone from 2003 to 2004. My daughter, she was 3 years old when I deployed, and she was nearly 5 years old when I returned home. So my daughter—again, she is a Second Lieutenant serving Active-Duty U.S. Army. And she told me—it has probably been a year ago—she had read an interesting statistic about children who have mothers that served in uniform. And she told me that that statistic was that 80 percent of the children who have mothers that wore the uniform will go into the service.

She said: Mom, I didn't have a choice. So she did; she went into the U.S. Army. And I encouraged that, and I am so proud of her for her service. Again, she is a young officer. I know she is disappointed by what she sees today—in particular, this evening.

And what I want the folks to know—and in a roundabout way I am coming to this. But all of these holds are affecting our men and women in the military. They are affecting the families of these men and women. Like I said, 80 percent of the children whose mothers wore the uniform are more likely to go in than those who didn't have a mother who served.

But right now, today, 37 percent of Active-Duty families are likely to recommend military service—37 percent. They see what is going on today.

And I have heard my colleague say we shouldn't be injecting politics into

the military and that President Biden did that and Lloyd Austin, Secretary of Defense, did that. But what are we doing to these military men and women? Politics are being injected right here, today. We have men and women who deserve to be promoted, to serve where their country knows they are needed.

And our military families today are saying: You know what, I don't want my kid serving in the military because they will be used as political pawns.

That is dishonorable, and it is abhorrent. So I served. Col. DAN SULLIVAN served. We understand the significance of service and being willing to lay down your life for a fellow countryman.

This next gentleman that I am bringing forward, we have something in common because this gentleman is a native of Spencer, IA. He enlisted into the Iowa Army National Guard. OK? He enlisted in 1981. He also was salt of the Earth, just like my father, who enlisted in the Iowa Army National Guard.

This gentleman is LTG James J. Mingus. He has been appointed to the grade of General and nominated to be the next Vice Chief of Staff of the Army. Again, he enlisted into the Iowa Army National Guard in 1981. He graduated from Winona State University in Minnesota, our neighbor to the north, and he commissioned into the Army infantry.

During more than 38 years of service, Lieutenant General Mingus has commanded at every echelon from company to brigade in addition to working in key staff positions in both Army, Special Operations Forces, and joint units. He is a decorated warfighter with extensive combat service. He deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom 12 times from 2001 to 2012.

Lieutenant General Mingus has distinguished himself with honor, having been awarded for meritorious achievement in a combat zone. He is a hard-working public servant who knows the needs of our soldiers and their families.

I have full confidence that he will continue to modernize the Army and maintain our highly trained and lethal force to fight and win our Nation's wars. The problem is, he can't do it if he is not serving in that position.

I firmly believe that his qualifications, record, and character—and, of course, his great home State of Iowa—make him the right nominee to serve in this important role.

Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: War hero Executive Calendar No. 288, James J. Mingus, to be General and Vice Chief of Staff of the Army; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, now, I have the honor and privilege of talking about MG John W. Brennan, Jr., on his appointment to the grade of Lieutenant General in the U.S. Army and his nomination to be the Deputy Commander of U.S. Africa Command.

Major General Brennan is currently serving as Special Assistant to the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. This is no paper pusher, Madam President—and I have heard that phrase.

Army Special Operations play a crucial role in competition and deterring great power war. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure this deserving officer, who earned this promotion, is confirmed to this key national security position.

The good Major General is a decorated warfighter with extensive combat service in Iraq, Afghanistan, and in the Inherent Resolve Campaign, having recently served as Commander of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve just last year. He distinguished himself with honor, having been awarded a Bronze Star with "V" for valor.

I firmly believe that Major General Brennan's qualifications, record, and character make him exceptionally eligible for this promotion, and I look forward to confirming him to be the Deputy Commander of U.S. Africa Command, a very important position. Again, "V" for valor.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 130, John W. Brennan, Jr., to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commander, U.S. Africa Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, another great, decorated officer—and we are going to keep going because these men and women deserve to be confirmed.

Madam President, I am going to talk now about CAPT Frank Schlereth on his appointment to the grade of Rear Admiral, lower half, in the U.S. Navy. CAPT Frank Schlereth is currently serving as the Senior Defense Official and Defense Attache within the U.S. Embassy, Israel.

It is crucial at this time in history to ensure this deserving officer, who

earned this promotion, is recognized for serving in a key position to national security and regional stability. The Captain is a two-time Naval Attache, having served in Athens, Greece; and Tel-Aviv, Israel.

He has extensive experience within the Defense Intelligence Agency Directorate of Operations, having served as the Chief of Operations for the DIA, Defense Attache Service, and the East Asia Division Chief.

He is a decorated warfighter with extensive combat service, having deployed to Afghanistan in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom as a team leader in support of a sensitive collection mission.

Captain Schlereth distinguished himself with honor, having been awarded the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" for valorous achievement in a combat zone during his deployment.

I also believe that the Captain's qualifications, record, and character make him exceptionally eligible for this appointment and promotion.

Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 103, Frank G. Schlereth, III, to be Rear Admiral (lower half); that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, we will proceed to COL Peter G. Hart.

I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 94, COL Peter G. Hart, to the grade of Brigadier General.

Colonel Hart is currently fulfilling a crucial role as an Army Strategist for the U.S. Central Command. As a 23-year combat veteran and retired Lieutenant Colonel of our great U.S. Army, I am proud to stand up for this valiant officer who has answered the selfless call to service and earned this promotion in the U.S. Army.

Again, I want to talk about making these individuals political pawns in the grand scheme. So the VFW had recently done a survey. And they did surveys in every State and overseas territory of their members.

These are veterans. Polls indicate there is a growing wedge between the veteran community and the colleagues on this side of the aisle and "political decisions that harm the troops will affect the decisions of BFW members in upcoming elections."

People don't like men and women who are used as political pawns, especially those who are sworn to be apolitical. Those are the men and women

who serve in uniform. There is a growing division. It will continue to grow wider.

So, therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Colonel Peter G. Hart to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Army, under Executive Calendar No. 94; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I just want to talk about an issue I just heard about from two officers just today on this issue of readiness, on this issue of maybe this whole episode is creating a "Fat Leonard" scandal 2.0 that is like I said earlier when the Navy had some of their top officers kind of wiped out due to corruption. They lost a whole generation of senior officers with specific fleet experience, which we are still actually dealing with.

What we are starting to see here—I am hearing it; I have a lot of contacts; I have my colleagues whom I have served with. We are starting to see that here. Imagine we are facing a really, really dangerous world, that we have Senate politics driving military officers—our best—I mean, are you listening to these bios? All 30, 35 years of incredible combat experience. And we are driving them out.

As Senator GRAHAM said, some are going to be timed out, eventually. A couple are hitting that already. If you get selected and you don't pin on by a certain time, you are gone. Think about how bitter you would be.

But here is the other thing. Just today, I heard it, too—I am not going to name them—Navy officers who are saying: You know, I think I am done with this. I did 28 years. I did seven deployments. My family sacrificed. And I am sitting here being held up, when my country needs me, on an issue I have nothing to do with—and, by the way, Navy, submarine commanders, aircraft carrier commanders, pilots—these guys can go out and make huge money. So I am hearing it. I am hearing it.

We—not we—some of us are driving our senior Admirals and Generals out. They are saying: I am done with this. I can serve my country another way. I can make a ton of money in the private sector. My family deserves it.

That is happening. That is happening. And it is wrong. It is wrong. We all know it is wrong. By the way, if we are here like a year from now and we are still dealing with this and we look back, we are like, holy cow, look at

these great combat veterans with all this experience, and they left us; they left us because we forced them out. We are going to look back at this episode and just be stunned at what a national security suicide mission this became.

By the way, I am so honored to be standing shoulder to shoulder, literally, here on the Senate floor with my good friend and colleague Senator ERNST. You know, we have the Army and Marine Corps represented right here on the floor. This is a joint op. It is a joint op. Protecting our troops. Fighting for our troops. That is what marines and soldiers do well. This is a joint op. And we are going to stay here until our list is done. Because you know what? There are a lot of people who sacrifice so much for this country.

And to my colleague from Alabama, you still haven't answered the question—this is regular order, by the way. All these noms have been voted out of committee. I am sure you voted for most of them. I voted for almost all of them. Regular order, out of committee. And again, I am quoting you: I am not blocking anyone from getting confirmed. I am not blocking a single vote. If they want those votes on these nominees one at a time, I am all for it, and we will probably vote for them.

That is the quote from my colleague from Alabama. So what is up with that? We are right here. One at a time. One at a time. Regular order.

This is regular order, by the way, because for 200 years, the Senate has voted for nominees by voice vote at one- and two- and three-star General levels. It is different for the four-star. But this is regular order.

So my colleague hasn't answered the question yet. It would be good to hear why because we are putting time and effort into it. I actually thought he was going to come down and say, Hey, you know what? You guys did what I mentioned, one at a time, each one, regular order.

So, what, are you going to make us vote on a Brigadier General with a Silver Star twice? That probably has never happened in U.S. history. I don't know. It would be good to get an answer to that question.

By the way, on Iowa, what a great story from my colleague. You know, I was doing some training in Alaska many years ago, and the Iowa National Guard was out there. These guys were huge, big. Got a picture, sent it back to Senator ERNST. Corn-fed. You don't want to mess with the Iowa National Guard, I would say that for sure.

So, Madam President, let's get back to this. Maybe my colleague will have a change of heart here. Maybe he will get back to folks—whoa, maybe we should. And, by the way, we have the perfect opportunity for someone in a really, really important billet. And this is for Maj. Gen. David Iverson, U.S. Air Force, to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commander of U.S. Forces, Korea. U.S. Forces, Korea is really, really important. It is run by a

four-star General. And this would be the Deputy Commander.

By the way, the Korean Peninsula could go any day. Tomorrow, we could be at war in Korea. I am a big Korean war history buff. Do you know what happened in 1950 in the Korean war? We had civilian and senior military leaders in America who did not care about readiness. Sound familiar? And when the North Koreans launched their surprise invasion, American soldiers by the thousands were killed because there was no readiness. We don't want that to happen again on the Korean Peninsula. We don't want it to happen. So this guy needs to be confirmed.

And look at his resume: Maj. Gen. David Iverson most recently served as the Vice Director for the Joint Force Development on the Joint Staff. His over 32 years in the military, served in a variety of flying duties to include evaluator instructor, flight commander, chief of weapons, director of operations, commander at the squadron level. He has commanded at the flight squadron, twice at the wing level. That is huge. Incredible military experience. Two wing commands. He also served as a congressional legislative liaison in the 609th Air Operations Center command in Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar. Iverson is a command pilot with over 5,400 hours.

America, you should be proud of these people. And I know you all are. He has 5,400 hours, including 1,500 combat hours. And we are making this guy sit. We are making him sit—1,500 combat hours. F-15, TF30. I mean—Madam President, we should confirm this great American right now. And we have the opportunity to do it.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 187, David R. Iverson, to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea—Commander, Combined Air Component Command; United Nations Command, Commander, Combined Air Command, Combined Forces Command, Korea, and Commander, 7th U.S. Air Force, Pacific Air Forces; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, well, that was another downgrade of readiness for America right there.

Madam President, let me go into another very, very impressive military member. We don't talk about this part of our military that much; but, boy, oh boy, is it important. And this is for Maj. Gen. Andrew Gebara, of the U.S. Air Force, to be promoted to Lieutenant General and Deputy Chief of Staff

for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Let me run that by you again: strategic deterrence with nukes and nuclear integration.

I would say that is a pretty darned important billet.

Let's hear about Major General Gebara's 32-year career. He has served as the Commander of the 325th Weapons Squadron, Eighth Air Force, and Joint-Global Strike Operations Center. Major General Gebara is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flight hours.

There you go. The best, most experienced military members in the world, right here, sitting on the sidelines, not in the game. On the bench. And we can change that right now; 46 combat air sorties, and everything—get this—from the A-10 to the B-2. This guy is a stud.

In support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Major General Gebara most recently served as Special Assistant to the Director of Staff of the Headquarters of the U.S. Air Force. And we can confirm this nomination by a voice vote right now.

Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 51, Andrew J. Gebara, to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration, headquarters: U.S. Air Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, again, strategic nuclear deterrence. Pretty darned important. I guess he is going to have to sit on the sidelines for longer.

I want to go now to another element of our military, and that is Special Operations. And this is an opportunity for a really storied military leader, Lt. Gen. James Slife, U.S. Air Force, to be four-star General and Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force. Again, you have the Chiefs of Staff—those are the Joint Chiefs—and then they have the Vice Chiefs. The Vice Chiefs are so important because they run the enterprise of the Air Force. This General will essentially run the Air Force in so many ways. Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force. This is one of the most important nominations of the evening.

Let's hear about Lieutenant General Slife. Again, 33-year career. Putting all his time, effort—I am sure his family's effort—dedicated patriot to America. Has served most of his career in aviation special operations. Senator ERNST knows a lot about that. He has held

commands at the Air Force Special Operations Command, 1st Special Operations Wing, and 27th Special Operations Group—33 years. Imagine what this patriot has done to protect America. He probably can't talk about half of it. He has deployed extensively over three decades in support of combat operations all over the world, most recently in Afghanistan. Lieutenant General Slife most recently served as Deputy Chief of Operations for Headquarters, Air Force.

This General, right now, if we just have one Senator say "good to go," will be confirmed as Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force. Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 338, James C. Slife to be General and Vice Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. This next one, I believe, is an empty billet. I am pretty sure. I have to double-check my math here.

This is Shoshana Chatfield to be Vice Admiral and U.S. Military Representative to NATO. NATO. There is a lot going on in NATO right now, and we don't have this Vice Admiral in her position as a Military Representative to NATO? That is not impacting readiness?

Let's hear about Rear Admiral Chatfield's 35-year naval career. She is a pilot. She has commanded HC-5 and, upon its disestablishment, was the Commanding Officer of HSC-25, the Island Knights. She subsequently commanded a Joint Provisional Reconstruction Team in Afghanistan, was a Type Wing Commander of the HSC Wing in the U.S. Pacific Fleet, and the Commander of the Joint Region Marianas.

Think about that experience. Think about that experience. We need people understanding INDOPACOM, Marianas, to take on China.

Operationally, she has flown the SH-3, the CH-46 Delta, the MH-60 Sierra, and deployed in helicopter detachments to the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf, supporting carrier strike groups and amphibious-ready group operations—carrier strike groups and amphibious-ready strike groups. Those are Marine amphibious-ready groups. She has done both, INDOPACOM and in the Middle East.

Now she is going to be a three-star Representative Admiral at NATO, and we are keeping her on the bench. We

could confirm her right now. Look at that experience—35 years as a naval aviator.

She most recently served as the President of the Naval War College, so she is brilliant as well. Sitting on the bench.

Madam President, we need to confirm her now; therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 90, Shoshana S. Chatfield to be Vice Admiral and U.S. Military Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let's go directly to our great U.S. Navy. This is James P. Downey to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command.

Again, we all know that the Navy is the critical service. They are all critical, but when it comes to China, we have some catching up to do. This is a critical command billet.

Let's hear about Rear Admiral Downey, James P. Downey. He has served in the Navy for 36 years.

I would like to—Senator ERNST, maybe we just need to add up the experience that we are talking about tonight. Everybody is at least 30 years. It is like over 1,000 years. It makes you proud as an American. It makes me sure darn proud.

Thank you, Rear Admiral Downey, for your 36 years of service to our great Nation and great U.S. Navy.

He served as the Commander of the Navy Regional Maintenance Center—boy, do we need expertise in maintenance for our Navy—and as the Program Executive Officer for U.S. Aircraft Carriers. Wow, that is great experience, and we need that every day.

He most recently served as Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition. Additional operational assignments include Intelligence Briefing Officer to the Commander and Chief, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea, and multiple deployments in the North Atlantic, Baltic, Arctic Circle—probably up in my neck of the woods in Alaska—and the Indo-Pacific. Incredible experience here.

We need to promote him, and we can do it right now with a voice vote, right here. We are bringing up individual nominees, individual votes, as my colleague from Alabama requested, so let's do it.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of

the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 113, James P. Downey to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let's go back to my beloved Marine Corps. I love the Marine Corps. I mean, I love all the services, but I really love the Marine Corps.

Madam President, this is another critical element of the Marine Corps. Of course, everybody thinks about infantry with the marines, but our aviation component is so important and so darn good. Marine Corps aviation has made Americans proud for decades and decades and decades.

We have Bradford J. Gering to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps Aviation Section at Headquarters, Marine Corps.

Maj. Gen. Bradford Gering has served in the Marine Corps since 1988. He most recently served as the Commanding General of I MEF.

Just so everybody knows, I MEF, which I talked about earlier, is the I Marine Expeditionary Force, commonly known in the Marine Corps as the Imperial MEF, probably the best combined warfighting machine in the U.S. military. I am a little biased, but it is true.

He is a I MEF Commander. In the Marine Corps, you don't get any better than that. You don't get any more experienced than that. And he has had multiple deployments. He is a combat veteran with unbelievable experience, and he is sitting on the bench.

We need to get him in the fight, and we can do it right now. We can confirm this great American patriot by voice vote right now. Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 111, Bradford J. Gering to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commandant, Aviation Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, we have another opportunity to vote on another outstanding officer. This one is COL Scott D. Wilkinson, and he has been promoted to the grade of Brigadier General.

As an Army veteran myself, I know and I understand the importance of recognizing this deserving officer who earned his promotion in the U.S. Army. He is a decorated warfighter. He distinguished himself with honor for meritorious achievement in a combat zone during his deployment.

As a Captain—a young O3 is what we call them in the Army—Colonel Wilkinson provided precision close air support over a 6-hour period using night vision goggles, with zero illumination, in a complex urban environment, enabling the assault and exfiltration of a combined joint task force under heavy enemy fire.

I am proud to be here on this floor as well standing shoulder to shoulder with my Marine Corps friend, Col. DAN SULLIVAN of Alaska.

You can read through this little, brief description of COL Scott D. Wilkinson.

For those of us who have served and have been part of a team and have been deployed, we understand the significance of having close air support.

I served as a Transportation Company Commander when I deployed, and I will tell you that having close air support—knowing they were a phone call away—always made my drivers and me feel a lot better about things. I know Colonel SULLIVAN, as an infantryman, also understands what it is to have that close air support and how important those men and women overhead are during battle.

So, COL Scott D. Wilkinson, I am really glad to give you close air support tonight. Those of us who have worked on a team understand how significant it is to have one another's back and make sure these men and women are protected.

With this close air support, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: COL Scott D. Wilkinson to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Army under Executive Calendar No. 94; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, we are going to move next to COL Joseph W. Wortham II.

I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 94, COL Joseph W. Wortham II to the grade of Brigadier General.

Again, we are seeing a pattern. We have Colonel Wortham. He is a decorated warfighter and, again, as a Captain, as an O3, his brave and decisive actions saved the life of a severely wounded American and defeated a large enemy force in Iraq in 2005.

My colleague Colonel SULLIVAN, Senator SULLIVAN from Alaska—we have been talking about what it is to serve and the way these heroes have reacted in combat. Because of Colonel Wortham's actions in combat, he saved the life of a fellow countryman, saved the life of an individual willing to lay down his life for his country.

Colonel Wortham was willing to do the same. He saved the life of a severely wounded American, and he defeated a large enemy force in Iraq in 2005. Again, he was part of an incredible team. He didn't turn his back on his teammate; he saved his life. It is crucial to ensure that this deserving officer, who earned this promotion, is afforded the opportunity to be recognized.

Colonel Wortham, again, is part of a glorious team and was first commissioned into the Army in 1996 through Auburn University's Reserve Officer Training Corps.

During his 25 years of service, he participated in operations in Egypt, Israel, and Lebanon, as well as combat operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria. His understanding of Kurdish culture and training in the Turkish language proved essential for his repeated deployments to the Kurdish regions of Iraq and Syria.

I firmly believe that Colonel Wortham's qualifications, record, and character make him exceptionally eligible for this promotion, and by the fact that he went through Auburn University's ROTC Program.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: War hero who saved the life of a fellow soldier, COL Joseph W. Wortham II, to be Brigadier General in the United States Army under Executive Calendar No. 94; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. And the objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Next, Madam President, we will move on to CAPT Thomas A. Donovan—CAPT Thomas A. Donovan, for appointment to Rear Admiral (lower half). Captain Donovan is currently serving as the Executive Officer to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I know Captain Donovan, and I know of his service. I will not go into details tonight on this floor. I will explain it

to Members who are on this floor, off the floor, if they would like to talk about Captain Donovan.

I truly believe that we must stand up for the security and protection of our Nation, and I am proud to recognize this deserving officer, who earned this promotion, and highlight his selfless call to serve.

I firmly believe that Captain Donovan's qualifications, record, and character make him exceptionally eligible for this appointment and promotion.

Now, again, I know Captain Donovan. I know him quite well. There may be mumbblings over some of these younger officers. We have spent just a brief time talking about them on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Those who are out watching on C-SPAN, or maybe in clips tomorrow, will understand why some of these presentations are very brief.

For those in this Chamber that don't understand why these presentations are very brief, they shouldn't be here objecting to these nominations. I will let that sink in.

OK, CAPT Thomas A. Donovan.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: CAPT Thomas A. Donovan to be Rear Admiral (lower half) in the Navy, under Executive Calendar No. 97; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. And I am very sorry to hear that.

Again, we have got another very short presentation here. I will have to explain it to my colleagues that maybe haven't served why they are brief.

Madam President, I call to the floor Executive Calendar No. 97, CAPT Joshua Lasky, for appointment to Rear Admiral (lower half).

As a 23-year combat veteran myself and a retired Lieutenant Colonel of our great U.S. Army, I am proud to stand up for this valiant officer who has answered the selfless call to service and earned this promotion in the U.S. Navy.

I firmly believe that Captain Lasky's qualifications, record, and character make him exceptionally eligible for this promotion. And, again, I will have to visit with folks off the floor to explain more about Captain Lasky. He is fully deserving of this promotion, and I am very sorry to acknowledge that he also will probably be objected to—one more hero that will be objected to this evening.

So not only have we seen Senator SCHUMER dragging his feet on these nominations, but tonight we have had

the exceptional opportunity—I think we have had maybe 40 of these nominations brought forward, but we are still dragging our feet on these. We are voting on them one by one, one by one, one by one—just as our colleague asked, one by one. These are men and women of honor. They are sworn to uphold the Constitution, the very Constitution that my colleague is saying he is protecting. They are sworn to uphold, and they would do it with their blood. Some of these men have done it with their blood. I am waiting.

So, Madam President, we can confirm this nomination by voice vote right here, tonight, individually—individually brought up, just as my colleague has asked.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: CAPT Joshua Lasky to be Rear Admiral (lower half) in the Navy under Executive Calendar No. 97; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I am still—I think we are both, Senator ERNST and I. We are still just kind of confused on the “one by one,” as my colleague and friend—he is my friend. So I mean that sincerely. He said: I am all for it if nominees come up one at a time. I am all for it. That is a quote. That is what we are doing—one at a time, one by one, as Senator ERNST has said.

And some of these, you know, if you serve in the military long enough, you know these people personally. And the next nominee I want to talk about I know quite well, Kenneth Wilsbach. He is a four-star General right now, and he is in charge of the Pacific Air Forces—incredible experience. General Wilsbach will move in to be the U.S. Air Force Commander of Air Combat Command, one of the top billets in the U.S. Air Force—a guy with incredible experience, with a wonderful wife and a wonderful family.

He served as the Alaska Command Commander. That is the subcomponent command under INDOPACOM and NORTHCOM for Alaska—a three-star General in charge of all forces in Alaska. So I know him. He is an exceptional patriot and so deserving of this promotion.

And, by the way, it has nothing to do with the policy dispute that we actually agree on, all my colleagues here. We think what Secretary Austin did to light this fire was not helpful at all. The civilian military leadership over at the Pentagon—that is where I do

agree with my colleague from Alabama. Certainly, there is more focus on nonwarfighting issues—the civilians, not the uniformed ones.

But let's go back to General Wilsbach, a 38-year career in the Air Force—38 years. I know this guy, a great family. He is a patriot warrior. He has commanded a fighter squad and operation group, two wings, two numbered Air Forces, and held various staff assignments, including Director of Operations, Combined Air Operations Center; Director of Operations U.S. Central Command.

Central Command—that is the Middle East. I was a staff officer out there, for a year and a half, to our CENTCOM Commander many years ago.

So General Wilsbach has great Middle East experience, which we need today, but he also has great INDOPACOM experience. Right now, he is the Commander of Pacific Air Forces—right now. He is doing a great job. If there is going to be a war with China, this is the guy who knows it. I mean, you can't ask for better experience.

Let's continue with General Wilsbach. He is a command pilot with more than 5,000 hours of flying—and we are going to put him on a bench—in multiple aircrafts, primarily F-15Cs, F16Cs, MC-12s, and F-22 Alphas. We have a lot of those in Alaska. And he has flown 71 combat missions in Operation Northern Watch, Southern Watch, and Operation Enduring Freedom.

As I mentioned, General Wilsbach currently serves as the Commander of the Pacific Air Forces, the Air Component Commander of U.S. INDOPACOM, and the Executive Director of the Pacific Air Combat Operations staff.

A great patriot, whom we need to confirm right now—we can do it. We can do it right now by voice vote—regular order, by the way, regular order. Don't say it is not because it is, and we are doing them individually, which is what was asked.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 198, Kenneth S. Wilsbach, to be Commander of U.S. Air Combat Command, one of the most important commands in the U.S. Air Force—in the U.S. military, let's face it—that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let me talk about another really important billet that I know a lot about, given that a lot of its assets are in

Alaska, and, again, this is such an important billet to not leave without a leader. This will be for Heath A. Collins to be Lieutenant General and the Director of the Missile Defense Agency.

What does MDA do? What does the Missile Defense Agency do? Oh, it just protects America from all incoming missiles. Huh, that is not important. That is what the Missile Defense Agency does. Maj. Gen. Heath Collins, U.S. Air Force, needs to be promoted to be the head of the MDA.

So in Alaska, we call ourselves the cornerstone of missile defense. All the ground-based missile interceptors that protect the whole country are in Alaska, at Fort Greely. All the radar systems that essentially can track anything coming from North Korea, Iran, it is all in Alaska. We protect everywhere: Iowa, Alabama, Rhode Island, Florida. That is Alaska. We protect the whole darn Nation, our great warriors up there, and the Missile Defense Agency is in charge of overseeing all of it. So it is pretty darn important, especially with Iran wanting to lob missiles all over the world.

Let's talk about Maj. Gen. Heath Collins. Again, with a 30-year Air Force career, he served as a program executive officer for fighters and bombers, System Program Director for the Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent Program, Deputy Director for Infrared Space Systems Directorate and the Remote Sensing Systems Directorate, and Commander of Space Based Infrared System Space Squadron.

Now, I am not going to repeat what I just said, but he is obviously incredibly smart. Think about all that he has commanded and the technological elements of his experience to protect America. Almost every billet he has had has been about protecting America. He is perfectly qualified to be the Director of the Missile Defense Agency.

He recently served as the Program Executive for the ground-based weapons systems for the Missile Defense Agency, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

He probably loves the Crimson Tide, or maybe I should say Auburn. I don't want to get in trouble in that regard with my colleague here.

So, again, America needs the Director of Missile Defense—like, hello. So let us do it. Let us do it right now. Here is the opportunity. The Missile Defense Agency is really, really important. My state knows a lot about it.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 237, Heath A. Collins, to be Lieutenant General and Director of the Missile Defense Agency; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, by the way, thank you for presiding tonight. It is important, what we are doing, and we always need people, and all the staff. It is getting a little late here. So we appreciate it. This is important for our country, and maybe we are going to get a change of heart from my colleague at a certain point because I am going to turn now to the Navy. I got a bunch of nominations that relate to the Navy.

Now, I have been very critical of the Biden administration. The President's budget the last 3 years has shrunk the Army, shrunk the Navy, shrunk the Marine Corps; right? That is the wrong message to send to Xi Jinping and Putin right now. But we do need these leaders here. And, by the way, a lot of leaders are frustrated with the Biden administration, but they are professionals. So they don't say anything. They are apolitical. They are not involved in this dispute that is riling up their promotions.

But let me just talk about a really important member of the Navy, and I happen to know a lot about it since I serve on the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy.

This is the nomination of Yvette M. Davids to be Vice Admiral and Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Now, as I mentioned, I have served on the Board of the Naval Academy since I got here. One of the biggest honors of my life was when Senator McCain, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, asked me to sit on that Board in his stead. And he told me: DAN, I went there. My dad went there. My grandpa went there. This is really important.

So I pretty much make every Board meeting. I take it very seriously, and I will tell you this: This is one of the best, if not the best—sorry to my colleague from Rhode Island—military academy, but college in the United States. I mean, especially now that we are seeing this. Look, I went to Harvard, and I am so embarrassed by that place that I don't even like admitting it, what is happening right now on the campus there, anti-Semitism, weak leadership.

The Naval Academy, our service academies are fantastic. They are not perfect, but they do such a great job. But they need leadership. And I have gotten to know the other Naval Academy Superintendents—fantastic leaders. Right now, we don't have one. The billet is empty. We have an acting. Actually, he is acting because he is getting ready to go to the Seventh Fleet, but my colleague from Alabama just didn't allow him to go to the Seventh Fleet. So the Acting Superintendent of the Naval Academy should have been out to the Seventh Fleet.

Let us look at Yvette Davids' bio—so impressive. She is a Rear Admiral right

now, with 34 years in the Navy. She commanded the USS *Curtis*, deploying to the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, and the USS *Bunker Hill*, serving as the Air Defense Commander for the Carl Vinson Carrier Strike Group. Think how impressive this is. Her most recent operational assignment was as Commander of the Nimitz Strike Group. She was a Commander of a carrier strike group in the Carrier Strike Group 11. That is the ultimate in American power.

You can't teach that in 2 years. It takes 30 years. She can go teach Naval Academy students right now—the next leaders of the Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy—and she is sitting on the bench.

Her flag assignments include Senior Military Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs at the State Department, Carrier Strike Group Command, Chief of Staff, U.S. Southern Command, and the Director of the Navy's Learning to Action Board drive team.

Rear Admiral Davids is currently the Acting Commander for Naval Surface Force for the U.S. Pacific Fleet—an incredible bio. The Naval Academy—I know it because I am on the Board. We want her to get there. We certainly want her to get there in time for the Army-Navy game so the U.S. Naval Academy can beat Army badly. Sorry, my colleagues from the Army. We got to have a little fun here tonight.

So let us do it right now, by voice vote, for this great patriot.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 192, Yvette M. Davids, to be Vice Admiral and Superintendent, U.S. Naval Academy; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is noted.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, let us continue with the Navy—again, such an important service. They are all important. But in a big throw-down with China, we have to have a stronger Navy, a bigger Navy, a more lethal Navy, and this next nominee is going to be that person—RADM Brendan R. McLane, U.S. Navy, to be Vice Admiral and Naval Surface Forces Commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet.

What does that mean? That is the Surface Commander for all U.S. naval forces in the INDOPACOM theater, who would be in charge if we had a contingency with China. That is pretty darn important.

So let us hear about Rear Admiral McLane's 33-year Navy career.

Again, are you noticing something? It is 33, 34, 35—General Wilsbach, 38 years. Patriots—and now they are like: Wait. Why am I stuck? Why are they going after my career? It is something I have nothing to do with.

It is wrong. We all know it is wrong. It is wrong.

In Rear Admiral McLane's 33-year naval career, he has served as the Commodore of Destroyer Squadron 50—a huge deal—commanded Task Force 55 and Coalition Task Force 152, U.S. Fifth Fleet. Additionally, he served aboard the USS *Lewis B. Puller*, the USS *Vicksburg*, the USS *Moosbrugger*, Destroyer Squadron 14, the USS *Simpson*. Jeez, look at all of these commands and deployments.

While in command of the USS *Kearny*, his ship won the Battle "E" and Battenberg Cup and deployed with the Eisenhower Carrier Strike Group for the U.S. Fifth Fleet. By the way, the "Ike" carrier strike group is in the Middle East right now.

In major command, he served as Commodore of Destroyer Squadron 50, commanded Task Force 55 and Coalition Task Force 152, U.S. Fifth Fleet—again, the Middle East.

Most recently, Rear Admiral McLane served as the 60th Commander of Naval Surface Force Atlantic.

The amount of experience we are hearing tonight that we are not letting go fight and protect our nation—it makes you humble, by the way, when you hear about all these great patriots, but it sure makes me frustrated. They are on the bench.

But let us try and get them off the bench. We can confirm this nominee by voice vote right now.

Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 193, Brendan R. McLane, to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Naval Surface Forces; Commander, Naval Surface Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam President, I am going to talk about one more Navy officer. We have a number to go. I am going to do this quick. This is Christopher S. Gray to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Navy Installations Command. He has got a great resume, a 34-year Navy career.

Rear Admiral Gray has been the Commanding Officer of the Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron before reporting as Operations Officer aboard

the USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower*, where he conducted back-to-back deployments to the Arabian Gulf in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

At sea, Gray has served in operational assignments with Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadrons and a flag aide to the Commander in the U.S. Second Fleet, Striking Fleet Atlantic.

More recently, Rear Admiral Gray served as the Commander of the Navy's Mid-Atlantic Region on June 30, 2020.

Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 195, Christopher S. Gray, to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Navy Installations Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. I would ask that my colleagues yield so that I can ask unanimous consent to prepare for tomorrow's session.

Ms. ERNST. I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 367; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Herro Mustafa Garg, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Garg nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Mr. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 2; 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 proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Franchetti nomination; further, that if any nominations are confirmed during Thursday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REED. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of my Republican colleagues.

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

Mr. REED. Madam President, I yield the floor, and I yield back to the Senator from Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS— EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, our next nomination is a fine officer serving in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Our colleague from Alaska, Col. DAN SULLIVAN, also serves in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. I will read a little bit about this gentleman, and we will take an individual vote on the floor this evening, I am hoping, because this gentleman does deserve to be promoted and placed into his next position.

So this gentleman is Maj. Gen. Leonard F. Anderson IV, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, to be Lieutenant General and Commander of Marine Forces Reserves, Commander Marine Forces, South.

So here is a little bit about the good General. The Major General most recently served as the Commanding General of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing. He does have some prior experience as well in serving as the Assistant Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations, but Major General Anderson also served in a marine aviation logistics squadron. So it is interesting that the Executive Calendar number for Maj. Gen. Leonard F. Anderson is 248 as I also—not in the Marines, but I served in an aviation support battalion, which is a logistics battalion, supporting aviation, the 248th Aviation Support Battalion. This gentleman has

served in the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron, and his experience has allowed him to support those men and women who are in the air, similar to the circumstance we talked about prior with a pilot who provided close air support during combat. These are the guys and gals who keep those aircraft up, flying, fueled, maintained—ready to go.

So this is an important position he is going into. It is the Marine Forces Reserves, Commander Marine Forces South, and I am hoping we will be able to take a vote on him this evening.

Therefore, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 248, Leonard F. Anderson IV to be Lieutenant General and Commander Marine Forces Reserves Commander, Marine Forces South; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. OK, Madam President. We are just going to keep going. We have quite a few exceptional men and women who are proud to defend our glorious Nation. Many of them, again, have served in combat. We just came out of 20 years of the Global War on Terror, and we know what service is. Many of us know what service is. The Presiding Officer—her father certainly knew what service was, so I thank him very much for his service to our Nation.

So we will proceed to Executive Calendar No. 262, Timothy D. Haugh. I apologize to the gentleman if I am mispronouncing his name. It is H-A-U-G-H. He is a member of the U.S. Air Force, and he has been nominated to be the Commander of U.S. Cyber Command and Director, National Security Agency.

At a time when we see many nations around the world using grey-zone techniques to infiltrate various infrastructures in the United States of America and that of allied nations, we know how important Cyber Command is to protect not only our military assets but then to track and push back against those foreign agents who are going after civilian infrastructure as well.

Lieutenant General Haugh's 32-year career has been exemplary, and he has commanded intelligence and cyber commands at every level as the Commander of 16th Air Force, Air Forces Cyber, and Joint Force Headquarters-Cyber, where he was responsible for more than 44,000 personnel conducting worldwide operations.

The Lieutenant General most recently served as Deputy Commander of U.S. Cyber Command. Anyone, if they are paying attention, understands how important Cyber Command is. Again, the Lieutenant General has served as the Deputy Commander of U.S. Cyber Command. We would love to see him confirmed this very evening, with a single vote, into the position of Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director of the National Security Agency—an extremely important position.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 262, Timothy D. Haugh, to be Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director of our National Security Agency; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REED). Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, our next nominee as well is hoping to be confirmed this evening, again, by an individual vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Just as my colleague has asked, has demanded, my colleagues and I this evening are attempting to satisfy that demand for single votes on the floor of the U.S. Senate. We are providing that avenue of opportunity this evening and are hoping that we will see the confirmations of some of America's finest fighting men and women, who have absolutely nothing to do with the policy that has been proposed by Secretary Lloyd Austin.

In front of us, we have MG Charles D. Costanza. He is a member of the U.S. Army. He is being nominated as Lieutenant General and Commanding General of V Corps.

Over Major General Costanza's 32-year career—again, another plus 30 years of experience and decorations during war—he has served as the Commanding General of the 3rd Infantry Division, the Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Army Forces Command, and the Director of Training for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff. Major General Costanza's deployments include to Iraq in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. Major General Costanza has most recently served as Special Assistant to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces Command.

Once again, as an individual vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination of this fine individual: Executive Calendar No. 290, Charles D. Costanza to be Lieutenant General and Com-

manding General, V Corps; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. OK. We will move on to the next conferee, and we will bring to the table now No. 291, James H. Adams III to be Lieutenant General, and this is a fellow marine.

Mr. SULLIVAN. "Oorah."

Ms. ERNST. "Oorah."

OK. A fellow marine.

To my good friend and colleague, Col. DAN SULLIVAN, Senator SULLIVAN of Alaska, we have Maj. Gen. James H. Adams III to be Lieutenant General and Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources Headquarters of U.S. Marine Corps.

Brigadier General Hanson has most recently served as the Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Operations for Air Combat Command. A number of us who serve in the Senate have worn the uniform of our Nation and have deployed, and we understand how important these activities are, especially when you have a good friend at Mobilization and Operations for Air Combat Command.

Through the mobilization process, there are a lot of logistics there in moving folks around. So we know that Brigadier General Hanson is very well qualified to move into this position at Programs and Resources at the Headquarters of the U.S. Marine Corps. He has served in numerous positions at the squadron, the group wing, and numbered Air Force and Combatant Command levels as an Active-Duty and traditional Reservist and individual mobility augmenting member.

General Hanson has flown the A-10 and F-16 in a variety of operational assignments and is a command pilot with more than 3,400 flying hours and over 200 combat hours. He has deployed in support of Operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Willing Spirit, and Enduring Freedom.

Mr. President, I bring forward to you for an individual vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate, as requested by my colleague. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 291, James H. Adams III to be Lieutenant General; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. It is good to see the Presiding Officer in the Chair. I appreciate his being here.

Mr. President, several of my nominations that I have been trying to get my colleague to agree with—again, he still hasn't answered the quote "If they want to vote on these nominees one at a time, I am all for it. I will probably vote for them." He still hasn't answered that. We are doing it. We are doing it. This is not a joke either. We are watching the experience of America's greatest military generation probably since World War II just kind of being flushed down a river right now. Just listen to this.

Now, the one thing that is really disturbing to me is how many of these nominees are from the U.S. Navy. My dad was in the Navy. I love the U.S. Navy. But we know that the Navy right now is being stressed. The President sent two carrier strike groups over to the Middle East. We need carrier strike groups in the INDOPACOM.

President Biden—and I criticize him a lot for this—is shrinking the Navy. That is idiotic. But our Navy officers and enlisted are going through a really stressful period because they are needed all over the world, and they are ready or are trying to be ready for any kind of contingency. It is tough to do a 9-month deployment and then come around, do the maintenance, and get back at it.

But what I have been noticing is how many of these holds are impacting the Navy. I am going to go through like five more right now. I just did five. If we want to be a global, capable, powerful nation, especially today, you need a strong U.S. Navy.

And the idea of reading these military members' experiences and how there is this big jam-up now, that this is not impacting readiness is patently absurd—patently absurd—with all due respect to my colleague.

So let's just keep talking about the Navy and the men and women in the Navy and the great experience that they have. We need a lot of help from the Navy right now, and we have the Senate making leaders in the Navy sit on the bench. So let's talk about some of these leaders, and maybe my colleague will budge—maybe my colleague will budge.

Let's talk about James E. Pitts to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Requirements and Capabilities, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Rear Admiral Pitts, a 38-year career in the Navy—there you go, 38 years—let's sit him on the bench during this really difficult time. It includes extensive numerous deployments on nuclear attack submarines. Do you think we need that experience in the South China Sea

right now? That is one of our great strategic advantages over the Chinese—notably, as the Commander of USS Tucson and the Submarine Squadron 7 and a number of shore assignments in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Naval Submarine School, and the Joint Staff.

So we have one of America's top naval submarine-experienced Admirals, which is exactly what Xi Jinping and the Chinese fear, and he is sitting on the bench over a dispute, which is a serious dispute. I don't deny that at all. Again, I am where the Senator from Alabama is on that. But these guys have nothing to do with it. All we are doing is hurting our own national security by keeping them on the bench.

So let's get him confirmed right now. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 197, James E. Pitts, to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Requirements and Capabilities, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, here we go again, more Navy. Like I said, the Navy is stressed, but we do have a great Navy. God love the U.S. Navy. And our submarine force, like I said, keeps Xi Jinping and his communist dictator admirals up at night. And it should because we could crush them with our Navy, as long as it is ready—as long as it is ready.

Well, let's see whom we have next, whom we are holding up next. RADM Robert Gaucher, U.S. Navy, to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Naval Submarine Forces Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, Commander of Allied Submarine Command. It sounds like a pretty darn important bill, if you think subs are important, which they are critical.

Let's hear about Admiral Gaucher. He is currently Director of Strategic Integration, the N2, the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. Admiral Gaucher's prior operational assignments include service in both fast attack and ballistic missile subs. Who has that experience? No one else in the whole world but our Admirals. It includes service as a division officer, USS *Flying Fish*, SSN-673; navigator operations officer, USS *Oklahoma City*, SSN-723; executive officer, USS *Maryland*; commanding officer, USS *City of Corpus Christi*; and Commodore of Submarine Development Squadron 5.

I certainly hope that this isn't one of these Admirals who is going to be like:

You know what, 35 years, I have all of this experience, I am sick of this. I am leaving.

Could you imagine if this Admiral, with this submarine experience, walked out the door because of the games being played right now? That is a risk. That is a risk, and we don't seem to give a damn. I give a damn.

During these tours, he completed three strategic deterrent patrols in U.S. submarines, as well as deployments to the Arctic—my neighborhood—the Caribbean, North Atlantic, and the Mediterranean. This is incredible submarine experience.

By the way, Xi Jinping is watching us right now going: I can't believe they are not letting these guys command. I am scared to death of subs.

He is loving this, so is Putin. They are loving it. How dumb can we be, man?

But we can confirm this guy, if my colleague just has a change of heart, because we are going to bring them up individually.

So, therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 204, Robert M. Gaucher, to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Naval Submarine Forces Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, and Commander of Allied Submarine Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we are going to continue with the U.S. Navy. Again—I just thought of this—the Chinese admirals and their military, they are probably watching this debate right now, going: I can't believe my luck. I can't believe our luck. Maybe we should attack Taiwan tomorrow.

The whole Navy is being held up. Let's go to another Navy officer.

This is Daniel W. Dwyer to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

OK. We have had a lot of good bios here tonight, with a lot of experience. When I saw Vice Admiral Dwyer's experience, I was like: Wow. This should scare the heck out of every Chinese admiral, every Chinese military official when they read this guy's bio.

So let me read it. I hope we can get him confirmed because he is sitting on the bench, and the Chinese are cheering.

Over Vice Admiral Dwyer's 35-year naval career—there we go; 35 years, 40 years—he has commanded Strike

Fighter Squadron, VFA-27; Provincial Reconstruction Team, Kunar Province, Afghanistan; Fleet Replacement Squadron, VFA-106; Carrier Air Wing 8; Carrier Air Wing 17.

As a flag officer—that means as an Admiral—Admiral Dwyer commanded the Theodore Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group, the big stick that every country in the world, including China, fears. He commanded the Teddy Roosevelt Carrier Strike Group. That is unbelievable experience. And he was the 36th Chief of Naval Air Training.

Vice Admiral Dwyer is a career F/A-18 naval aviator, a graduate of the Navy Fighter Weapons School, a.k.a. TOPGUN, in which he completed eight carrier deployments to the Western Pacific, North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and North Arabian Sea, supporting Operation Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and New Dawn, flying over 75 combat missions.

Vice Admiral Dwyer was most recently the Commander of the Second Fleet and Joint Forces Command.

Xi Jinping reads about a guy like this, and he is scared to death, and we bench him over a dispute Vice Admiral Dwyer has nothing to do with. But maybe we can fix that right now.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 180, Daniel W. Dwyer, to be Vice Admiral and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfighting Development, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations—so dammed qualified; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, here we go, crushing the Navy. Here is another Navy Admiral that we are going to have him sit on the bench. This is kind of remarkable. I mean, we are going to get to about 60 of these tonight. The experience here is unbelievable, but the U.S. Navy is really being hurt by this, and we need a strong Navy.

Again, the Chinese are like—they are watching it, I guarantee you.

Hello, guys.

And they are like: Gosh. I can't believe how dumb these guys are.

So let's keep talking about whom we are going to bench now. This is Douglas G. Perry to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Second Fleet, Commander of Joint Forces Command Norfolk.

Let's look at Rear Admiral Perry's incredibly impressive career—over 30 years. He began his career serving as a sea division officer, Navy diver, aboard

the USS Pittsburgh, SSN-720; executive officer, operations officer aboard Submarine NR-1; and executive officer of the USS Maine. These are all subs. This is another great Admiral with great submarine experience, just what keeps the Chinese up at night, and we are going to bench him. That is SSBN-741.

His deployment experiences span the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic, and Pacific—essentially, the whole world. As commanding officer of the USS Pasadena, SSN-752, he led the ship on highly successful deployments to the Eastern and Western Pacific. Again, that is a sub.

Perry has served as Commander of the Submarine Development Squadron 5, where he led Submarine Force Development of Unmanned Systems and Tactics and Employment and commanded the Navy squadron of Seawolf-class fast-attack subs. These guys are all submariners. The Chinese are scared to death of them, and we are benching them. What are we doing?

Most recently, Perry served as Director of Undersea Warfare Division of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. He is another great submariner to keep Xi Jinping up at night, and we are not going to allow him to get confirmed. But maybe we will.

So, Mr. President, as my colleague had asked, we are bringing individual votes. He still hasn't answered the question why he is not doing what he said he was going to do. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 205, Douglas G. Perry, to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Second Fleet and Commander of Joint Forces Command Norfolk; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I have one more before I turn it over to my colleague from Iowa. It is a joint operation here. The only reason I am doing one more is because, guess what, another Navy officer—another Navy officer. The Chinese are like: Man, I can't believe it. We have been wanting to take out the U.S. Navy for decades, and the U.S. Senate is doing it right now.

So what do we have here, another Vice Admiral, VADM Craig Clapperton, U.S. Navy, to be Vice Admiral and Commander of Fleet Cyber Command, 10th Fleet Commander, Navy Space Command—boy, oh boy.

He has had almost 35 years in the U.S. Navy. He has commanded the Shadowhawks of VAQ-141, the U.S. 6th

Fleet, and the NATO command ship, USS Mount Whitney, the USS Theodore Roosevelt. That is a carrier, Carrier Strike Group 12.

These guys are incredible. As an American, it makes you almost want to weep, how great they are.

Listen to this career: During his command tours and his ship and squadron tours, he supported Operation Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Inherent Resolve, and operated in the Baltic, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Pacific Ocean.

Some of the best naval officers in America, certainly, right here, tonight. And the Chinese are scared to death of Vice Admirals like this, and we are going to let them sit on the bench. But maybe not. So we can confirm him right now by voice vote, individual voice vote, which is what our colleague has asked for.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 138, Craig A. Clapperton to be Vice Admiral and Commander, Fleet Cyber Command; Commander, Tenth Fleet; and Commander, Navy Space Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, so I am going to pick up where my colleague is leaving off. We will keep on with the Space Force theme as we go forward here.

I am bringing forward another really fantastic nominee, and this is Maj Gen Douglas A. Schiess. And I apologize again if I am getting these names wrong, but, heck, maybe we will get them confirmed tonight, and we won't have to read it again on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

So Maj Gen Douglas A. Schiess, U.S. Space Force, to be Lieutenant General and Commander, U.S. Space Forces—Space/Combined Joint Force Space Component Commander—again, serving in a joint force, just as Senator SULLIVAN and I are operating as a joint force here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

We have another really great nominee with a lot of years of service to this incredible country. He has a 31-year career. And we have heard a lot of these guys. They are 30-plus. We have seen some lower officers just being promoted to Brigadier General. But let me tell you, these men and women who have over 30 years of service are to be commended. As my colleague from

Alaska has said, they have been put on the bench. I would think we would want the players with the most experience, the most finesse, the means to get a job done—I think we would want them in the game.

So Maj Gen Douglas Schiess has that 31-year career. He has commanded 4th Space Operations Squadron. He has been with the 45th Operations Group, the 21st Space Wing, and the 45th Space Wing. He deployed to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Resolute Support, and Inherent Resolve. Most recently, he served as the Vice Commander for Space Operations Command, U.S. Space Force.

Those who have paid attention in the last handful of years as we have developed our U.S. Space Force understand that this is a very important domain moving forward. So not only do we have land, sea, and air; now we have space as well.

I am very hopeful that we will move forward on this nomination—again, 31 years of honorable service. He certainly deserves to be placed in this position of authority, Mr. President.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 392, Douglas A. Schiess to be Lieutenant General and Commander, U.S. Space Forces—Space/Combined Joint Force Space Component Commander; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, we will move on to the next individual vote, as requested by my colleague from Alabama. Here we are moving on the floor of the U.S. Senate. I am glad to be joined by a number of colleagues in the Chamber this evening to support our men and women in uniform.

I do want to make the point—because we continue to talk about these incredible nominees and their service to our Nation during times of war and times of peace—I do want to bring it back to the reason that we are here. It is because of the abhorrent policy that has been put into our Department of Defense by a political nominee, Secretary Lloyd Austin. He is the civilian in charge of the Department of Defense. Again, it is about an abortion policy that has been placed in the Department of Defense.

I will remind everyone once again that I am a pro-life woman. I am also a veteran and a combat veteran, at that. I do believe in protecting innocent life. I will continue to fight for in-

nocent life. It was my amendment that was taken up in the Armed Services Committee earlier this year as we debated this policy during the debate on the National Defense Authorization Act.

I have been a pro-life leader for well over 30 years now, since I was a young woman going through Iowa State University; making my career in the civilian workforce; then going into the Iowa Senate, where I was a proud defender of life; and now into the U.S. Senate, where I continue fighting for life in ways that make sense.

We have civilian nominees who can be held and held responsible for this very, very bad policy at the Department of Defense. The men and women who are being brought forward tonight by Senator DAN SULLIVAN, by Senator TODD YOUNG, by Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM, and myself, they have nothing to do with the DOD abortion policy—nothing to do with the DOD abortion policy.

I have joined in life marches. I have given life speeches. I have objected to the practice of abortion, late-term abortion, in Western Iowa, in Council Bluffs. I have done this, as I said, for three decades—three decades. I challenge anybody in this Chamber to be more pro-life than I am or more military than I am. I have served, and I have borne a child.

So our next nominee is Michael Guetlein. He is a Lieutenant General, U.S. Space Force, to be General and Vice Chief of Space Operations—another incredible individual, a 32-year career. He also has served in command, leadership positions, at the flight, squadron, division, directorate, Program Executive Officer, and field command levels.

Lt Gen Guetlein's commands include the Director of Remote Sensing Systems and the Commander for the Rapid Reaction Squadron. Lieutenant General Guetlein most recently served as the Commander of Space Systems Command.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 292, Michael A. Guetlein for appointment to the grade of General with assignment as Vice Chief of Space Operation; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, we will continue again with the U.S. Space Force theme.

We have another gentleman: Lt Gen Stephen N. Whiting of U.S. Space

Force to be General and Commander of U.S. Space Command—again, a very, very important position to have. As we are working in the gray zone areas, we need to know that our space assets are protected, and we have the right man for the job.

So this is Lt Gen Stephen N. Whiting. He has a 34-year career as a Space Operations Officer. He has commanded the 13th Space Warning Squadron, the 614th Air and Space Operations Center and Joint Space Operations Center, the 21st Space Wing, and the Combined Force Space Component Command and 14th Air Force.

Lieutenant General Whiting most recently served as the Commander of Space Operations Command—again, a gentleman who has absolutely nothing to do with DOD abortion policy, a man who has honorably served his country in uniform for 34 years.

We are probably going to see and witness the back-benching of Lt Gen Stephen N. Whiting this evening, but, as my colleague from Alaska says, maybe not. Maybe we will see a man of honor step forward and voice vote on the confirmation of this officer by allowing us to move forward individually, as requested, on votes on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 328, Lt Gen Stephen N. Whiting for appointment in the U.S. Space Force to be General and Commander, U.S. Space Command; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, this one hits home. It is another nominee from the Navy. Hey, I am Army, but I love my Navy brothers and sisters. I love them all. This one is a Navy sister.

This is Executive Calendar No. 347, Heidi K. Berg to be Rear Admiral. RDML Heidi K. Berg has—and as I was reading through these nominees, this struck me because she has an over 30-year career.

Now, I know—because I was commissioned over 30 years ago—I know what a difficult climb it has been for women who were entering into the U.S. armed services at that time. Those women who entered in the seventies, eighties, nineties—they were trailblazers. They increasingly were put into positions of authority.

This Rear Admiral, Heidi Berg, has commanded in some very significant positions. She has commanded the Navy Information Operations Command in Bahrain, the Navy Element of

the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Joint Military Intelligence Training Center.

Rear Admiral Berg's operational tours include Navy Security Group Activity in Rota, Spain, where Berg flew over 1,000 hours as a Communications Intercept Evaluator on board EP-3E aircraft in support of Operations Provide Promise/Sharp Guard, aboard the USS *LaSalle*, Italy, and as Director of the International Security Assistance Force Red Team at ISAF headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Most recently, Rear Admiral Berg served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy. And, again, we have had a number of women who have been brought up this evening in this debate, many of them having decades-plus experience. And I can tell you that women who were commissioned and have served over these last number of decades, they are to be commended. They have broken down barriers and allowed other women to see her and be her.

So for You, Admiral Heidi K. Berg, I commend you.

And I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 347, Heidi K. Berg, to be Rear Admiral; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. And there is another one that, as I said, you can see her; you can be her. Unfortunately, young ladies won't see her, at least for a while.

Mr. President, I have a couple here more before I turn it back over to my colleague from Alaska.

We are on a Navy theme again. So we have in front of us Michael T. Spencer, to be Rear Admiral Lower Half. He is a Navy 06, a Captain in the Navy, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

Captain Spencer's 30-year naval career has been exemplary. He has commanded VFA-102 and CVW-11 and served in leadership positions for Fighter Squadron VF-211 Carrier Air Wing CVW-1 and VFA-213. His deployments include aboard the USS *Nimitz*, the USS *John C. Stennis*, the USS *Enterprise*, the USS *Theodore Roosevelt*, and the USS *George Washington*, and again, most recently, on the USS *Nimitz*.

Again, an admirable career. We are bringing him up for an individual vote on the U.S. Senate floor, as requested by my colleague from Alabama. So we will try once again.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nom-

ination: Executive Calendar No. 327, Michael T. Spencer, to be Rear Admiral (lower half); that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Another one that I have known for a number of years now—this one is in the U.S. Army—and I am very proud to be able to bring forward this nomination this evening—again, an individual vote on the floor of the U.S. Senate, as asked by our colleague from Alabama. I hope that we can get this one over the finish line tonight.

So this nominee is Executive Calendar No. 390. It is Douglas A. Sims II. And he has been nominated to be Lieutenant General and Director of the Joint Staff.

We have brought up so many incredible individuals this evening. All of them are incredibly important positions.

Now, if you are familiar in the military, we do have a Joint Staff. And as a Director, this gentleman would be making sure that that Joint Staff operated seamlessly. Things just don't happen in the military, especially when you don't have the right leadership in the right positions.

So we have Lieutenant General Sims. He has a 32-year career. He has served as the Commanding General of the First Infantry Division, the Deputy Director for Regional Operations and Force Management, and the Deputy Commanding General for Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan.

Let me say that again: the Deputy Commanding General for Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan. The weight of his authority.

Lieutenant General Sims has completed three deployments to Afghanistan and two to Iraq. Most recently, Lieutenant General Sims, an exemplary man serving in the U.S. Army, served as the Director for Operations of the Joint Staff J-3.

Mr. President, I am going to try again. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 390, Douglas A. Sims II, to be Lieutenant General and Director, Joint Staff; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I just want to comment on my colleague here—Joint Forces, Marine Corps—Army operation—but Senator ERNST was talking; she is being very humble. She is such a strong leader on pro-life issues in the Senate and such a strong voice. And I just wanted to really commend her on that. We have had Senator GRAHAM here before. I am proud of my strong record on pro-life issues. I care deeply about it.

Ironically—I mean, of course, we don't know, but I guarantee you—both of us know in the military so well—that these 380 officers and their families—I am sure not all but probably many, many—have very similar strong views on that important issue. And it is ironic that, somehow, they are being caught up in this, when you think about it. I am sure it is really bitter for them.

It is not just pro-life; it is pro-military views that we have here. And it is not just words. A lot of people just say: I support the troops. No. We have lived it. That is why we are here. It is 10 at night. That is why we have been on the floor for 4 hours. We have lived it, and we have seen the heroes we are talking about today. And we have seen their families.

When you join the military—I always tell my wife and three daughters—you know, whether you are wearing a uniform or not, you are serving. And sometimes—in my view, a lot of times—it is harder for the spouse and the kids who are home when you have deployments and they are caught up in all of this. We haven't even talked about them. They are caught up, thousands of them—thousands of them. And there is polling out right now that is showing that the kids of military families, who are really the big pipeline in the continuing recruiting and people wanting to join the service, that the numbers are declining dramatically, where they are saying: You know what? I don't think I want to do what mom and dad did. I think I am going to not do that. Those numbers are declining. And this isn't helping. This isn't helping.

And I will say another thing in terms of, you know, officers who are dealing—I have talked—again, my grade, I am a senior Colonel. I talked to some Brigadier Generals very recently who are in the Middle East, some of whom are caught up in this. Guess what they are doing right now. They are putting on flacks. They are putting on helmets. They are taking incoming. Right? Just read the paper. And they literally said to me: We can't believe that we are, like, taking incoming again for our country and this is happening.

There is real bitterness. We better wake up. There is a recruiting retention problem. And we better wake up to the fact that this is not helping.

Again, my colleague—oh, no readiness problem. That is such baloney. Baloney. And everybody knows it. Spend one day in the military, and you know it. It really makes me frustrated. Really frustrated. Yeah, guys taking incoming right now caught up in this. I have talked to them. This is just not right. It is not right. We all know it. We all know it.

Mr. President, let's continue on. Another important promotion: a Major General in the U.S. Army, David Isaacson, to be Lieutenant General and Director for Command, Control, Coms and Computers and Cyber Chief Information Officer, J-6, for the U.S. Army.

By the way, that is another theme: subs, Navy, and a lot of cyber—a lot of cyber, which is the new gray area of warfare as Senator ERNST mentioned. And we are keeping our cyber leaders on the bench.

So let's hear about Major General Isaacson's 35-year career in the U.S. Army. He has served as Deputy Commanding General of Army Network Enterprise Technology Command—thank God for smart officers like that—the Deputy Chief of Staff of the G-6 of the Army; Director of Network Services and Strategy for the Department of the Army. Major General Isaacson has multiple operational deployments, including Operation Just Cause in Panama, Desert Shield, Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia and Iraq, Uphold Democracy in Haiti, several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, supporting the Global War On Terrorism and overseas contingencies.

Major General Isaacson most recently served as the Director of Manpower Personnel For Joint Chiefs.

Incredible experience right here. So let's move him. Let's move him. We can do a voice vote. My colleague wanted voice votes on individuals. He still hasn't answered the question why he is objecting to everything.

So, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 391, David T. Isaacson, to be Lieutenant General and Director for Command, Control, Communications, and Computer/Cyber and Chief Information Officer, J-6, Joint Staff—I misstated it earlier. That is not just for the Army. That is for the J-6. That is for the Joint Staff of the U.S. Military. Wow. Really important—that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we haven't had a marine in a while. I love the Marine Corps. It is not the big serv-

ice, though, so we haven't had as many marines. I will tell you this: This Colonel, Kelvin Gallman, to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Marine Corps, he certainly is not a paper pusher. He is not some woke guy. He is a warrior. He is a warrior.

Let's read about Colonel Gallman: 29 years in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served as the Commanding Officer of the Marine Corps Marine Air Group 26—MAG-26—personnel support detachment. Marine Tilt Rotor Squadron, VMM-261. Those are Ospreys. Marine Aviation and Weapons Tactics Squadron, MAWTS-1. Colonel Gallman has several deployments in support of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Here we go, another Marine hero—another Marine hero. By the way, he has nothing to do with this—nothing. He sacrificed—I am going to read what he did. And we are saying: Oh, these guys aren't the warriors. What? Who the hell is saying that?

Colonel Gallman received the Air Medal with a Combat Distinguishing Device for heroic achievement in connection with operations against the enemy as a pilot of a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter while attached to Marine Air Group 16, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I Marine Expeditionary Force, on 1 April, 2003, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, while providing assault support under direct enemy fire for the U.S. Army 1st Ranger Battalion, in a daunting quest to rescue a U.S. Army prisoner of war from the Saddam Hussein hospital in Nasiriyah, Iraq, and the recovery of nine U.S. casualties, previously killed in action. This mission served as one of history's most daring and successful prisoner-of-war rescues.

Do I need to read that again for anybody? Pure courage. Pure heroism. And what is happening here? This Colonel needs to be promoted to Brigadier General in the Marine Corps.

By the way, that is really hard to do in the Marines. There are not many Brigadier Generals.

Heroic actions. Combat Distinguishing Device flying a helicopter—I guarantee it was at night. He recovered nine U.S. casualties previously killed in action. He went and got dead Americans so they wouldn't be left in the desert of Iraq. And this body is holding him. Come on.

Whatever you think about this issue—and we all agree with the Senator from Alabama—this is not the guy to make a point with. Flying at night recovering POWs and dead Americans—heroic actions—and the U.S. Senate response is “Thank you very much. You are not going to go anywhere. We are going to punish you. Why? Because we can. Because we feel like it.” What a bunch of baloney.

Let's try to at least get this guy promoted. Let's try to get this hero, Col. Kevin Gallman, U.S. Marine Corps, to be a Brigadier General because he is not no woke paper-pusher, I guarantee you that.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Col. Kelvin W. Gallman to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Marine Corps under Executive Calendar No. 95; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Let's move to the Air Force. Let's move for Scott L. Pleus to be Lieutenant General and Director of Staff at the U.S. Air Force. As you know, Mr. President, being an Army man, West Point grad, Director of Staff of your service is one of the most important positions in your service.

Let's look at Lt. Gen. Scott Pleus's remarkable career. He has 34 years in the Air Force. Lt. Gen. Pleus's time in the Air Force has included serving as Director of Air and Cyber Space Operations and as Executive Officer to the Air Force Chief of Staff. Lieutenant General Pleus is also a command pilot with more than 2,500 flying hours, with combat hours earned during Operations Desert Fox and Southern Watch. Most recently, Lieutenant General Pleus served as Deputy Commander for U.S. Forces Korea—all forces, not just Air Forces—and Commander for the Air Component in United Nations Command in Korea.

Again, phenomenal—phenomenal—American patriot. Thirty-four years. And he is being benched at one of the most dangerous times since World War II. This isn't hurting readiness? Come on. Mr. President, maybe we can get him confirmed.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 184, Scott L. Pleus to be Lieutenant General and Director of Staff, U.S. Air Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, let's go back to our great U.S. Navy.

CAPT Craig Mattingly to be Rear Admiral (lower half) in the U.S. Navy. Let's look at Captain Mattingly's 28-year career. He has led Squadrons on deployments supporting EUCOM,

AFRICOM, and CENTCOM; areas of responsibility as commander of multitask force groups. His major command was Commodore of Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing 11. During his tenure as Commodore of CPRW-11, supported global initiatives include the inaugural INDOPACOM deployments of the MQ-4 Charlie Triton unmanned aerial systems in the PA Poseidon Advanced Airborne Sensor—that is a sub hunter—as well as the P-3C radar system.

Captain Mattingly's most recent assignment was serving as Senior Military Advisor to the Secretary of the Navy. He is a naval aviator. He hunts subs, Russian and Chinese subs. How long has he been doing that? He has a little bit of experience here. Captain Mattingly—3,900 flight hours in P-3C Orions and P-8 Poseidon aircraft.

If you are a sub and you are an enemy of America, this guy has tracked you. Again, subs. The Chinese are scared to death of P-8s, and we have one of the best P-8 pilots in America, and he is on the bench, and Xi Jinping and his communist dictator buddies are smiling.

Maybe we can get him done with a voice vote because our colleague asked for individual votes. I think we are almost at 60 individual votes right now—great Americans.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: CAPT Craig T. Mattingly to be Rear Admiral (lower half) of the U.S. Navy under Executive Calendar No. 97; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, let's go back to the importance—you are seeing some themes here. Navy, certainly. Boy, are we decimating the U.S. Navy. Decimating. Unbelievable. I am just shocked at how many Navy Admirals we are putting on the bench right now. The Chinese are smiling. Whoa, are they smiling.

But this is another theme tonight, and, again, we didn't really plan it, Senator ERNST and I; it is just what is happening. We have a big military. Space ops. Cyber and space ops. That is another theme tonight. It is a really, really important area of warfare. The Chinese and Russians are gaining on us. We have the best, though. Here is another one.

David N. Miller to be Lieutenant General and Commander, Space Operations Command, U.S. Space Force. That is a really big, important billet.

Maj Gen David Miller has an over 30-year career where he has commanded at the squadron group and wing levels, including the 2nd Range Operations Squadron, 21st Operations Group in the 46 Space Unit.

Most recently, Maj Gen Miller served as a Special Assistant to the Vice Chief of Space Operations. This is a hugely important billet to protect our entire country. He has incredible background in this area.

Space, cyber, missile defense—those have all been brought up tonight, and all were shut down—without explanation, by the way. We are bringing up individual votes. We still haven't heard why we are not going to allow those to move.

But anyway, Mr. President, we can confirm this nomination right now by a voice vote. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 351, David N. Miller, Jr., to be Lieutenant General and Commander, Space Operations Command, U.S. Space Force; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; and that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, we have just a couple more to go as we wrap up the evening. We have been reading off these nominations as fast as our staff could get them to us, and I guarantee that my colleague, Senator SULLIVAN of Alaska, and I would go all night if we could. We won't keep you in the Chair, Mr. President.

But we have seen a number of really incredible human beings come in front of us. Before I move on these nominations, that is what I want all of us to remember.

For those who might be viewing this evening, those who will read through this tomorrow, I want them to understand that these are human beings. They are men and women who serve our country for all different reasons.

I can't speak for Col. DAN SULLIVAN, but I know that when I decided as a young woman to serve my country, it was truly because I wanted to serve my country because I believe that our country provided great opportunities for kids like me who came from nothing.

I literally came from nothing in Southwest Iowa. I am the first in my family to graduate from a 4-year school. My brother did not have the opportunity to go to college. He went into the workforce. My sister has an associate's degree from a community college. My parents are both high school educated, and I am blessed that they were high school educated.

I had the great opportunity to attend an agricultural exchange while I was at Iowa State University, and that ag exchange took me to the USSR in 1989, to a place we now know as Ukraine. After living on that collective farm with my Ukrainian brother and sister and their family—no running water, no refrigerator, no car, no telephone. The kids I lived with had never traveled off of the collective farm.

After that experience and coming back to the United States, I understood that, growing up on a tiny little farm in Southwest Iowa, that I was so very blessed to be an American.

My country afforded me all kinds of opportunities. Even though I came from a family without means, I could do anything. And I tell you what, when I was that kid, that 19-year-old kid who had traveled to the Soviet Union and back, I can tell you that my grandparents, at that time, would have never believed that that little kid would grow up and become a U.S. Senator.

But what I took from that experience was that I was blessed. DAN was blessed. Coach is blessed. I think all of us are blessed by virtue of our birth and our citizenship here in the United States.

So it was that experience that led me into the U.S. Army ROTC Program at Iowa State University because I didn't come from wealth or means, but what I did have was my service. And I knew that I needed to give back to my country and protect the values that we all hold dear. And I do not question anyone who serves in this U.S. Senate. We are all sent here for a purpose.

But I do know that many of these men and women whom we have talked about tonight, they believe in their country as well. They are human beings. Many of them have backgrounds just as I do. They are flesh and blood, and they have chosen to wear the uniform and the flag of our United States.

They have done that without any mental reservation. They have stepped forward to support and defend the Constitution against all enemies, foreign and domestic. And they do it because they believe in our country. And it is really unfortunate that tonight these men and women have been denied their promotions. We have done the best that we can to honor the request of a fellow Senator that these nominations be brought to the floor and voted on individually.

And I really respect men of their word. I do not respect men who do not honor their word. We have brought forward nearly 60 nominees. Every one of them have been denied an opportunity to move forward.

They have given more than most of us have. Certainly, they have given more than I have in this Chamber. They have given more than Dan has given in this Chamber. We talked about many that had over 30 years of honorable service, and we are punishing them for what all of us here believe to

be a very bad policy at the Department of Defense—a policy that they have absolutely nothing to do with.

There are 379 nominations as of the end of October, concerning 375 general and flag officers here in the Senate for consideration. Of the 375 officers, 362 are currently impacted by a blanket hold as they wait here on the Senate floor pending confirmation.

We gave opportunity to nearly 60 of them this evening. These military families are in limbo. The families of 172 officers have been disrupted by these holds. Again, these are men and women. They have families who are being impacted. Their salaries are being impacted. Their retirements are being impacted. They had forced cancellations of coast-to-coast moves with homes that were sold. Many of them are now living in temporary housing and paying out of pocket for storage without any clarity about the length of time that they will be in this hold.

Many of their children were disenrolled from current schools and—and—again, these are innocents—they are unable to reenroll in school or enroll in a new school since they do not have a permanent address. And there were many spouses who had employment that was terminated. That is a kick in the seat. I was a military spouse. I understand how difficult it is doing those PCS moves from duty station to duty station because your country demands it and having to start your life all over again.

So I am going to bring up these last two nominations, and maybe we will see a result, again, bringing the nominations individually to the floor of the U.S. Senate to be voted on. I anticipated a man of his word would honor his word. We haven't heard an explanation. But I will tell you, this was not time wasted tonight. I will do this all over again. I will do it all over again.

I am bringing forward now Capt. Frederic C. Goldhammer to be Rear Admiral (lower half) in the U.S. Navy, under Executive Calendar No. 97. Captain Goldhammer has a 28-year career, actually over 28 years now, and he has held several command positions, including while deployed aboard USS *Enterprise*, USS *Nimitz*, and USS *Eisenhower*, supporting Operation Southern Watch, Joint Endeavor, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

Captain Goldhammer also completed Individual Augmentee assignments as an Air Planning Officer for the Coalition Combat Air Operations Center in Saudi Arabia, Liaison Officer to the U.S. Army's 18th Airborne Corps in Afghanistan, and as a Combat Search and Rescue Watch Officer for the U.S. Navy 5th Fleet staff in Bahrain.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Capt. Frederic C. Goldhammer to be Rear Admiral (lower half) in the U.S. Navy, under Executive Calendar No. 97; that the Senate vote on the

nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Ms. ERNST. And our final nomination this evening—so I mentioned that I was a former military spouse, and Senator SULLIVAN had brought up First Ranger Battalion. And those who have served around many of those in the Rangers, they understand that there is a—there is a stanza of the Ranger creed that is “I will never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy.”

We have talked about those who have saved the lives of other men and women in uniform. We heard about the marine who saved a life of many other men and women in uniform and went to retrieve those who have fallen so that they wouldn't forever be in the hands of the enemy.

We have heard about women who led the way, as well, with their service and showing other young women that they could serve and do great things for the Nation that has given them so much. We have heard so many stories about heroics and combat, “V” for Valor, Silver Star. We have heard brief resumes of warriors we really can't go into on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Again, those of us who served understand why we can't do that.

But these are people. They are human beings. They are flesh and blood. They have done everything they possibly can and given more than most for their country: duty and honor, their service, sacrifice for this Nation.

And what is this body, this Nation doing to them? This will be remembered. It is a dark evening. This will be remembered. I want to thank them so much for their service to our country. We will continue pressing forward because we will not leave them to fall. We will not leave them to fall.

So, with that, I will turn the floor back over to my colleague and thank you—oh, excuse me, I haven't completed this final nomination.

Mr. SULLIVAN. I have three more.

Ms. ERNST. Oh, we have more. We could go all night, Dan. We have done it before.

But I am going to move on Col. Kevin J. Merrill to be a Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force. Col. Kevin Merrill most recently served as the Deputy Director of Strategic Plans, Programs and Requirements for Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command.

Previously, Col. Merrill was the Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Operations for the Air Force Special Operations Command, AFSOC.

Col. Merrill conducted around-the-clock HH-60G battlefield and medical

evacuation for coalition forces during Operation Enduring Freedom. He most certainly did not leave a man behind. He led rescue operations in response to the aftermath of Hurricane Rita and provided 24-hour combat search-and-rescue coverage for coalition assets during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Col. Kevin J. Merrill to be Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force under Executive Calendar No. 86; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, we have three more that we are going to do. That will be 61 tonight. And Senator ERNST and I—and I know a lot of our other colleagues want to join us—we are going to keep coming down here. So let me get through these, and then I will have a few words to conclude. And I want to thank the Presiding Officer for staying late. I know you care about this issue as well.

This is Brig. Gen. Robert M. Blake, and he is being considered to be promoted to Major General in the U.S. Air Force—again, incredible, incredible background. He most recently served as the Mobilization Assistant to the Commander Air Force Global Strike Command, Barksdale Air Force Base, LA.

He has flown the C-130 H2 Hercules. He has amassed more than 4,500 hours in military aircraft, including combat sorties and tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Brig. Gen. Blake flew 16 total missions, including 12 air refueling sorties supporting C-5s and C-17s in Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. And he flew 10 missions in support of humanitarian relief for operations for Operation Southern Watch and Enduring Freedom.

Again, a transport aviation pilot, incredible. Just, I mean, we look at these numbers like oh, no big deal—4,500 flying hours in military aircraft. That is incredible experience for our military. So let's get him confirmed. Let's get him confirmed by voice vote, right here, individual, as our colleague requested.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Brig. Gen. Robert M. Blake to be Major General in the U.S. Air Force under Executive Calendar No. 88; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon

the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, another heroic Air Force pilot with incredible experience. Let's just move on to Brig. Gen. Mitchell Hanson. We are trying to get him confirmed to be Major General.

By the way, Senator GRAHAM made this point at the beginning: All of these military members went through their promotion board process. As we all know, the military is kind of an up-or-out organization, right? So for Brigadier General Hanson to go from Brigadier General to Major General—a two-star General—that is really hard to do. These guys are the best, right? We just kind of take it for granted. That is all done by the military, in the military selection boards. They are picking their own, but we have to confirm it.

So, again, think about the frustration—let me read about his background—that they have done all this, the boards have met, they said these are our top people, and we are going to keep promoting them.

Normally, for the last 200 years—by the way, as stated earlier, there are a lot of holds. I have put holds on. No one has ever done a blanket hold on every flag officer promotion for this long in the history of America. Let me repeat that. There has never been one-, two-, three-, four-star Generals and Admirals, a blanket hold on all of them.

People have threatened it. They have done it for a couple of weeks, but it has never been done for almost a year in the history of the United States of America. That is a fact. Contemplate that one.

So let's look at Brigadier General Hanson's background. He most recently served as Mobilization Assistant to the Director of Operations, Air Combat Command. Brigadier General Hanson has served in numerous positions at the squadron group wing in numbered Air Force. That is getting bigger in each unit. You know that, Mr. Chairman, but some people watching might not know.

Brigadier General Hanson has served as a reservist, an individual mobilization augmentee member on the Reserve side of the military. He has flown the A-10 and the F-16 in a variety of operational assignments and as a command pilot, with more than 3,400 hours—again, just enormous experience, flying over 200 combat hours.

He has deployed in support of Operations Desert Storm, Southern Watch, Noble Eagle, Willing Spirit, Enduring Freedom. Brigadier General Hanson executed 20 close air support combat missions supporting NATO and international security assistance forces battling Taliban insurgent fighters in Afghanistan.

He provided armed overwatch for dismounted infantry patrols—the grunts on the ground looking up: Oh, my God, I got air cover. Thank God.

He conducted convoy and helicopter escorts and responded to U.S. infantry platoons on the ground receiving effective fire from an insurgent machinegun team. He employed 160 rounds of 30 mike-mikes against the insurgents and killed them all—killed them all. He saved American grunt lives on the ground. Another hero. Another hero. So we are going to put him on a bench.

By the way, it is a great way to say thanks for your service, Brigadier General Hanson. We will just keep you on the icebox. Thanks for your service. Very heroic.

But maybe my colleague will relent here. We are down to one more. So maybe, maybe it will work.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Brig. Gen. Mitchell A. Hanson to be Major General, U.S. Air Force, under Executive Calendar No. 88; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President immediately be notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, the final one. It is so ironic. I didn't mean it to be this way, but I am so proud of it. It is a U.S. Marine Colonel—I am a U.S. Marine Colonel; these are my peer groups—to be Brigadier General of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Let's read about Col. Richard Joyce to be Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation, U.S. Marine Corps—again, another heroic American.

Colonel Joyce has deployed numerous times to Iraq and Afghanistan and served as the Commanding Officer of an attack squadron. He is a Cobra pilot. That is an attack helicopter, the AH-1. He was Director of the staff group for Gen. Robert Neller when he was the 37th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Colonel Joyce received the Air Medal with the combat distinguishing device—that means heroism in combat—for heroic achievement while participating in aerial flight as an attack helicopter pilot of an AH-1—that is a Cobra helicopter—assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169, deployed with Marine Air Group 40 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on 22 May 2009. He was under direct fire from three different directions, with enemy forces effectively engaging his aircraft—incoming from three different directions. He placed precision fires on each of these enemy positions, destroying them and pro-

viding direct relief to outnumbered friendly forces on the ground.

Not a paper pusher. Not a woke warrior. A real, true American hero right here, and we are going to tell him: Stay on the bench.

Maybe not. This is the last one, Mr. President, No. 61 for the night—a Marine Colonel to be promoted to Brigadier General, who has nothing to do with this damn dispute on the floor here—nothing—and, somehow, he is going to get caught up in this.

By the way, these are the kinds of guys I am hearing about. These are my peer group. They are saying: You know what? Seven deployments, tough on the wife and kids. I am getting stuck in an issue that I have nothing to do with. I can't—you know what, I am punching out. I am punching out.

So we are going to lose guys like this. We are going to lose guys like this.

The Chinese, Putin, Xi Jinping—they are going to be like: Oh, my God, I am so scared of a marine like this. He would come over and kick the you know what out of the Chinese and Russians.

We are going to drive him out of the Marine Corps—drive him out of the Marine Corps.

But maybe not—maybe my colleague will relent on this just last one, just out of good grace. He still hasn't explained why, all that he said about not blocking a single vote if you bring up nominees one at a time. I am all for it. I will probably vote for them. We just brought up 61, one at a time, in regular order. Come on.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for the consideration of the following nomination: Col. Richard D. Joyce to be Brigadier General of the U.S. Marine Corps on Executive Calendar No. 95; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SULLIVAN. I am just going to conclude. I am disappointed. We are done here. We don't have any more for tonight, but I think this has been enlightening. I think this has been enlightening because what we have been able to do—hopefully, some people are watching in our great Nation—is to distill to the people of the country: Look at how blessed we are to have these incredible Americans. Look at how blessed we are, how heroic they are.

So my message to our Generals and Admirals who are being held up: Hang in there. Hang in there. Some of us have your back. We have your back. We

will be coming here every night to try and get you guys confirmed.

I have been very honored to be here with Senator ERNST on the floor. And I will tell you that I think she and I both have a feeling that I think a lot of people have—but people who served, mostly—just the love for our military, military families.

I am coming up, just at 30 years in the Marine Corps. The INDOPACOM theater has been the bookends of my career. My first deployment was the INDOPACOM, a Marine amphibious ready group, in the Taiwan Strait.

When the Chinese were threatening to invade Taiwan, we sent a Marine amphibious ready group. I was on that as a young infantry officer, in two carrier strike groups. And we went in the Taiwan Strait and looked at the Chinese and said: Not today, guys. Not today. Not today. The U.S. Marine Corps is here. The U.S. Navy is here. Don't even think about it.

That was almost 27 year ago, and I am out at the Marine Force's Pacific Command. In between, I have deployed as a staff officer in the Middle East, in Afghanistan.

But I think, like Senator ERNST, the biggest honor of my life has been serving and leading marines. I have a lot of good friends in the Senate. I have met a lot of good people in the U.S. Senate. The best people I have ever met in my life by far—not even close—are U.S. marines. They are the best.

And I think what is happening right now—you know, the Marine Corps' motto is *Semper Paratus*, always faithful. And this body is not keeping faith with our military right now. It is not, and the military knows it, and they are frustrated.

So many of these officers had 30 years or more of experience, thousands of years of experience we are putting on hold. The distinct comparative advantages we have say, for example, in submarine forces in the Indo-Pacific theater that the Chinese fear—they fear it—we are putting that on hold.

So I am hopeful that my colleague who left, Senator TUBERVILLE, can work with us. I have been working with him for months. This is just kind of a frustration moment, right? Enough. But I am hopeful we can still work together. I am hopeful we can find a way forward. The idea that I have been pitching to him: Hey, let's lift the hold on the men and women who have nothing to do with this and put a hold on the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, who is in charge of the abortion issue, and he is a civilian. That is the way to use the hold, not to take out a Marine Corps Brigadier General who is a war hero.

So I am hopeful that we are going to make progress on that. We are facing a really dangerous period right now, as you know, as Senator ERNST knows, and we are impacting readiness. We are definitely impacting morale, and that is readiness.

So, again, to my colleague saying, "Don't worry; there is no problem, no

readiness problems," no offense, but that is just ridiculous, and he knows it. We all know it.

So we are going to keep working this. I am honored to be on the floor with Senator ERNST. I appreciate, Mr. President, your sticking around.

We are not done. If you are a flag officer—one-star, two-star, three-star, or four-star General—we have got your back. We are going to work this. We are going to work it. You deserve it, and our Nation has to have it.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I rise to provide a brief statement on the rollcall votes on October 26, 2023. I was unable to attend the votes because I was in Maine to respond to a mass shooting in Lewiston, ME. Had I been here on Thursday, October 26, 2023, I would have voted in "nay" on vote No. 270, on the Motion to Discharge S. J. Res 44, a joint resolution directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Niger that have not been authorized by Congress.

I rise to provide a brief statement on the rollcall votes on October 26, 2023. I was unable to attend the votes because I was in Maine to respond to a mass shooting in Lewiston, ME. Had I been here on Thursday, October 26, 2023, I would have voted in "nay" on vote No. 271, on the Braun Amdt. 1182 to S. Amdt. 1092 to H.R. 4366, to prohibit earmarks.

I rise to provide a brief statement on the rollcall votes on October 26, 2023. I was unable to attend the votes because I was in Maine to respond to a mass shooting in Lewiston, ME. Had I been here on Thursday, October 26, 2023, I would have voted in "nay" on vote No. 272, on the S. J. Res 42, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Nutrition Service relating to "Application of Bostock v. Clayton County to Program Discrimination Complaint Processing-Policy Update".

GAO LEGAL DECISION REGARDING SEC STAFF ACCOUNTING BULLETIN 121

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, on March 31, 2022, the Securities and Exchange Commission—SEC—issued Staff Accounting Bulletin 121—SAB 121—which purported to address the accounting treatment of crypto assets. The bulletin was not issued as a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act—APA—and was not submitted to Congress as required by the Congressional Review Act.

On August 2, 2022, I sent a letter to the Comptroller General requesting a

GAO legal decision regarding the applicability of the Congressional Review Act to SAB 121. On October 31, 2023, GAO issued a legal decision finding that SAB 121 was a rule under both the Administrative Procedure Act and the Congressional Review Act and that no exception applied.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the GAO legal decision regarding SAB 121 be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

DECISION

Matter of: Securities and Exchange Commission—Applicability of the Congressional Review Act to Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121.

File: B-334540.

Date: October 31, 2023.

DIGEST

On March 31, 2022, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121 (Bulletin). The Bulletin provides interpretive guidance regarding how covered entities should account for and disclose their custodial obligations to safeguard crypto-assets held for their platform users. SEC did not submit a report pursuant to the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to Congress or the Comptroller General on the Bulletin.

CRA requires that before a rule can take effect, an agency must submit a report on the rule to both the House of Representatives and the Senate as well as the Comptroller General, and provides procedures for congressional review where Congress may disapprove of rules. CRA adopts the definition of rule under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) but excludes certain categories of rules from coverage. We conclude the Bulletin is a rule for purposes of CRA because it meets the APA definition of a rule, and no exceptions apply. Therefore, the Bulletin is subject to the requirement that it be submitted to Congress.

DECISION

On March 31, 2022, the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or the Commission) issued Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121 (Bulletin) and published it on the Commission's website. SEC, Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121, available at <https://www.sec.gov/oca/staff-accounting-bulletin-121> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023). The Bulletin became effective on April 11, 2022, and was published in the Federal Register on that same date. 87 Fed. Reg. 21015. We received a congressional request for a decision regarding whether the Bulletin is subject to the Congressional Review Act (CRA). Letter from Senator Cynthia M. Lummis to Comptroller General (Aug. 2, 2022). For the reasons described below, we conclude that the Bulletin is a rule under CRA and thus subject to CRA's submission requirement.

Our practice when rendering decisions is to contact the relevant agencies to obtain their legal views on the subject of the request. GAO, Procedures and Practices for Legal Decisions and Opinions, GAO-06-1064SP (Washington, D.C.: Sept. 2006), available at <https://www.gao.gov/products/gao-06-1064sp>. Accordingly, we reached out to SEC to obtain the agency's legal views. Letter from Assistant General Counsel, GAO, to General Counsel, SEC (Oct. 24, 2022). We received SEC's response on November 21, 2022. Letter from General Counsel, SEC, to Assistant General Counsel, GAO (Response Letter).

BACKGROUND

SEC's Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121

SEC was established in the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act). 15 U.S.C. 78a–78rr. The Commission is composed of five commissioners who are appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Id. The Exchange Act grants SEC broad authority over the securities industry. Id. The Act delegates to SEC the power to oversee certain organizations dealing with securities, to exercise disciplinary authority over covered parties that participate in prohibited conduct, and to require the periodic reporting of information by companies with publicly traded securities. Id. In exercising these powers, SEC publishes some its interpretations relating to financial reporting matters in the Code of Federal Regulations. See 17 C.F.R. Part 211. These interpretations include Financial Reporting Releases (Subpart A), Staff Accounting Bulletins (SABs) (Subpart B), and Accounting and Audit Enforcement Releases (Subpart C). Id. SEC also publishes these interpretations on its official website in order to “provide guidance to those who must comply with the federal securities laws.” SEC, Staff Interpretations, available at <https://www.sec.gov/regulation/staff-interpretations> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023).

SABs in particular are used by SEC to publicize its staffs’ “views regarding accounting-related disclosure practices” under federal securities laws. SEC, Selected Staff Accounting Bulletins, available at <https://www.sec.gov/regulation/staffinterpretations/accounting-bulletins> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023). According to SEC, SABs specifically represent the interpretations and policies followed by the Commission’s Division of Corporation Finance (Division) and Office of the Chief Accountant (OCA), two internal organizational units of SEC. Id. The Division is tasked with ensuring that investors are provided with material information to make informed investment decisions. SEC, About the Division of Corporation Finance, available at <https://www.sec.gov/divisions/corpfm/cfabout> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023). In furtherance of this goal, the Division selectively reviews filings made under the Exchange Act in order to both monitor and enhance compliance with disclosure and accounting requirements. Id. Division staff “may issue comments to a company to elicit better compliance with applicable disclosure requirements,” and, in response, a company has the opportunity to amend its disclosure or revise its financial statements and other disclosures. Id. Additionally, the Division may “refer[] matters to the Division of Enforcement” when appropriate. Id. OCA, headed by the Chief Accountant, provides advice to the Commission on accounting and auditing matters, including accounting policy determinations. SEC, Office of the Chief Accountant, available at <https://www.sec.gov/page/oca-landing> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023).

Starting in 1975, the Division and OCA instituted the practice of releasing SABs to more widely publicize staff interpretations regarding the disclosure requirements of federal securities laws. 40 Fed. Reg. 53557 (Nov. 19, 1975). SABs were created to level the competition among accounting firms; the Commission noted that large accounting firms generally had multiple opportunities to exchange information and views with SEC staff, but that small accounting firms might have been disadvantaged by a lack of similar opportunities. 40 Fed. Reg. 53557. To rectify this imbalance, the SAB was thus instituted as a tool for the Division and OCA to use to “quickly and easily communicate[]” their staff’s new and revised practices and interpretations to the public. 40 Fed. Reg. 53557.

On March 31, 2022, SEC published the Bulletin to express its staff’s views regarding the accounting obligations for covered entities that provide custodial services of crypto-assets. SEC, Bulletin, available at <https://www.sec.gov/oca/staff-accounting-bulletin-121> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023). The Bulletin was issued in response to SEC staff’s observation of an increase in the number of entities providing platform users with the ability to transact in crypto-assets. Id. In the Bulletin, SEC staff state their belief “that the recognition, measurement, and disclosure guidance[] will enhance the information received by investors and other users of financial statements . . . thereby assisting them in making investment and other capital allocation decisions.” Id. The Bulletin presents a hypothetical situation regarding Entity A, an example entity engaging in crypto-asset services, and then provides interpretive responses to three questions concerning how SEC staff would expect Entity A to account for and disclose its custodial obligations. Id. For example, according to the Bulletin, covered entities that are responsible for safeguarding platform users’ crypto-assets may be required to present a liability on their balance sheets to reflect this obligation. Id. Additionally, the Bulletin states staff would expect such entities to include clear disclosures of the nature and amount of cryptoassets they are responsible for holding for their platform users in the notes to their financial statements, with separate disclosure for each significant cryptoasset, and the vulnerabilities they have due to any concentration in such activities. Id.

Also on March 31, 2022, one of the commissioners released a public statement questioning SEC’s use of a SAB to make and publicize the Bulletin’s change in accounting practices. SEC, Statement of Commissioner Hester M. Peirce, Response to Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121, available at <https://www.sec.gov/news/statement/peirce-response-sab-121-033122> (last visited Oct. 25, 2023) (criticizing the use of an SAB to provide the “definitive interpretive guidance” conveyed in the Bulletin).

The Congressional Review Act

CRA, enacted in 1996 to strengthen congressional oversight of agency rulemaking, requires all federal agencies to submit a report on each new rule to both Houses of Congress and to the Comptroller General before it can take effect. 5 U.S.C. §801 (a)(1) (A). The report must contain a copy of the rule, “a concise general statement relating to the rule,” and the rule’s proposed effective date. Id. CRA allows Congress to review and disapprove rules issued by federal agencies for a period of 60 days using special procedures. 5 U.S.C. §802. If a resolution of disapproval is enacted, then the new rule has no force or effect. Id. CRA makes clear that its provisions “shall apply notwithstanding any other provision of law.” 5 U.S.C. §806(a).

CRA adopts the definition of rule under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), 5 U.S.C. §551 (4), which states that a rule is “the whole or a part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency.” 5 U.S.C. §804(3). CRA excludes three categories of rules from coverage: (1) rules of particular applicability; (2) rules relating to agency management or personnel; and (3) rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties. Id.

SEC did not submit a CRA report to Congress or to the Comptroller General in regard to the Bulletin. In its response to us, SEC

maintained that the Bulletin is not subject to CRA because it does not meet the APA definition of a rule as it is not an “agency statement” of “future effect.” Response Letter, at 2–4. For the reasons explained below, we disagree. We find that the Bulletin does meet the definition of a rule under APA and that no exception applies. Thus, the Bulletin is subject to CRA’s submission requirement.

DISCUSSION

At issue here is whether the Bulletin is a rule for purposes of CRA. First, we must consider whether it meets the definition of a rule under APA. We conclude it does. We next must examine whether any exception applies. We find that none apply. Therefore, we conclude the Bulletin is a rule for purposes of CRA.

The Bulletin is a Rule Under APA

The Bulletin meets the APA definition of a rule. First, the Bulletin is an agency statement because it was published on SEC’s official, public-facing website as a representation of the views held by its own employees. Second, the Bulletin is of future effect because it explicitly states that it applies to certain entities and contains “guidance for [these] entities to consider when they have obligations to safeguard crypto-assets held for their platform users.” Bulletin. From this, we ascertain that SEC intended the Bulletin’s guidance to apply prospectively to covered entities’ future accounting and disclosure practices. Lastly, the Bulletin interprets and prescribes policy because it announces a preference for how covered entities should account for and disclose cryptoasset-related custodial obligations. Id.

SEC contends that the Bulletin is not a rule under APA because it is not an agency action. Response Letter, at 2. In its response to us, SEC stated that the Bulletin is not an agency statement because it is not binding on the agency and “at most” indicates “how the Office of the Chief Accountant and the Division of Corporation Finance would recommend that the agency act.” Response Letter, at 3. Additionally, SEC asserts that the Bulletin is not an agency statement because the Exchange Act and SEC’s organizational rules prohibit the Commission from delegating general rulemaking authority to an individual Commissioner or to staff. Response Letter, at 2–3 (citing 17 C.F.R. 200.43).

We recognized in an earlier opinion that “in order [for an agency action] to be a rule [under APA], the statement must be made by an agency.” B–238859, Oct. 23, 2017. The Bulletin is a statement made by SEC. While it is true that the Bulletin was not held out by SEC as a statement representing the full Commission, a statement issued by a subset of the agency may still constitute an agency statement for CRA purposes.

In particular, our prior opinions have recognized that agency actions published by less than the full agency can still constitute agency statements for the purposes of APA, and thus CRA. In three of our previous opinions, we examined whether various Supervision and Regulation Letters (SR Letters) issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (FRB or Board) were rules for purposes of CRA. B–330843, Oct. 22, 2019 (finding that SR 12–7 and SR 14–8 are rules under CRA, but that SR 15–7 is not a rule under CRA because it fell within an exception to the Act), B–331324, Oct. 22, 2019 (finding that SR 11–7 is a rule under CRA), and B–331560, Apr. 16, 2020 (finding that SR 15–18 is a rule under CRA). In those opinions, we noted that FRB has the authority to inspect the financial condition of financial institutions under its jurisdiction. B–330843, B–331324, and B–331560. We explained that FRB examiners tasked with inspecting and monitoring these

institutions can issue SR Letters when they believe guidance on a particular issue is necessary and clarified that such guidance is not binding on any institution. B-330843, B-331324, and B-331560. In all three of our opinions involving FRB SR Letters, we concluded that the SR Letters at issue were agency statements within the APA definition of rule. B-330843, B-331324, and B-331560. We explained that the SR Letters were agency statements “as [they were] issued by FRB.” B-330843, B-331324, and B-331560. The fact that such SR Letters were issued by examiner employees of FRB rather than the Board as a whole did not diminish the fact that the SR letters constituted the FRB speaking as an agency.

While we recognize that the Exchange Act and SEC’s organizational rules limit the Commission’s authority to delegate its general rulemaking function to its staff, these sources speak only to how the Bulletin does not stem from the Commission’s general rulemaking authority. On this point, we find it helpful to draw a parallel between the organizational structure and practices of both the SEC and FRB. Both are multi-member, independent government agencies that are statutorily restricted from delegating rulemaking authority. The Federal Reserve Act expressly does not authorize FRB to delegate its rulemaking function “to . . . members or employees of the Board.” 12 U.S.C. §248(k). FRB adopted this language from the Federal Reserve Act as an organizational rule. Similar to how SEC’s Division and OCA publish SABs to announce how staff intends to administer certain accounting-related disclosure practices, FRB’s Division of Supervision and Regulation publish SR Letters to “address significant policy and procedural matters related to [FRB’s] supervisory responsibilities.” As these SR Letters are published by a division FRB, we can presume that the letters are published outside of FRB’s rulemaking authority since FRB is not authorized to delegate its rulemaking function to its employees. Our determination that the Bulletin is an agency statement is consistent with our previous recognition of FRB’s SR Letters as agency statements in B-330843, B-331324, and B-331560.

Additionally, we have consistently concluded that CRA also covers agency actions outside the APA rulemaking process. For example, in B-331171, Dec. 17, 2020, we recognized that “[t]he sponsors of CRA intended the definition of rule to be as broad as possible to ensure congressional review of agency action.” In B-331324, Oct. 22, 2019, we cited to a CRA sponsor’s statement that “[a]lthough agency interpretive rules, general statements of policy, guideline documents, and agency policy and procedure manuals may not be subject to the notice and comment provisions of [APA], these types of documents are covered under the congressional review provisions of [CRA].” Id. (quoting 142 Cong. Rec. H3005 (daily ed. Mar. 28, 1996)). Moreover, SEC acknowledged that “CRA can apply to agency actions that do not require notice and the opportunity for public comment [under APA].” Response Letter, at 4. Although the Bulletin was published by staff who lack the Commission’s general rulemaking authority, our prior precedent and CRA’s legislative history demonstrate that the Bulletin is still covered by CRA.

The Bulletin was issued by SEC staff as a representation of how the Division and OCA interpret accounting-related disclosure requirements. Since one of the Division’s roles is to monitor companies’ compliance with accounting and disclosure requirements, and, since the Division’s practice is to refer non-compliant companies to SEC’s Division of Enforcement when appropriate, it is reason-

able to believe that companies may change their behavior to comply with the staff interpretations found in the Bulletin. SEC published the Bulletin on its public-facing website to “add[] interpretive guidance for entities to consider when they have obligations to safeguard crypto-assets held for their platform users.” Bulletin. Like the SR Letters issued by FRB’s examiners, the Bulletin was issued by agency employees to provide non-binding guidance that covered entities were nevertheless expected to follow. We therefore find that the Bulletin is an agency statement within the meaning of APA.

As stated previously, the Bulletin is also of future effect and was designed to interpret and prescribe policy. Accordingly, we conclude that the Bulletin meets the definition of rule under APA.

No CRA Exceptions Apply to the Bulletin

Having concluded that the Bulletin meets the APA definition of a rule, we next consider whether any of the three CRA exceptions apply. We conclude that none apply. First, the Bulletin is a rule of general applicability because it neither identifies specific entities by name nor does it address specific actions for a named entity to take.” Second, the Bulletin concerns actions that covered entities should take, rather than actions that SEC management or personnel should take, and is, therefore, not a rule of agency management or personnel. This leaves the third exception, the exception for rules of “agency organization, procedure, or practice that do[] not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.” 5 U.S.C. §804(3)(C). The Bulletin does not qualify for this last exception because it has a substantial impact on its regulated community.

In analyzing the third CRA exception, we have previously held that agency rules that encourage the regulated community to change internal operations or policies have a substantial impact on non-agency parties and thus do not qualify for the exception. B-334032, Dec. 15, 2022. See B-330843, B-331324, and B-331560. Additionally, we more specifically determined that agency rules that recommend specific actions, such as best practices the regulated community should take, do not qualify for the exception. B-334032.

We examined a similar issue in B-330843, Oct. 22, 2019, where we found that FRB’s SR 12-17 did not meet the third CRA exception because it had a substantial impact on the regulated community. SR 12-17 put forth actions institutions should take to ensure their resiliency if they enter a period of financial distress and to prevent harm to the financial system in case of the institution’s failure. Id. We noted that the actions from SR 12-17 could change covered entities’ expectations of FRB and could lead to and encourage changes in the covered entities’ internal operations and policies. Id. For those reasons, we determined that SR 12-17 had a substantial impact on the regulated community and thus did not qualify for the third CRA exception. Id.

Here, the Bulletin recommends best practices for how covered entities should account for their obligations to safeguard the crypto-assets they hold for their platform users. Bulletin. Similar to the FRB guidance in B-330843, the Bulletin advises these covered entities on how they can fulfill certain financial disclosure obligations to ensure compliance with SEC staff’s interpretations of these obligations. By advising the covered entities in this manner, the Bulletin is encouraging the regulated community to change its internal operations or policies to comply with the Bulletin’s guidance.

Additionally, since the Bulletin was published on SEC’s official website, it is reason-

able for covered entities to believe they are expected to, at minimum, consider the Bulletin’s guidance when preparing their own financial disclosures to the agency. SEC states that the Bulletin reflects policies followed by the Division and OCA. Response Letter, at 3. According to SEC, the Division uses its filing review process to monitor and to enhance compliance with disclosure and accounting requirements. Since SEC monitors the covered entities’ compliance with certain financial disclosure requirements, it is reasonable to believe that these entities might change their internal operations and policies to align with the accounting practices suggested by the Bulletin.

Furthermore, in a public statement about the Bulletin, an SEC Commissioner recognized that the Bulletin “provides definitive interpretive guidance” for public companies and contains a “detailed description of disclosure the staff expects to see, including a full paragraph describing relevant disclosures that ‘may also be required outside the financial statements under existing Commission rules.’” We agree with this characterization. Because the Bulletin changes covered entities’ expectations of how SEC will evaluate their compliance, and because it encourages these entities to change their internal operations and policies, we conclude that the Bulletin has a substantial effect on the financial disclosure obligations of non-agency parties. Thus, the Bulletin does not fall within CRA’s exception for rules of agency organization, procedure, or practice that do not substantially affect the rights or obligations of non-agency parties.

CONCLUSION

The Bulletin is a rule for purposes of CRA because it meets the APA definition of a rule and none of the three CRA exceptions apply. Accordingly, the Bulletin is subject to the CRA’s submission requirement.

EDDA EMMANUELLI PEREZ,
General Counsel.

RECOGNIZING A1W TURNOVER AT IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, alongside my esteemed colleagues Senator JIM RISCH and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, I rise today to honor the formal turnover of the Naval Reactors A1W Prototype from Naval Reactors Idaho Branch Office and Fluor Marine Propulsion, LLC, to the U.S. Department of Energy Idaho Cleanup Project and Idaho Environmental Coalition. This momentous occasion marks the early completion of the turnover of the A1W Prototype, a defueled naval nuclear propulsion plant, which holds significant historical and strategic importance in the ongoing decommissioning efforts of this facility.

The goal in this endeavor is clear: to remove the three prototypes, S1W, A1W and S5G, from the Naval Reactors Facility by 2030. This effort aligns perfectly with the program’s unwavering commitment to managing radioactive and hazardous materials from cradle to grave, ensuring no adverse effects on the environment or public health. Decommissioning older, nonmission-critical facilities not only reduces workforce needs but also allows us to allocate resources more efficiently towards our core mission, while creating space for the workplace of the future.

The significance of this turnover lies in the remarkable collaboration among various Agencies involved. Originally scheduled for 2027, achieving this turnover 4 years ahead of schedule is a monumental achievement. It is a testament to the unwavering dedication of hundreds of professionals from all four organizations involved. We express our deepest gratitude to the entire team whose exceptional teamwork has made this moment possible. Their remarkable efforts throughout this endeavor have been truly extraordinary.

The A1W Prototype, born in 1956 and operational from October 1958 to January 1994, stands as a technological marvel. It represents a pivotal chapter in our Nation's scientific and engineering history. Over nearly four decades, this remarkable prototype played a critical role in training over 14,500 enlisted personnel, officers, and civilian operators. As the second prototype built, the A1W's contributions to science, technology, Cold War military applications, and the U.S. Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program have earned it the esteemed recognition as eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Moreover, the A1W Prototype paved the way for the construction and commissioning of the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, USS *Enterprise*, CVN-65, which utilized the A1W design. *Enterprise's* 51-year journey serves as a testament to the dedication and strength of our naval forces, as it stood as a guardian of freedom, protector of our national interests and a symbol of American power worldwide.

While there is still more work ahead, it is important that we take a moment to celebrate this milestone. It serves as a testament to the incredible results that can be achieved when people and organizations come together with a shared purpose. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each person involved for their unwavering dedication and hard work. This turnover signifies a significant step toward ensuring that the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program continues to power maritime dominance for the Navy and our Nation well into the future. It also reaffirms our steadfast commitment to safeguarding our national defense, paying homage to our history, and preserving our national treasures.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DUCKWATER SHOSHONE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School and the important place this school occupies in our great State's history. The Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School exists because parents wanted to provide their children with the best education pos-

sible and help them take pride in their heritage. The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe came together in 1973 to create their own school, founded on the principle of self-determination, to better oversee their children's instruction, and preserve their culture. And the Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School has continued that legacy ever since.

The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe is located in the Railroad Valley of central Nevada near the Big Warm Spring, one of the largest geothermal hot springs in the State. Taking their children's education into their own hands, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe formed an education committee, which became the Duckwater Shoshone School Board, on July 26, 1973. The parents and community of the Duckwater Shoshone were committed to their children receiving every opportunity, no matter who they were or where they lived and worked hard to establish their own school. This commitment is reflected in a statement hanging on the main hallway of the school: "The mission of the Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School is to provide a learning environment that promotes individual student success and develops lifelong learners."

On November 26, 1973, the Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School opened its doors. The school remains a centerpiece of the Tribe's efforts to support its families and stands as a testament to the value the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe places on supporting future generations. On the wall of the school, there hangs an accounting of the school's formation written in longhand by former Duckwater chairman Paul Walker, and it reads in part: "What is hard to convey is the determination and work of a whole rural Indian Community to see that their children receive a better education than they obtained and to witness a general betterment of our people."

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Duckwater Shoshone Elementary School for 50 years of service to the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe and surrounding communities and the important role the school plays in educating children and preserving traditions.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. REIKO JOHNSON AND DR. NATHAN SWANSON

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Dr. Reiko Johnson of Newfields and Dr. Nathan Swanson of Durham as October's Granite Staters of the Month. The duo is working to provide free dental care for patients in need, including recently hosting a Dental Day of Caring this past month.

In March 2021, recently vaccinated and with an urge to give back to her community, Dr. Johnson began looking for medical volunteer opportunities. In the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, she had provided telehealth services as a primary care provider at

Catholic Medical Center, and she was itching to be face-to-face with patients again. When she was not able to find a volunteer clinic in the area, she decided to take matters into her own hands and start her own mobile clinic, modeled on a free health clinic that she had previously volunteered at in Hampton.

Dr. Johnson established the Volunteers in Medicine of New Hampshire—VIM-NH—and held its first free clinic in January of this year, providing primary and acute care services for uninsured and underinsured patients and connecting them to long-term primary care providers. However, over the months that followed, it became clear to Dr. Johnson that many of the clinic's patients had critical dental issues that she and her volunteers were not equipped to deal with.

To address this issue, Dr. Johnson partnered with Dr. Nathan Swanson last month to host VIM-NH's first Dental Day of Caring. Dr. Swanson had learned about Dr. Johnson's work from Emily Komerska, a UNH pre-med student and longtime family friend, and he immediately knew he wanted to get involved. During the event, which took place at Dr. Swanson's office using his equipment, the 4 volunteer dentists and 6 assistants provided 19 extractions, 10 fillings, and 1 root canal—donating \$11,531 total in services.

Dr. Johnson and Dr. Swanson's partnership is a shining example of the Granite State spirit of coming together to help people in need. Many of the clinic's patients, including people experiencing homelessness and people without insurance, would not be able to receive this vital care otherwise. I applaud Dr. Johnson and Dr. Swanson's dedication to making a difference, and I look forward to seeing how they continue their Dental Day of Caring initiative.●

TRIBUTE TO LYDIA EDWARDS

• Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, I would like to offer my congratulations to Ms. Lydia Edwards as she becomes a Judge Advocate General in the Massachusetts Army National Guard. Senator Edwards has devoted her career to protecting our most vulnerable—from her time as a public interest attorney with Greater Boston Legal Services, to her service on the Boston City Council, to her current role as Massachusetts State senator, Lydia Edwards never forgets who she is fighting for. Lydia has achieved great things for people across the Commonwealth, including passing the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights, protecting Boston's affordable housing stock, creating the Restaurant Revitalization Fund, passing the CROWN Act, which bans discrimination based on hair texture or style, and reforming the budgetary process to bring participatory budgeting to the city of Boston.

Lydia is a dedicated public servant who approaches every question before

her with passion, deep intellect, and a commitment to make government work for everyone, not just those at the top. It is a reflection of Lydia's character and her commitment to our country that Lydia has chosen to serve not only in the State senate but also as a member of the Massachusetts National Guard. I congratulate Lydia on her commissioning as a Judge Advocate General officer and am grateful for her continued partnership and service.

I once again congratulate her on her commissioning and wish her the best of luck in this new chapter.●

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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12938 OF NOVEMBER 14, 1994, WITH RESPECT TO THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—PM 27

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 1, 2023.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:25 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. 4394. An act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 4394. An act making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2690. A communication from the Executive Secretary, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard for Determining Joint Employer Status" (RIN3142-AA21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2691. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2692. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Additional Export Controls: Certain Advanced Computing Items; Supercomputer and Semiconductor End Use; Updates and Corrections" (RIN0694-AI94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2693. A communication from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Export Controls on Semiconductor Manufacturing Items" (RIN0694-AJ23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2694. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of his intent to terminate the designation of the Central African Republic, the Gabonese Republic (Gabon), Niger, and the Republic of Uganda as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries under the African Growth and Opportunity Act; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2695. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mortality Tables for Determining Present Value under De-

finer Benefit Pension Plans" (RIN1545-BQ14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2696. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "User Fees Relating to Enrolled Actuaries" (RIN1545-BQ26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2697. A communication from the Security Officer II of the Office of Senate Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding Determination Under Section 7034 (I) (5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (OSS-2023-1053); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2698. A communication from the Security Officer II of the Office of Senate Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report regarding Determination Under Section 7034 (I) (5) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2023 (OSS-2023-1054); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2699. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Publication, Coordination, and Reporting of International Agreements: Amendments" (RIN1400-AF63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2700. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to provide assistance to Ukraine under drawdowns previously directed under section 506(a) (1) of the FAA, including for self-defense and border security operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-2701. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license amendment for the export of firearms, parts, and components abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Israel in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-051); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3175. A bill to establish a grant program to support schools of medicine and schools of osteopathic medicine in underserved areas; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 3176. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on excessively disparate wages paid to chief executive officers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 3177. A bill to provide for a review of sanctions with respect to Hong Kong; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3178. A bill to establish the Children's Court to improve the adjudication of immigration cases involving unaccompanied alien children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 3179. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to amend a rule of the Commission relating to shareholder proposals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED):

S. 3180. A bill to establish a working waterfronts grant program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3181. A bill to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the "Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 3182. A bill to prohibit actions recognizing the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 3183. A bill to consider, for purposes of the Immigration and Nationality Act, that officers, officials, representatives, spokespersons, and members of Hamas, Palestine Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, Al-Qaeda, and ISIS, and individuals who endorse or espouse terrorist activities conducted by such organizations are engaged in terrorist activity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3184. A bill to require institutions of higher education to include reporting regarding campus anti-Semitism in the annual security report required under the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, to ensure that institutions of higher education do not support terrorist activity of foreign terrorist organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 3185. A bill to establish the Tribal Cultural Areas System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HEINRICH:

S. 3186. A bill to protect Native cultural sites located on Federal land, to improve consultation with Indian Tribes, to bring parity to Indian Tribes with regard to Federal public land management laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. COTTON, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. VANCE, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. BUDD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LEE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. BRITT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 3187. A bill to require the Department of Homeland Security to publish various publications and reports regarding the number of aliens seeking entry along the southern border of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3188. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to extend eligibility for

child's benefits until age 26 for certain individuals who are at least half-time students at a post-secondary school, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 3189. A bill to authorize assistance to support activities relating to the clearance of landmines, unexploded ordnance, and other explosive remnants of war in Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, to recognize the refugee and immigrant communities that supported and defended the United States Armed Forces during the conflict in Southeast Asia in the 1960s and 1970s, including Hmong, Cham, Cambodian, Lu Mien, Khmu, Lao, Montagnard, and Vietnamese Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. 3190. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude as income certain payments received by household members from certain employment programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 3191. A bill to improve online ticket sales and protect consumers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 3192. A bill to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. Kaine, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3193. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow for the use of telehealth in substance use disorder treatment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3194. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3195. A bill to designate the General George C. Marshall House, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 3196. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a State option to extend Medicaid coverage for foster care children while receiving treatment from a qualified residential treatment program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3197. A bill to establish and authorize funding for an Iranian Sanctions Enforce-

ment Fund to enforce United States sanctions with respect to Iran and its proxies and pay off the United States public debt and to codify the Export Enforcement Coordination Center; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 26

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 26, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 161

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 161, a bill to extend the Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 288

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 288, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) 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. 610

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 610, a bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to modify the frequency of board of directors meetings, and for other purposes.

S. 799

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 799, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage for all physicians' services furnished by doctors of chiropractic within the scope of their license, and for other purposes.

S. 949

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 949, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to transition the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1024

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1024, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to eligible entities to develop and implement a comprehensive program to promote student access to defibrillation in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

S. 1144

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1144, a bill to establish a grant program to provide assistance to local law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1706

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1706, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1906, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited provisional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs and biological products, and for other purposes.

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1954, a bill to improve the provision of health care furnished by the Department of Veterans Affairs for veterans diagnosed with diabetes and heart disease, and for other purposes.

S. 2158

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2158, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for disciplinary procedures for supervisors and managers at the Department of Veterans Affairs and to modify the procedures of personnel actions against employees of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 2176

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2176, a bill to prohibit commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2238

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to develop a National Strategy to Close

the Digital Divide, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2372, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 2377

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2377, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve coverage of audiology services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2477

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2477, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide pharmacy payment of certain services.

S. 2555

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2555, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to expand and improve the enforcement capabilities of the Attorney General, and for other purposes.

S. 2713

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2713, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 and the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to make commodities available for the Emergency Food Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2860

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2860, a bill to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to State-sanctioned marijuana businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 2998

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2998, a bill to amend the Food and Agriculture Act of 1977 and the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 to modify provisions relating to matching funds requirements for research and extension activities at eligible institutions and related reporting requirements.

S. 3008

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3008, a bill to provide back pay to Federal contractors, and for other purposes.

S. 3068

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3068, a bill to require each enterprise to include on the Uniform Residential Loan Application a disclaimer to increase awareness of the direct and guaranteed home loan programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3083

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3083, a bill to reallocate funding originally appropriated for Gaza to grants to Israel for the Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system.

S.J. RES. 47

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 47, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Justice relating to "Office of the Attorney General; Home Confinement Under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act".

S. RES. 109

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 109, a resolution requesting information on Saudi Arabia's human rights practices pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. RES. 333

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 333, a resolution designating 2024 as the Year of Democracy as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of Government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. REED):

S. 3180. A bill to establish a working waterfronts grant program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, I rise today to introduce the Working Waterfront Preservation Act, legislation to help preserve access by our Nation's fishermen and maritime workers to the waterfronts in coastal communities. I would like to thank my friend Senator Jack Reed from Rhode Island, who joins me in introducing this legislation.

According to the most recent data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, commercial and recreational fisheries are responsible for more than 1.7 million jobs in the

United States, \$253 billion in sales, and \$117 billion in value-added impacts. In Maine, our fisheries are one of our State's most important resources and are vital to our economy. A report of Maine's seafood sector as a whole, which included downstream contributors, found that in 2019, the sector contributed more than \$3.2 billion to Maine's economy. Although the fishing industry is a significant economic contributor both nationwide and in Maine, it is losing access to the working waterfronts that are vital to the industry's survival.

A working waterfront is defined as land that is used for or that supports commercial fishing, aquaculture, boatbuilding, or the for-hire recreational fishing industries. That may be a technical definition, but these areas represent much more to coastal communities. A recent study conducted by the Maine Coast Fishermen's Association sums it up perfectly: "Working waterfronts are more than just a place of business for commercial fishermen; they are a hub of information, a collection of salty characters, a safe haven, a meeting room, a space for support, and they are well-deserving of both a place in Maine's history and its future." The importance of these areas cannot be overstated.

In Maine our fishermen and women are losing access to waterfront property up and down the coast. In some coastal Maine communities, once thriving working waterfronts no longer exist. Recent interviews conducted by the Island Institute in Maine uncover that "for all practical purposes, working waterfront access [in these towns] is essentially gone." The reasons for this are complex. In some cases, burdensome fishing regulations have led to a decrease in landings, hindering the profitability of shoreside infrastructure. In other cases, soaring land values and rising taxes have made the current use of commercial land unprofitable. Property is being sold and quickly converted into private spaces, which means that they are no longer available to support our fisheries.

While this trend has been happening for decades—in 2006, Maine's working waterfront only took up 20 miles of Maine's nearly 3,500 miles of coastline—the recent demand for coastal properties has intensified this problem in Maine. We can help preserve these areas for the next generation of fishermen, boatbuilders, and maritime workers with dedicated investments. Currently, the primary mechanism for preserving Maine's waterfronts is through a State-run program called the Working Waterfront Access Protection Program. Since 2008, that program has helped preserve 34 waterfront properties. The legislation I am introducing today would help scale up that model program so that more communities can be assisted.

There is currently no targeted, Federal assistance program to help the commercial fishing industry and other

maritime sectors gain or preserve access to working waterfront areas. The Working Waterfront Preservation Act would create a \$20 million program to help municipal and State governments, nonprofit organizations, and participants in maritime industries improve working waterfront property in our coastal States. Grants would be administered by the Economic Development Administration, and successful applicants would need to be endorsed by State fisheries agencies, which have the local expertise to understand the needs of each coastal State. In order to be eligible for a grant, recipients would be required to permanently protect an area as working waterfront, to ensure that it can be used for commercial purposes for decades to come, and to invest in the cost themselves.

This legislation is crucial for the continued prosperity of coastal communities across the country. I urge my colleagues to join Senator Reed and me in supporting this important legislation.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3194. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to achieve parity between the cost-of-living adjustment with respect to an annuity under the Federal Employees Retirement System and an annuity under the Civil Service Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to speak in support of the Equal COLA Act, which I reintroduced today.

The Federal Government's workforce is central to protecting our national security and delivering critical services to hundreds of millions of Americans. As such, it is essential that the Federal Government attract and retain an effective workforce and, once their service is complete, ensure retirees receive the dignified retirement that they deserve.

Unfortunately, in 1986, Congress created a two-tiered system that now prevents nearly 800,000 retired Federal employees from receiving a full cost-of-living adjustment when consumer prices increase more than 2 percent from year to year.

In January, some Federal retirees will receive a 3.2-percent COLA. However, other Federal retirees will receive only a 2.2-percent increase due to this policy, which fails to protect retired employees living on a fixed income.

That is why I am proud to reintroduce this legislation to fix this unfair system and ensure that all retired Federal employees receive full retirement benefits that keep up with the cost of living.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to ensure that retired Federal employees no longer pay the price of a misguided law and that their benefits fully keep pace with the cost of living.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3195. A bill to designate the General George C. Marshall House, in the Commonwealth of Virginia, as an affiliated area of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, today, I am introducing legislation to designate the General George C. Marshall House, also known as the Dodona Manor, in Leesburg, VA as an affiliated area under the National Park Service.

The legislation will be the final step in the year-long effort to recognize the Dodona Manor as a unit of the National Park System. It will also promote the public appreciation of the significant historic contributions made by U.S. military leader and statesman George C. Marshall.

George C. Marshall was an American hero, playing a significant role in the Allied victory in World War II and serving as an architect of one of the most significant foreign policy initiatives in our country's history. He led a lifetime of public service, serving as Chief of Staff to the Army during America's entry into World War II, as Secretary of State, where he orchestrated the historic Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe following the war and provided counsel to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, and as Secretary of Defense after the onset of the Korean war. He acquired Dodona Manor while serving as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army in 1941 and lived there until his death in 1959.

Today, the George C. Marshall House is dedicated to preserving and advancing General Marshall's life's work and legacy by hosting international exchanges, historical exhibits, and community events, and supporting educational programming based on General Marshall's desire to inspire future leaders. The legislation would bring greater resources, including technical assistance, accessibility improvements, and new programming, to this historical site and enable the Marshall House to improve and expand its work.

I am hopeful that this designation will provide new resources to preserve, honor, and celebrate General Marshall's legacy at this historic site, and I am pleased that companion legislation is also being introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by my colleague, Representative JENNIFER WEXTON, who has led this effort for years.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. REED. Madam President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a classified briefing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 1, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Caroline Newsom, a valued intern from my office, be granted floor privileges until November 17 of this year.

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

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following interns in my office be granted privileges of the floor until December 15, 2023: Seamus Creighton-Kirk and Adam Weiss.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:42 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

KURT CAMPBELL, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE WENDY RUTH SHERMAN, RESIGNED.

IN THE ARMY

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. MICHAEL A. AKE
COL. ALLEN D. ALDENBERG
COL. TOBY J. ALKIRE
COL. ERICH H. BABBITT
COL. RONNIE S. BARNES
COL. ANDREW J. BATES
COL. JASON P. BENSON
COL. KEVIN M. BERRY
COL. BRIAN S. BISCHOFF
COL. TODD M. BOOKLESS
COL. GEORGE H. BRAUCHLER
COL. DANIEL N. BREWER
COL. KENT D. CAVALLINI
COL. ERICA M. CHRISTIE
COL. RICHARD P. CIPRO
COL. PATRICK G. CLARE
COL. ANDREW W. COLLINS
COL. ANDREW T. CONANT
COL. HERMAN E. CROSSON
COL. JON D. FARR
COL. THADDEUS D. FINERAN
COL. PETER E. FIORENTINO
COL. JOHN R. FLEET
COL. JEREMY R. FOOT
COL. STEVE A. FOSTER
COL. PAUL M. FRANKEN
COL. JASON W. FRYMAN
COL. DAVID L. GIBBONS III
COL. BOBBY M. GINN, JR.
COL. JERRY B. GLASS
COL. ALAN R. GRONWOLD
COL. BARRY W. GROTON, JR.
COL. WYATT E. HANSEN
COL. ALEXANDER V. HARLAMOR
COL. KRISTINE L. HENRY
COL. GEORGE W. HORSLEY
COL. ROBERT C. HORVATH
COL. DAVID L. JOHNSON
COL. MARVIN D. JOHNSON
COL. ROBERT C. JORGENSEN, JR.
COL. GUNNAR D. KIERSEY
COL. JEFFREY G. LAPIERRE
COL. LEON M. LAPOINT
COL. ERIC J. LECKEL
COL. BRADLEY A. LEONARD
COL. EDWARD W. LEWIS
COL. REECE J. LUTZ
COL. CRAIG M. MACERI
COL. JASON P. MAHFOUZ
COL. CHARLES B. MARTIN, JR.
COL. MARC R. MCCREERY
COL. JOHN W. MCELVEEN
COL. RUSSELL E. MCGUIRE
COL. BRIAN L. MEDCALF
COL. DONALD S. MITCHELL
COL. SETH L. MORGULAS
COL. LAWRENCE M. MUENNICH
COL. HEIDI R. MUNRO
COL. TRACY R. NORMAN
COL. ZOE M. OLLINGER
COL. BRYAN K. OUELLETTE
COL. ANDREW S. RENDON
COL. LINDA J. RIEDEL
COL. PIA ROMERO
COL. KEIR A. SCUBES
COL. JAMES D. SEWARD
COL. CHRISTOPHER M. THOMAS
COL. STEVEN R. TODD
COL. STEVEN C. TURNER
COL. THEODORE O. UNBEHAGEN
COL. MATTHEW A. VALAS
COL. RAVINDRA V. WAGH
COL. EDWARD J. WALLACE
COL. ZARA A. WALTERS
COL. JEFFREY D. WOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. CHRISTOPHER C. LANEVE

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(D):

To be rear admiral

SEAN P. REGAN
JOSEPH R. BUZZELLA
JOHN C. VANN
WAYNE R. ARGUIN
MICHAEL E. PLATT
DAVID C. BARATA

JO-ANN F. BURDIAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203(A):

To be rear admiral

FRANKLIN SCHAEFER
TIFFANY DANKO

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JAYMI F. JEFFERY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

KIRSTEN H. THOMPSON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

THOMAS T. BOOTH, JR.
ANDREW S. CULBREATH
DAVID I. GONZALEZ
MICHAEL A. GRAHAM
KILEY R. HYATT
LEAH D. LINGER
LONNIE J. MCALLISTER II
JESSAKA MENZIEKWAKYE
ROBERT J. SANDER
MATTHEW C. SCOTT
VICTOR D. SMITH
EAN P. WHITE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MOISES A. CASTILLO
JASON S. FRANKENFELD
TRUMAN L. TINSLEY IV

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

KELLY N. ALEXANDER
JASON A. ALTENHOFEN
CURTIS A. BABBIE
STEVEN L. BENTHAL
MATTHEW SCOTT BLYSTONE
MATTHEW S. BRADY
CHAD J. BRENNER
CHERIE L. BUDAY
BERNARD JAMES BRAVO BUNAL
DAVID P. BUTZIN
JEFFREY J. CAMPEAU
TYLER D. CARSON
ROBERT F. CAULK
KUAN HSUN CHEN
KYLE DAVID CLEMENTS
RYAN C. CONWAY
MATTHEW M. CORK
TATIANA C. CORNIER
COREY W. CROWELL
NATHANIAL ERIC DELEON
AMBER N. DERIGGI
KEITH R. DERR
GARRETT E. DILLEY
SCOTT A. DREUPE
CHRISTINE M. EWING
COLIN M. FINK
ASHLEY E. GONZALES
COLLIN M. GREISER
WESTON J. HANOKA
JUSTIN D. HARMS
GREGORY CHARLES HARTMAN
JASON C. HELLER
STEPHEN K. HENDERSHOT
JUSTIN T. HEPPE
JOSHUA H. HESS
LIANGKUAN HO
JONATHAN D. HOGAN
RUBEN ISAIAH IHUT
ROBERT B. JONES
RUSSELL P. KRONES
JAIME O. LARIOSBARBOSA
CHRISTIAN M. LEWIS
SHARON LAI MEI LI
JESSICA B. MAHONEY
JOSEPH D. MARKOFF
ORLANDO A. MARTINEZ
ERIC B. MILLER
LINCOLN K. MILLER
GABRIELLE ZIMMERMAN NOCE
KATHRYN LYONS NORRIS
JOSEPH C. OLETTI
DANIEL J. O'CALLAHAN
DERICK I. PERRY
BRIAN W. PITTMAN
MARK R. PRATT
CHARLES F. RIORDAN

KEVIN C. RIVERS
MICHAEL H. RYAN
RALPH W. SALAZAR
AMANDA J. SALMOIRAGHI
ANDREW EARL SINGLETON
IVAN S. SLATER
ANDREW J. SMALL
BLAINE L. STEWART
KRISTINA D. STEWART
MATTHEW A. STOEERNER
JUSTIN M. TARR
JARED D. TUINSTRA
ALBERT R. VASSO
KEVIN P. VITAYAUDOM
DANIEL P. WHALEN
MCKAY D. WILLIAMS
JONATHAN W. WRIGHT
NICHOLAS Y. YEUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

BRANDON P. ALFORD
BRYAN M. BELL
ERIC D. BOGUE
EVAN J. P. BRIGGS
CHRISTOPHER T. CASTLE
BRIAN L. CHATMAN
JOSEPH G. CLEMMER
AARON L. COCHRAN
JAMES RICHARD CURRAN
GERRIT H. DALMAN
BRANDON LEWIS DAVENPORT
ERIN T. DOYLE
RYAN T. DURAND
CHRISTOPHER J. EVEY
ANGELO T. FERNANDEZ
BREE BRYAN FRAM
MANDI L. FULLER
MICHAEL CRAIG GUERRERO
EDUARDO N. GUEVARA, JR.
ANNA E. GUNNGOLKIN
ALAN M. HAEDGE
BRIAN E. HANS
DANIEL PAUL HIGHLANDER
RYAN MCHENRY HISEROTE
BRENDAN JOSEPH HOCHSTEIN
JONATHAN KINGSTON KEEN
THOMAS LAFLASH
PAUL A. LATOUR
RYAN CHRISTOPHER LAUGHTON
KEITH M. MORRIS
SCOTT DANIEL MUNN
SHYAM R. MUNSHI
SAMUEL RICHARD OPPELAAR II
JOHN V. OTTE
JOSEPH CARLYLE POMAGER
MARTIN POON
ROBERT A. PORTER
RYAN A. ROSE
TAMMY A. ROSE
MATTHEW M. SCHMUNK
DANIEL CHARLES SEBECK
KENNETH J. SMITH
JUSTIN B. SPRING
KRISTA N. ST ROMAIN
MARGARET ANN SULLIVAN
JOSHUA TYE WERNER
CHRISTOPHER C. WOOD
MATTHEW C. WROTEN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MATTHEW GUY ADAMS
CASEY L. ALEXANDER
DANIELLE S. AMASON
JON R. ANDERSON
PHILIP W. BACHMEYER
PATRICK G. BALASTA
MICHAEL D. BEAVER
BRADY L. BEHRENDT
ROBERT L. BENT
MARK A. BOATMAN
NEIL F. BOCKUS
RUDOLPH THOMAS BOWEN II
JEFFERY L. BROWN, JR.
ANDREW J. BUCHANAN
MICHAEL J. CABIG
CHARDAY S. CAMINERO
BRYCE K. CARLSON
JOSHUA J. CARLSON
JOEL N. CHALMERS
JOHN H. CHAMBERLIN
LIAM D. CONLEY
ELLIE J. CONSTANTINE BARREDO
CAMERON R. CUNNINGHAM
RONALD C. DAVIES
LUKE N. DINH
TROY NICHOLAS DULANEY
ADAM K. EASLEY
AARON C. ECHOLS
CHRISTOPHER J. EWALD
JENNIFER FARKAS
RYAN J. FOSTER
JEREMY D. FOX
MATTHEW J. FRANTZ
NATHAN D. GLANDON
RYAN T. GRIGGS
JEREMY J. HANCOCK
ANDREW MICHAEL HICKS
MICHAEL JAMISON HOGGARD
PAUL E. HYDE

JARED MICHAEL JACOBS
BRANDEN P. JARMON
DANIEL JENSON
BRETT T. KASISCHKE
KYLE P. KEITH
BARRY E. KNOBLOCK
BRANDON A. LEVESQUE
KEITH C. MARSHALL
GENELLE M. MARTINEZ
MICHAEL E. MCCORMICK
JOSEPH MCDONOUGH
ISAIAH L. MONTEMAYOR
MARK D. NATALE
DUSTIN J. O'DONNELL
RAYMOND MARIANO J. PARNTHER
MARCIAANNA J. PEASE
CHLOE A. PEREZ
BRIAN A. PETERSON
JOSHUA R. POLK
WILLIAM W. POLLARD
JESSICA M. PRATT
JULIE N. RAY
LUIS O. SANTIAGO
SEAN E. SCARCLIFF
MARK A. SCOTT
DANE PAUL SKOUSEN
RUSSELL C. SMITH
JAMES JOSEPH STALL
DEBRA ELLEN STARKEY
LEONARD DANIEL STIFFLEMIRE
JONATHAN R. SZUL
CHRISTOPHER S. TAYLOR
CHASE W. THORNTON
CHRISTOPHER Y. TOVAR
BRADY ALLEN URBANOVSKY
MATTHEW VALLERAND
FRANCISCO VAZQUEZ
AARON M. WARREN
WILLIAM L. WESTCOTT, JR.
JOSEPH L. WILLIAMS
SHAWN WOODALL, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ELIZABETH A. AGNEW
GREGORY A. ALLEN
JOEL EUGENE ARNETT
SKYLER J. AWISUS
TERRY R. BABASA
JOSEPH BABITSKY
MARCO J. BARRAL
TYLER D. BATES
BRENDAN M. BECKER
CARL R. BLACK
REBECCA E. BOSWORTH
PATRICK E. BOYLE
MICHAEL DEAN BROOKS
ERIN NICHOLE JEWELL BROWN
TYLER J. BROWN
SAMANTHA AERIEL S. B. BURNS
JOSHUA M. BUTTERWORTH
JACOB S. BYERS
JONATHAN W. A. CAMPBELL
JAMES P. CAREY
RANELL V. CAVITT
BRENT S. CLARK
KASEY LEN CROWE
KASEY S. CRUMPTON
JORDAN W. CRUZ
KLARA I. DAVIS
LANCE S. DAVIS
RICHARD M. DAVIS III
IAN J. DAY
TREVIS JACK DAY
STEVEN JAMES DILLMAN
JACKSON C. DIXON GALBREATH
MARK ANTHONY G. DIZON
MICHAEL SCOTT DRESS
LEVI REUEL DUNCAN
MELISSA A. FARMER
BRIAN MING FONG
GREGG M. FORREST
VICTORIA GARCIA
BRANDON ALLEN GILLILAND
MAX S. GROSSENBACHER
DILLON H. HAGERTY
JOSHUA LAVON HANELINE
WILLIAM ROBERT HASHMAN
SHELBY N. HEINZLER
JONATHAN P. HEMINGWAY
DALTON WILLIAM HENDERSON
KEGAN A. HIGGERSON
KEITH H. HILL
STEPHEN A. HINDMAN
RYAN E. HORNUNG
SAMUEL M. JACOB
SAMUEL D. JOLLEY
MAGGIE J. JONES
STEVEN PIERRE JONES, JR.
JEREMY R. KARR
SIMONE Y. KEITH
LEE RICHARD KOZOKAS
EMILY A. LAGARILE
LAUREN ONEIL LEBLANC
LINDSEY J. LEWIS
HAYDEN LAWRENCE LOPEZ
CAMERON S. LOVE
KEVIN D. MC LAUGHLIN
RONALD JOHN MILLER
JULIE ALLISON MINNOCK
RAHNI JO MOON
STEVE ANTHONY MURO
JOHN S. NEWELL

ANNA ELIZABETH NOCK
SEAN W. NUTTALL
HEATHER A. OLIVER
NATHAN R. PADDOCK
ALEXANDER G. PANEK
GABRIEL G. PENTKOWSKI
CARL J. D. POOLE
KARL M. PRUHSMEIER
STEVEN J. RAMOS
AMOLKUMAR G. RATHOD
IAN MACLEAN GRIFFITH REDDING
THOMAS E. REICHERT
DANIEL REYES
BILAL A. RIDDICK
MATTHEW JON ROSENFELDT
JAMES FALCONER ROSS
ANNA CHRISTINE ROWE
NICHOLAS J. RUIZ
JONATHAN A. SAKULICH
JONATHAN MINWOO SAMPSON
LYDELL L. SCOTT
JAMES MICHAEL SELIX
AUSTIN J. SELLERS
JULIA N. SERVOS
JOSHUA PAUL SHAFFER
SEAN P. SHERLOCK
PETER L. SIMON
MATTHEW JACOB SIMPSON
LEAH E. SMITH
MICHAEL PAUL SOUTHAM
MYLES J. SPETSIS
STEVEN MICHAEL ST JOHN
KRISTEN E. THOMASSON
KEVIN J. TORMASI
MAICHI M. TRAN
JUAN TEANCUM TRUJILLO
RYAN M. VICKERS
CHRISTOPHER SCOTT WADE
RONALD E. WAGNON
BRENT THOMAS WALLACE
SEAN M. WILLIAMS
COLIN D. WOLFF
LUKE G. WUNDERLICH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT
TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES
SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ALEXANDER R. ALLARD
GREGORY STEPHEN ANDERSON
JOEL SAMAR ATIENZA
DANIEL R. BARNES
DAVID BEALE
ESTEBAN BEDOYA HERNANDEZ
ZACHARY J. BENSON
CHARLES A. BOLEN
ERIC J. BONICK
KELSEY M. BROFFORD
CAMERON C. BURCHAK
MICHAEL ALAN CHRISTENSON
CHRISTOPHER MARK COURY, JR.
SAMUEL T. CROUCH
TARA E. CROUCH
WILLIAM E. DALLMANN
RAIN FORREST DARTT
CHRISTOPHER JAMES DAUGHERTY
BRIAN J. DAVIDSON
FOSTER ELLIOTT DAVIS
BLAKE T. DENNISTON
ANDREW L. DONLIN
KEITH P. DREYER
PATRICK N. DUNKEL
HAI HOANG DUONG
JEREMY SCOTT EMERSON
BRIAN A. ERICKSON
ERIC J. FONNESBECK
MEGAN M. FRECHETTE
MONICA ALICE FURST
ZACHARY K. FUNKE
SHANE C. GARDNER
JOSHUA J. GARRETSON
JOSHUA M. GASSER
MATTHEW ALFONSO GAVILANES
LINDSEY G. GORSKI
JENNIFER L. GUION
CONNOR D. GURLEY
DALE AUSTIN HARTLEY
DEREK B. HARTMAN
CLARA S. HEFFERNAN
AYESHA G. HEIN
MATTHEW W. HELVEY
DEREK A. HESSAPPLE
TERRANIKIA DENISE JOHNSON
DANIEL J. KANG
DAVID M. KIM
PETER C. LAILEPAGE
YOUNG C. LEE
DAX ALEXANDER LINVILLE
JONATHAN LONDONO
KURT W. LUETZOW
MICHAEL MANOUK MAKARDISH
KYLE DANIEL MCCLEARY
EVAN J. MCDOWELL
TROY THOMAS MCGUIRE
RYAN B. MCVAY
PAUL C. MOLBERG
REY S. MOLINA
DAVID J. MULQUEEN
NOEL P. NCCUM
KYLE E. O'BRIEN
RACHEL OLIVER
RAYMOND PEREIRA, JR.
CHRISTINE M. ROBINSON
BRETT A. ROSS
ADAM A. SAMLOWSKI
DYLAN J. SHILTZ

NICHOLAS E. SHOWALTER
DENNIS C. SIEBER
BRADEN C. SMITH
JEFFREY W. STENQUIST
ALEXANDER D. THOMAS
ANDREW L. TYMCHENKO
MICAH A. UCHIDA
DOMINIC C. VICINO
TRENT W. WARGO
ALEXANDER C. WARNER
DAVID L. WEATHERS
EMMA L. WEBB
NATHAN P. WEISS
TYLER T. WILLIAMS

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(E):

To be captain

JENNIFER J. ANDREW
MATTHEW S. AUSTIN
MICHAEL W. BAIRD
PATRICIA M. BENNETT
TORREY H. BERTHEAU
BRIAN R. BETZ
MICHAEL D. BRIMBLECOM
MARY D. BROOKS
KEVIN A. BROYLES
BRADLEY A. BRUNAUGH
KENNETH J. BURGESS
JASON A. BUSTAMANTE
JOEL B. CARSE
AARON J. CASAVANT
ERIC W. CHANG
BRADLEY D. CONWAY
JEREMY A. COURTADE
ALLISON B. COX
JONATHAN W. COX
BYRON A. CREECH
MICHAEL R. DARRAH
JESSICA S. DAVILA
ARTHUR M. DEHNZ
PHILLIP A. DELISLE
JARROD M. DEWITZ
JENNIFER R. DOHERTY
PATRICK A. DRAYER
LAUREN F. DUFRENE
STANLEY P. FIELDS
JASON S. FRANZ
MATTHEW A. GANS
LISA L. GARCEZ
CHRISTIAN C. GAUDIO
SARAH J. GEOFFRION
JASON D. HAGEN
JUAN M. HERNANDEZ
MICHAEL J. HUNT
RAYMOND D. JACKSON, JR.
KEVIN L. KAMMETER
LUANN J. KEHLENBACH
MARGARET D. KENNEDY
COREY M. KERNS
MATTHEW R. KOLODICA
RICHARD E. KUZAK
AMANDA M. LEE
CLAY D. MCKINNEY
JESSE M. MILLARD
BORIS MONTATSKY
SAMUEL R. NASSAR
ERIC G. PARA
CHRISTOPHER R. PARRISH
LUKE R. PETERSEN
JEFFREY R. PLATT
JASON T. PLUMLEY
BEAU G. POWERS
RANDY L. PRESTON
MILES R. RANDALL, JR.
KENT R. REINHOLD
KENNETH H. ROCKHOLD
THOMAS C. RODZEWICZ
ELIZABETH M. ROSCOE
JENNIFER M. RUNION
STACI K. RUTSCH
BRENT R. SCHMADEKE
JONATHAN D. SHUMATE
DANIELLE M. SHUPE
LUKE M. SLIVINSKI
BENJAMIN J. SPECTOR
ROBERT E. STILES
STEVEN D. STOWERS
KEITH O. THOMAS

JAROD S. TOCZKO
JORGE L. VALENTE
ALLISON M. WALLACE
MATTHEW J. WALTER
REBECCA A. WALTHOUR
RYAN A. WATERS
MATTHEW G. WEBER
CHARLES K. WILSON
CHRISTOPHER J. YOUNG

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 9, 2023:

JOHN C. BREWER, OF VIRGINIA
IAN JOSEPH MCCARY, OF VIRGINIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION INTO THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR:

WILLIAM JOHANN SCHMONSEES, OF FLORIDA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO BE A FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER, A CONSULAR OFFICER, AND A SECRETARY IN THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN, OF VIRGINIA
RICHARD JOHN AMBROSE, OF OHIO
ALYSHA S. BECKER, OF VIRGINIA
SARAH ALLISON BEDENBAUGH, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN JAMES BERK, OF NORTH CAROLINA
ROBERT JAMES BLEECKER, OF VIRGINIA
LINDSEY K. BOWMAN, OF NORTH CAROLINA
MONICA B. BRINN, OF VIRGINIA
JOCELYN ANN BROWN, OF VIRGINIA
KI C. BULLOCK, OF VIRGINIA
MI KYONG CANALE, OF VIRGINIA
CINDY CARDONA-DIAZ, OF VIRGINIA
PHARES LYNN CARROLL, OF VIRGINIA
YUTHAKORN CHAIMONGKOL, OF VIRGINIA
THOMAS EDWARD CHIDIAC, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ANDREW JOHN CHIZER, OF VIRGINIA
JONATHAN G. CHRIST, OF TEXAS
ANNE KARI CLARE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
GRACE BERNADETTE CLEGG, OF VIRGINIA
NICOLE M. COLAMETA, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
PETER THOMAS COREY, OF NEW YORK
BRYAN A. COX, OF TEXAS
KYLE A. CROSBY, OF VIRGINIA
LINDSAY L. DANA, OF SOUTH DAKOTA
JESSE LEE DAVEY, OF WASHINGTON
EMILY S. DEL MORONE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
LAUREL CATHERINE DELMONICO, OF COLORADO
CHRISTOPHER JAMES DOEGE, OF WISCONSIN
JOHN W. DROLLETTE, OF OREGON
JOSHUA M. FALBO, OF VIRGINIA
DAVID T. FEIN, OF VIRGINIA
JAMES WILSON FROMSON, OF NEW YORK
GABRIEL O. FUENTES, OF VIRGINIA
RACHEL COTE GILSON, OF VIRGINIA
CHRISTIAN DAVID GILSON, OF VIRGINIA
DARRYN BAE GLENN, OF GEORGIA
ZACHARY C. GRAHAM, OF VIRGINIA
SANDHYA GUPTA, OF OHIO
GRAY D. F. GUSTAFSON, OF VIRGINIA
DEBRA ASHLEY HAJIAN, OF VIRGINIA
FAIK MESUT HALICI, OF VIRGINIA
TAKESHA N. HARDAWAY, OF VIRGINIA
ALYSON G. HIRATA, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
KRISTIN L. HITT, OF VIRGINIA
ERIC MATTHEW HOLDER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ARIANA IRANPOUR, OF VIRGINIA
ELIJAH JATOVSKY, OF CALIFORNIA
BROOKE H. KANTOR, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
BRIAN CHRISTOPHER KATO, OF WASHINGTON
TRACEY LYN KETTER, OF VIRGINIA
WILLIAM A. KENDRICK, OF VIRGINIA
WHITNEY BRYCE KINCAID, OF FLORIDA
REED DAVID GEORGE LANGERUD, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DAVID COE LANPHER, OF VIRGINIA
ZACHARIAH B. LOHNES, OF MARYLAND
GET KIM LUONG, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW DAVID MADDEN, OF GEORGIA
DAVID W. MAHER, OF NEBRASKA
FATIMAH Z. MARTIN, OF NEW MEXICO
ELIZABETH A. MAYNARD, OF MARYLAND
JON C. MCCAILL, OF FLORIDA

JACOB A. MCCLELAND, OF VIRGINIA
CONOR P. MCGUIRE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
MELISSA MIRANDA-MARIN, OF OHIO
JALITA A. F. MOORE, OF CALIFORNIA
DUNG P. NGUYEN, OF GEORGIA
ALLEN NOSRATI, OF VIRGINIA
MARCELLE S. OHALLORAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MORGAN L. OSBORNE, OF CALIFORNIA
SARAH M. OTEY, OF VIRGINIA
SIDDHA STELLA PAGE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
SEAN C. PANE, OF VIRGINIA
ALLEN EUGENE PARK, OF FLORIDA
CASEY DAREN PETTZNER, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
JEFFREY BINGHAM PRESNELL, OF CALIFORNIA
JENNIFER M. PRILLAMAN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
MAGGIE S. RAJALA, OF VIRGINIA
DANIEL MARK REBACK, OF NEW JERSEY
DAVID EDWARD RETZ, OF VIRGINIA
KEVIN PASQUALE RILEY, OF PENNSYLVANIA
KALEB J. ROGERS, OF SOUTH DAKOTA
REBECCA B. ROLFE, OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLES THOMAS ROUGHSEGE, OF VIRGINIA
HILLARY JEAN RUGGLES, OF CALIFORNIA
LAUREN MICHELLE RYAN, OF MINNESOTA
RAMI H. SAYED, OF COLORADO
CIERRA GENEVA SAYLOR, OF FLORIDA
KATHERINE R. SCHEIDT, OF VIRGINIA
MERYN NOEL SCHNEIDERHAN, OF VIRGINIA
KYLE DAVID SCOTT, OF VIRGINIA
ALIAKSANDR S. SERBAU, OF VIRGINIA
JOHN RICHARD SIAS, OF VIRGINIA
RACHEL E. SIMON, OF CALIFORNIA
SYDNEY A. SKOV, OF CALIFORNIA
KAUKAB J. SMITH, OF VIRGINIA
MATTHEW W. SPENGLER, OF VIRGINIA
LETICIA C. STOVER, OF VIRGINIA
EMMA RACHEL STRAUS, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
KHAJA M. SUBHANI, OF VIRGINIA
ANDREA M. TAPPEMEYER, OF MISSOURI
JEFFREY A. TAYLOR, OF VIRGINIA
ADRIANA MARCELA TERAN DOYLE, OF TEXAS
MATTHEW ALLAN THOMPSON, OF MARYLAND
SADE L. TUCKETT, OF NEW YORK
JAMES THOMAS WALLWORK, OF VIRGINIA
MARCUS LAWRENCE WARNER, OF VIRGINIA
TRAVIS KAISER WEINGER, OF VIRGINIA
CRAIG EDWARD WEITMORE, OF VIRGINIA
BENJAMIN K. WHEELER, OF MINNESOTA
JOSEPH MARCEL ROMAN WILLIAMS, OF GEORGIA
CHANNING PHILIP WILLIAMS, OF VIRGINIA
ISMAT M. YASSIN-OBLA, OF CALIFORNIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE FOR PROMOTION WITHIN THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR:

ALICIA P. ALLISON, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate November 1, 2023:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HERRO MUSTAFA GARG, OF CALIFORNIA. A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT.

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on November 1, 2023 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

LAURA DANIEL-DAVIS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, VICE JOSEPH BALASH, RESIGNED, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON JANUARY 23, 2023.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES ED HARRIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable unsung hero, James Ed Harris.

James Ed Harris is a native Mississippian, born on the Harris family homestead in Grenada, where he lived with his mother, Mary Magdalene Harris and his father, Jimmy Lee Harris, along with his six siblings.

James grew up working in the cotton fields on a local plantation with his mother; who was well known in the community as a seamstress taking the lead during a highly volatile racial south; to give relief while his WW2 Veteran father, Jimmy Lee Harris, also worked outside of the home.

In 1966, James was among many teenager kids who risked their lives for the cause of getting Black Americans registered to vote and integrated into white schools without them all being killed in the process. They were beaten and arrested for trying to register Black Children. These teens were all taken to prison in Parchman, MS. There was a military draft that happened during that time. Although there was not a massive number of Black soldiers, they were the first to get drafted to fight in a foreign land.

The day James was released from that prison was the day he made the conscious decision to protect his family's future. He chose to go and fight for his country in the perilous Vietnam War.

James Ed Harris was awarded with the Purple Heart and Bronze Star Medal citation for extraordinary acts of valor while under direct enemy fire during ground operations against a superior hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing James Ed Harris for his dedication and tenacity to serving his country and the desire to be an example for all.

RECOGNIZING MRS. BERNICE TINSLEY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Bernice Tinsley for her dedication to dedication to St. Thomas United Methodist Church.

At 94 years old, Mrs. Tinsley is the oldest living member at Saint Thomas United Methodist Church in Sylacauga, Alabama.

She has previously served as a Sunday school teacher, choir member, Older Adult

Ministry Chair, and a Vacation Bible School instructor. She is known among friends and fellow church members for her loving spirit and her infectious smile.

Mrs. Tinsley is the loving mother of 3 sons. Mrs. Tinsley's dedicated service to her community is one that every Alabamian should be proud of. Her dedication to the lives of others has truly made a difference and given hope and encouragement to so many people.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mrs. Tinsley and her lifetime of service to the Saint Thomas United Methodist Church.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF PORT EVERGLADES ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LORI BAER

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lori Baer, the Executive Director of the Port Everglades Association and port industry veteran, for her three decades of contributions to the industry.

Lori gained her port experience in the public and private sectors, holding various distinguished roles. At AECOM, a global engineering and consulting firm, she held the positions of Vice President and Ports and Marine Lead for the Americas. She also served as Executive Director of the Port of Palm Beach. Additionally, she has performed in senior management positions at the Port of Miami and the Western Hemisphere-wide American Association of Port Authorities. Lori has dedicated her career to developing an unmatched expertise in the port industry, which has served her communities domestically and internationally.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in recognizing the Executive Director of the Port Everglades Association, Lori Baer, for her outstanding career and contributions to the ports of the Western Hemisphere and Florida's 23rd Congressional District.

HONORING DONNA BROWN-WYNN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, Donna Brown-Wynn. Donna Brown-Wynn has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve.

Donna Brown-Wynn was a three-sport athlete—basketball, track and field and softball—

at Vicksburg High. She was the softball team's MVP in 1989 and won state championships in track in several events but excelled the most in basketball.

Brown-Wynn played at Mississippi State and was a four-year starter at point guard. She set an MSU record for 3-pointers in a game that stood for nearly 20 years.

After her playing career, Brown-Wynn went into coaching. She spent two years as an assistant at Mississippi State, then 13 more on the staff at Belmont University in Nashville.

Since 2003, Brown-Wynn has returned to her hometown each summer to host the week-long "Play 2 Wynn" basketball camp.

Brown-Wynn was inducted into the 2022 Vicksburg Warren School District Athletic Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Donna Brown-Wynn for her passion and dedication to the Vicksburg Warren School District and Warren County Community.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT "BOB" J. SCULLEY FOR DECADES OF SERVICE AT THE NEW HAMPSHIRE MOTOR TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Robert "Bob" J. Sculley's longstanding work for the New Hampshire Motor Transportation Agency (NHMTA), including his 34 years of service as the organization's president, and wish him well as he enters retirement. Bob's dedication to providing Granite Staters with a reliable, efficient, safe, and economical motor transport system through his advocacy before federal, state, and municipal government bodies is nothing but admirable.

Bob's persistent work to uplift the NHMTA began in 1989, when the organization was still in its early stages. Throughout his long tenure, he has helped the organization grow, instituted multiple programs that save members money, and formed ties between the NHMTA and local government agencies such as the NH Department of Safety. Bob's work has helped the economy of the Granite State flourish by creating programs that help small businesses comply with government regulations, thus saving them money and easing administrative burdens.

On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank Bob for his decades of service and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. Bob's work with NHMTA will continue to benefit Granite Staters for generations to come and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

• 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.

HONORING MS. TERI GEORGE FOR
THREE DECADES OF SERVICE TO
THE U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER
PROTECTION

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant, Teri E. George, whose remarkable career with the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) exemplifies unwavering commitment and tireless dedication to the protection and security of the Carolinas and our great Nation.

Ms. Teri E. George's career began in 1993 with U.S. Customs. Her decades-long career has been marked by steadfast loyalty to her responsibilities, a deep sense of duty, and an unwavering commitment to the core principles of public service. Her retirement on December 31, 2023, is a milestone that marks thirty years and eleven months of exceptional service to our country.

In 2003, with the formation of the Department of Homeland Security, Ms. George seamlessly transitioned to the Customs and Border Protection agency. Her adaptability and ability to excel in a dynamic and ever-changing environment are a testament to her competence and leadership within the organization.

Ms. George's contributions to CBP have been significant, with the majority of her career spent as the Supervisory Mission Support Specialist for the Area Port of Charlotte. In this vital role, she oversaw crucial functions, including budget management, personnel actions, logistics, and facilities for ports of entry in North Carolina.

Ms. George's work as the Supervisory Mission Support Specialist ensured that the necessary resources and infrastructure were available to facilitate the essential operations of Customs and Border Protection across the Carolinas. Her tireless efforts helped to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of CBP operations, safeguarding our nation's borders and enhancing our homeland security.

The dedication, expertise, and commitment that Ms. Teri George displayed throughout her career are commendable and deserving of the highest recognition. Her contributions have left an indelible mark on the Department of Homeland Security and the United States Customs and Border Protection, further enhancing our nation's security and prosperity.

As Ms. George embarks on a well-earned retirement, I extend my heartfelt gratitude and best wishes for the next chapter in her life. I want to express deep appreciation on behalf of the whole community for her unwavering commitment to public service and her outstanding contributions to the security of our Nation.

Her legacy will continue to inspire those who follow in her footsteps, and her dedication to public service will remain a shining example to all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF
MICHAEL D. LIDDELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tenacious and self-motivated leader, the late Chief Michael D. Liddell. Chief Liddell has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve.

Michael attended Humphreys County High School and obtained his GED in November of 1989. He then attended Coahoma Community College in 1990. After deciding that he wanted to work, he obtained a job at SuperValu Distribution Company in 1991 in Indianola, MS, where he worked until 2003. Michael then attended Mississippi Delta Community College and graduated from the Law Enforcement Training Academy in March of 2005. After graduating, he became employed at the Pelzoni Police Department and served as a police officer until he assumed the position of Chief of Police in 2017.

Michael was a great officer. He took pride in his work and loved what he did. He dedicated many personal hours to protecting and serving his community. He was very passionate about his work. He had a huge heart and would help anyone he could. He served faithfully until he became ill in June 2022.

Of all his accomplishments, nothing meant as much as when Michael dedicated his life to Christ and became a faithful member of Shiloh MB Church Deovelente under the leadership of Pastor Charles Edwards on February 27, 2022.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life, legacy, and service of the late Chief Michael D. Liddell.

**RECOGNIZING DOROTHY TAZIK'S
100TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dorothy Tazik, a remarkable constituent from my district, and to pay tribute to her on the celebration of her 100th Birthday in September of this year.

Dorothy was born on September 6, 1923, in Wallington, New Jersey, as the third child and only daughter of Mary and John Pollak. From New Jersey, she and her family relocated to Tullytown and later Bristol in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. On October 19, 1946, she married her husband Wendel J. Tazik, an Army Air Corps veteran from World War II who served faithfully in the Pacific Theater. Dorothy and Wendel settled in Levittown, Pennsylvania, where they raised their five daughters, and she embarked on a lifetime of devotion as a wife, mother, homemaker, and grandmother. Dorothy is further blessed with 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

I am personally honored to have arranged for the flag of the United States of America to be flown over the United States Capitol on her 100th Birthday to commemorate this historic

occasion in her life. Moreover, I am deeply honored to have had the opportunity to present this flag to her during her Birthday celebration.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to please join me in extending our heartfelt congratulations, sincere well-wishes, and all of God's Blessings to Dorothy Tazik on the celebration of her 100th Birthday.

**HONORING THE WESLEY HOUSE
ASSOCIATION**

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to congratulate the Wesley House Association for 120 years of dedicated community service.

Wesley House is a professional, highly-motivated, and socially conscious organization with a passion for improving the overall quality of life for communities in need. They value creative problem-solving and ambitious fundraising efforts in order to support their far-reaching programs and services. Their after-school programs encourage civic engagement among young people, and their senior outreach programs help ensure that our seniors are respected, secure, and active participants in their communities.

Organizations like Wesley House are incredibly valued and beloved. Their efforts are truly the personification of what it means to be servant leaders who embody selflessness and unyielding altruism. St. Louis honors their service, and may we all commit to paying their efforts forward.

HONORING ROOSEVELT HARRIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a determined and self-motivated leader, Roosevelt Harris. Roosevelt Harris has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve.

Vicksburg Native Roosevelt Harris opened his third business; his trucking company, R&R Transportation, LLC in 2021. Harris has achieved his goal of becoming an owner/operator just one year after facing a near-death experience with COVID-19. His week-long stay in ICU renewed his resolve and inspired Harris to take action, not only for his own benefit, but to serve as an example for others to realize their potential.

Harris came up with the idea of having his own trucking service in July 2021. He purchased a 24-foot box truck which allows him to travel state-to-state hauling general freight, including furniture and equipment, to different companies.

Before jumping into the trucking industry, Harris also consulted with some of his close friends, Cambridge Williams, Stefon Demby, Jarvis McDaniel and Bobby Clark, who are already in the business.

Harris' box truck doesn't require a CDL, but the resourceful entrepreneur expanded his service capabilities with a built-in cooling system for transporting frozen goods. Harris has plans to grow the company to new heights as time moves on.

Harris has been a business owner in Vicksburg for 13 years, successfully operating Roe's Rims Detailing and YBN clothing. He founded the Boss Talk 21 Podcast and is now owner of R&R Transportation, LLC.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Roosevelt Harris for his passion and dedication to provide economic development to Vicksburg, Mississippi.

BEIRUT VETERANS PROCLAMATION

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, the United States of America has always been a symbol of peace and freedom and has achieved this stature throughout the world because of the selfless service of our veterans. From those who fought in the Revolutionary War to those serving in harm's way now, our country's armed forces have given up the comforts of home, the company of loved ones, and—for some—even their own lives to secure the blessings of liberty for many in our world.

Today, we honor those who served our country as peacekeepers in Lebanon between 1982 and 1984, with courage, honor and valor.

It has been just over 40 years, on October 23, 1983, since the deadly bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, where 241 United States Marines, Navy and Army personnel lost their lives to a deadly terrorist bomb. Many consider that horrific episode to be the beginning of America's war on terror and set the precedent for how our country's military approaches conflict in the Middle East. Almost three dozen more lost their lives as part of this mission.

We will always remember them.

This terrorist attack took the most lives of U.S. military servicemen since the Tet offensive in the Vietnam War and more lives of United States Marines since the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II.

This act has now faded into the obscurity of textbooks, university lectures and most Americans' memories. The Beirut Veterans of America have a motto: "The First Duty is to Remember," to memorialize those brothers who lost their lives and the families who have endured the last 40 years of sacrifice, separation, anguish and loneliness to keep our world free from the tyranny of bullies, thugs and terrorists.

These men "Came in Peace" and gave the ultimate price of freedom: their lives.

Be it proclaimed that this past October 23 and each one to come is dedicated to honoring and recognizing the memory of these souls who shall never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable and I missed the following Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call No. 542.

HONORING THE LADIES OF ELEGANCE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an enthusiastic and self-motivated community organization, The Ladies of Elegance. This powerful team is comprised of both veterans of education and community involvement and leadership. They tirelessly served their community; with this year marking their 23-year anniversary.

The Ladies of Elegance organization was founded by Mrs. Helen Coleman, which she still holds as CEO and President. This group was chartered in 2000. It is an organization of a small group of women who are local citizens, some who have moved away but have kept their membership current. Presently, their membership is 20. Their mission since origination was to work with elderly citizens, spend quality time with them and provide mentorship to the youth in the community. Each year, they give scholarships to graduating seniors who are headed to college or trade school. To date, they still firmly believe the elders have shaped them and the children are the seeds of hope for our tomorrow. The Ladies of Elegance remain dedicated to providing them with the support they need to shape them into productive leaders of the future. They are committed to engaging them in activities that build communication and volunteering.

Additionally, this organization supports St. Jude's Hospital, Relay for Life and most of all, they provide assistance to families in the community that are in need. Its signature event is an annual black-tie gala held to honor various community leaders as well as state and national leaders who have worked hard to support the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Ladies of Elegance for their dedication to support and advocate in their local communities, and their selfless service to Bolivar County, MS.

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF PITTSBURGH MASSACRE

HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

Fifth Anniversary of Pittsburgh Massacre

The utterly unsettling 83-minute attack on Shabbat morning, Oct. 27, 2018, at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, resulting in the death of 11 worshipping Jews, has been described as the worst antisemitic crime committed on American soil. The name "Tree of Life" connotes the holy Torah whose lessons, including the Ten Commandments, aim to preserve the divine gift of precious human life, proclaiming that freedom and responsibility are inseparable twins.

A 2020 book, "Bound in the Bond of Life: Pittsburgh Writers Reflect on the Tree of Life Tragedy" (University of Pittsburgh Press), offers the traditional Jewish response, asserting life's primacy facing death and loss. The moving volume of insightful reflections by a wide array of Pittsburgh writers connects to their own lives' experiences.

It is a thoughtful and fitting account honoring the memory of the slain who are rightfully placed in the context of the long historical chain of Jewish martyrdom, culminating in the Holocaust and beyond, with the appellation of "Kedoshai Pittsburgh" (Pittsburgh's Martyrs).

The book's co-editor Beth Kissileff is married to one of the attack's survivors, Rabbi Jonathan Perlman of New Light Congregation. Kissileff, who has taught at the universities of Pittsburgh and Minnesota, raises, "Can one heal after gun violence? Can any of us feel safe again? Did antisemitism really not ever go away?" The above interrelated issues are complex and beclouded by sectarian politics. Yet, we are not free from tackling them while advocating for remedies helping to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

Co-editor Eric Lidji is director of Pittsburgh's Rauh Jewish History Program & Archives at the Sen. John Heinz History Center. He oversees preserving the massacre's documentation. "In due time, with persistence, I can know just the tiniest bit more . . . so that others can someday make meaning from it all." However, what "meaning" can be derived from such a calamitous occurrence? Recording aids sacred remembrance and provides a therapeutic dimension.

David M. Shribman who wrote the book's Forward is the former executive editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. His team won the 2019 Pulitzer Prize for covering the carnage. His then-newspaper printed in Hebrew the four letters of the memorial Kaddish prayer. Dor Hadash congregation was inspired to conduct a "Refugee Shabbat," for the gunman's ire was at the refugees and immigrants assisted by HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), who sought entry into the United States. "Just as the Holocaust survivors once warned my generation, those of us who saw what happened at Tree of Life must tell those who come next." The challenge is to retain the bond of remembrance and the attack's lessons over time's natural and forced forgetfulness.

Dr. Laura Zittrain Eisenberg teaches modern Middle East history at Carnegie Mellon University. She is a third-generation family member at Tree of Life. Eisenberg shares the constructive response, "organizing blood drives . . . community service activities at libraries, food pantries, and service organizations . . . under the slogan 'Remember. Repair. Together.'" Can this spirit of both altruism and practicality, turning pain into promise, be sustained over time? The life-changing Pittsburgh "pogrom" reflects Jewish vulnerability in "Golden America." Only Tree of Life remains in the building to be redesigned by famed architect Daniel Libeskind, son of Holocaust survivors, who designed the World Trade Center Memorial site following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The

remodeled building will memorialize the Pittsburgh tragedy and serve as the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh. Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is founder of Temple Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach. He is son of Polish Holocaust survivors.

HONORING THE ST. LOUIS ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to celebrate the 45th anniversary of St. Louis Association of Community Organizations ("SLACO"). For over four decades, SLACO has been an instrumental force in Missouri's First District by fostering unity and strength across our community.

Founded in 1978 by the visionary Father Gerry Kleba, SLACO has evolved into a dynamic coalition of neighborhood associations and community organizations and embodies a spirit of collective action and resilience. SLACO's commitment to enhancing the quality of life in St. Louis through diverse initiatives such as affordable housing production, violence prevention, after-school programming, environmental education, and community organizing has left an indelible mark on our community.

Under the current leadership of Executive Director Kevin McKinney, SLACO has demonstrated its forward-thinking approach to promoting public safety, advancing racial equity, and fostering meaningful change. As a connecting force for neighborhoods across the region, the organization has emerged as a vital catalyst in shaping dialogue and driving impactful societal shifts.

As the Congresswoman for Missouri's First District and on behalf of the entire St. Louis community, it is an honor to celebrate SLACO's 45 years of resilience, unity, and collaboration. May this anniversary serve as a catalyst for further innovation, growth, and meaningful endeavors in the years to come.

HONORING CHIEF JOSEPH WADE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the great Chief of Police of Jackson, Mississippi, Chief Joseph Wade.

Chief Joseph Wade is a native of Terry, MS, and now resides in the City of Jackson. He is a highly motivated and energetic professional with a strong background and experience in law enforcement. In 1995, Joseph Wade graduated from the 23rd recruit class. Since then, he has obtained extensive leadership skills as a Sergeant, Lieutenant, Commander, Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief, Interim Chief, and now Chief of Police.

Chief Wade's resourceful and dedicated law enforcement profession extends to the Patrol Operations Division, Investigations Division, Standards and Training, Administration, and

Chief's office. Highly decorated and accomplished, he is a two-time recipient of the Meritorious Service Award, a two-time recipient of the MS Department of Public Safety's D.U.I. 100 Club, and many other commendations. Being goal-oriented and driven, he has attained over 80 advanced Law Enforcement Training Certifications.

His prized career accomplishment is the implementation of the Youth Citizens' Police Academy, Police Athletic League (PAL), and Explorers' Program. These youth programs service over 200 youth annually in the City of Jackson and have successfully impacted hundreds by using sports and mentoring as tools.

He graduated from Hinds Community College's Criminal Justice Program, FBI Command Collage, and the DEA Commander's Academy. His civic and community affiliations include Prince Hall Freemason / Lynch Lodge No. 2 / Jackson, MS, and the CBTU/CARAT (Coalition of Black Trade Unionist/Community Action & Response against Toxins). Chief Wade is pursuing his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration, where he has spent the last two quarters on the President's list.

Chief Joseph Wade's objective is to use his police skills, education, and experience to forge working relationships with the community, reduce violent crimes and rebuild the ranks of the Jackson Police Department to improve the quality of life for citizens of Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Chief Joseph Wade for his dedication to the City of Jackson.

RECOGNIZING THE RIGHTS OF AMERICANS EXPOSED TO TOXIC WATER AT CAMP LEJEUNE

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Rep. GREGORY MURPHY, to speak on behalf of all those Americans who were exposed to the toxic water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. When writing the Camp Lejeune Justice Act, we understood that the only way the veterans, their families and others could get fair and just compensation was through a jury trial. Let there be no ambiguity. Let this be understood to be our unequivocal expression our intent, from the inception of the bill through final passage and into enactment: the claimants who have suffered so intensely as a result of the toxic water at Camp Lejeune have the right to a trial by jury.

We were aware of how the Federal Tort Claims Act worked, through a bench trial, and we specifically rejected that model when we wrote the Act. Indeed, it has always been our intent for the Act to stand separate and apart from the Federal Tort Claims Act in all respects. For these reasons, we expressly included a provision in subsection (d) of the Act confirming every plaintiff's right to a jury trial. The Department of Justice is inexplicably reading this provision out of the statute.

Specifically, the United States Department of Justice has recently filed a Motion in the Camp Lejeune Water Litigation proceeding pending before the United States District Court

for the Eastern District of North Carolina in which the Department asserts that those harmed by the toxic water at Camp Lejeune between 1953 and 1987 are not entitled to a jury trial. This argument is inexplicable.

We fundamentally disagree with the Department's position. When we drafted the Act, it was our clear, unambiguous, and unequivocal express intent to provide all those covered by the Act with the right to a trial by jury against the United States of America for the harm they suffered at Camp Lejeune. We thought it was critically important that people who had been betrayed and misled by the government for decades would have a right to have their claims decided by a jury of their peers.

We want to cite the law as written in "Public Law 177-168 Section 804. Federal Cause of Action Relating to Water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina subsection (d) Exclusive Jurisdiction and Venue—The United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any action filed under subsection (b), and shall be the exclusive venue for such action. Nothing in this subsection shall impair the right of any party to a trial by jury."

We want to take this opportunity to again restate what we have always intended and what is clearly written in Public Law 177-168. We are dismayed that the Department of Justice has taken this wrongheaded position, which flies in the face of everything Congress intended for those harmed by the toxic water at Camp Lejeune. Those who have steadfastly defended our country rate no less than the rights they deserve as American citizens.

HONORING MRS. EILEEN THRALL

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mrs. Eileen Thrall on being named Dumfries, Virginia's 2023 Living Legend by Mayor Derrick Wood.

For years, Eileen has served as an exemplary member of the Dumfries community through her work as a reporter for Potomac News, where she authored the widely enjoyed Dumfries Community Column. Her column provided insight into the community and highlighted the wonderful facets of the town, sharing with her audience what makes Dumfries so remarkable.

Aside from journalism, Eileen has also dedicated her time to advocating for Dumfries and its residents through her various community and public service positions. She selflessly served on the Prince William County Board of Zoning Appeals for over two decades, working for the betterment of her community.

Eileen serves on the Board of Directors for the Good Shepherd Housing Foundation working to provide housing options to those in need and has been an advocate for good environmental stewardship through her leadership of Friends of Quantico Bay and her involvement with the Friends of Quantico Creek.

Eileen represents seniors within the town of Dumfries, serving as an executive committee member on the Prince William Commission on Aging where she advocates for issues related to aging and caregiving. And as an active

member of the Dumfries United Methodist Church, Eileen has served in various capacities supporting the church and her community.

Eileen's love and dedication for the Town of Dumfries is clear, and the work she does on behalf of her community serves as a pillar of inspiration across Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and thanking Mrs. Eileen Thrall, a Living Legend, for her contributions to the community and the Town of Dumfries.

HONORING THE LATE JAMES C.
"SAM/SAMMY" BRADFORD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of James C. "Sam/Sammy" Bradford.

Sammy was born on July 11, 1942, in Memphis TN. Mr. Bradford started trying to make a difference early in the NAACP youth chapter. In March of 1961, he became the youngest of the "Tougaloo Nine" to desegregate the Jackson Municipal Library System. It was during that selfless act of service he created the concept "You can recognize what's the right thing to do . . . because the right thing is rarely comfortable, convenient or popular".

Sammy graduated from Douglass High School and began his freshman year in 1960 at the esteemed Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, MS where he studied music. His love for music and beautiful tenor voice is what joined him with the love of his life, his wife, Shirley Ann Faulkens.

In December of 1969, Sammy married Shirley Ann Faulkens. They were married for 53 years and 10 months and had two children together, Ako and Pili.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the late James C. "Sam/Sammy" Bradford for his dedication, advocacy, and sacrifices to the Civil Rights Movement.

HONORING THE GLOBAL MEDICAL
RESPONSE 2023 STARS OF LIFE
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients for 2023.

Each year, the American Ambulance Association (AAA) honors a select group of Emergency Medical Services professionals for their commitment to patient care, integrity and compassion through the Stars of Life program. Global Medical Response, a member of the AAA and the world's largest provider of emergent and non-emergent medical transportation and healthcare services, has identified 32 of its frontline heroes for this distinction, representing the best of the best in the air and on the ground.

We will find these heroes all around us in our communities. From a small village outside

Anchorage, AK, where a pilot landed his aircraft with nothing but the community's off-road vehicle headlights for light to the paramedics in Buffalo, NY and Jackson, MS, who showed immense strength in leadership and skill while saving multiple lives during mass casualty incidents to the several brave individuals, who voluntarily went into harm's way to support the communities of Florida and face Hurricane Ian head on and to Temple, TX, where the innocent life of a small child was saved by a paramedic following an accident on a ride-on mower.

There are many stories to share and so much that we can learn from the day-to-day lives of these heroes. We must learn to exhibit integrity in everything we do and everything we say. We must act with compassion and grace in even the most daunting and challenging of situations. We must be vigilant, never wavering in our commitment to doing what is right for the community and answering the call to serve.

So that we will never forget the immense contributions to our communities made by the 2023 Global Medical Response Stars of Life award recipients, I include in the RECORD their names to honor their service and humbly thank them for showing us what it means to truly serve, while providing care to the world at a moment's notice.

Global Medical Response

2023 STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Danny Abalama, B200 Instructor Pilot of Anchorage, AK.

Jacob Ambach, Paramedic of Spokane, WA.

Michael Arquette, Operations Supervisor of Buffalo, NY.

Jack Asbury, EMT of Bushnell, FL.

Cindy Betts, Base Medical Manager of Wichita, KS.

Jason Burns, Flight Paramedic of Salida, CO.

Ian Carroll, Flight Nurse of Logan, WV.

Preston Crotwell, Paramedic of Jackson, MS.

Zach Dayton, Firefighter Engineer/EMT of Mesa, AZ.

Victoria England, Flight Nurse of Mather, CA.

Rick Fikes, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Abilene, TX.

Marlon Flanders, Paramedic of GMR Trinidad and Tobago.

Sean Fuller, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Clackamas, OR.

Karina Galvez-Martinez, Paramedic of North Las Vegas, NV.

Kelly Hamill, Flight Nurse of Mattoon, IL.

Andy Hardy, Paramedic of Athens, TN.

Fidencio Hernandez, EMT/Field Training Officer of San Jose, CA.

Matthew Kohl, Paramedic of Evansville, IN.

Daniel Lee, Flight Nurse of Klamath Falls, OR.

Jesse Mascarenas, Flight Nurse of Salida, CO.

Stephanie Nocita, Paramedic of Monterey, CA.

Randall Roberson, Advanced EMT of Prestonsburg, KY.

Hiram Sanchez, SOS EMT of Napa, CA.

Dakota Shadwell, Flight Nurse of Mattoon, IL.

Jay Shintaku, Firefighter Paramedic of Tempe, AZ.

Brad Sparks, Flight Nurse of Oceanside, CA.

Rob Spencer, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Temple, TX.

Michael Taboniar, Paramedic of Lihue, HI.

Bill Weber, Paramedic/Field Training Officer of Lake Havasu City, AZ.

Riley Wolfe, Paramedic of Redlands, CA.

Danny Workman, Flight Paramedic of Concord, CA.

Daniel Yandell, EMT of Vancouver, WA.

RECOGNIZING NEWTOWN BOROUGH
TREASURER PATRICIA OURS

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding constituent from my district, Patricia Ours. Patricia began serving as Bookkeeper for the Borough of Newtown in 1997. Since then, she has worked tirelessly to support the Borough and its citizens as bookkeeper and as treasurer. Now, after more than 26 years of dedicated public service and professional commitment, Patricia is transitioning from her public position. I am proud to recognize and celebrate Patricia as an exceptional administrator who has provided outstanding financial guidance and general stewardship to the benefit of the residents of Newtown. Patricia finishes her government career as the Borough Treasurer, where she is widely respected for her accurate, strategic, and careful financial advice. She is recognized and respected as deeply knowledgeable in all areas of governmental financial management, whether it be budget planning or perceptive awareness of potential impacts to the Borough. She has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to overcome complex challenges, including those innumerable challenges that have arisen because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Patricia's expert guidance and thoughtfully caring leadership have helped the Borough community face challenges and overcome adversity. Her dedicated and diligent work has contributed to keeping our citizens well cared for.

We are incredibly grateful for the positive impact Patricia has had through her long career of public service, and we wish Patricia countless blessings during her new chapter.

HONORING ROBERT GEORGE
CLARK, JR.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a trailblazer, the Honorable Robert George Clark, Jr. He has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a strong desire for change.

Robert George Clark, Jr. was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1967. He was the first African American elected to the Mississippi State Legislature since the Reconstruction era and remained in office until 2003.

Clark was born on October 3, 1928 to the Late Mr. Robert and Mrs. Julia Anne Clark of Ebenezer, Mississippi, the youngest of three children. He attended Holmes County Training School in Durant, Mississippi, and later received his B.A. from Jackson State University

in 1952. In 1959, he earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Educational Services from Michigan State University. In 1979, while in the Mississippi State Legislature, Clark served as a teaching fellow at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

After earning his B.A. degree, Clark worked as a teacher in Holmes County. His first experience in politics was running for and winning an elected board position Holmes County Community Action Program (CAP) in 1966. In 1967, he agreed to run for state legislator on Holmes County's Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) ticket. He won the election and became the first black person elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives since Reconstruction.

Clark's election signaled the emergence of black electoral politics in Mississippi. As late as 1964, only ten black people were registered to vote in Holmes County, though the county was roughly 75 percent African American. By 1967, the black community of Holmes County built one of the strongest and most sophisticated political organizations in the state.

Ten years after he was first elected, Clark became the first black committee chairman in the Mississippi House of Representatives when he was named to head the Education Committee. During his term as chair, the legislature passed the 1982 Education Reform Act and the 1984 Vocational Education Reform Act. The 1982 act significantly reformed Mississippi's educational system, helping to modernize school classrooms and other physical facilities, replace worn-out textbooks and purchased replacement school buses.

In January 1992, Clark was elected as Speaker Pro Tempore, serving in that post until 2000. When he retired from the Mississippi House of Representatives in December 2003, he was the longest-serving member in continuous House service. I stand on the shoulders of men like him as I am encouraged to continue fighting to make Mississippi a better place for all of its citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Honorable Robert George Clark, Jr. for his dedication and years of service to the state of Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING THE EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF MR. BARRY CHASTAIN

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. Barry Chastain, a remarkable individual who has devoted over 38 years to federal service. Currently serving as the Area Port Director for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) in North Carolina, Mr. Chastain's contributions to the Carolinas and our Nation are immeasurable. In his capacity as the Area Port Director, Mr. Chastain shoulders the responsibility of overseeing six international ports of entry in North Carolina, where he manages a workforce of more than 150 dedicated employees. These ports collectively process over 3.5 million passengers and handle over 4 billion dollars in imported goods annually. Under his vigilant leadership, the seamless flow of legiti-

mate trade coexists with stringent security measures to safeguard our national interests. Mr. Chastain serves as the senior CBP representative to all federal, state, and local law enforcement partners in North Carolina. His ability to foster cooperation and collaboration among these agencies is integral to the safety and well-being of our citizens.

Mr. Chastain's illustrious career extends beyond his current role. His previous leadership assignments within the United States Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Division in North Carolina exemplify his unwavering dedication to protecting our agricultural and biological resources. He also served as the Officer in Charge in South Carolina and Eastern Georgia, where he provided leadership and innovation to shield our natural resources from invasive plant pests and foreign animal diseases.

Mr. Chastain's career within Customs and Border Protection includes various leadership roles, such as serving as the Assistant Area Port Director for Trade Operations and the Assistant Area Port Director for Passenger and Tactical Operations. In these roles, he managed international passenger clearance programs, trade processing, maritime and military clearance operations, and led all CBP enforcement programs for the Area Port of Charlotte.

Mr. Chastain's commitment to national and regional security extends to his involvement in high-profile national projects, including the Democratic National Convention, the G-8 Summit, and numerous FEMA Region IV hurricane response events. His capacity to manage complex and critical tasks on a large scale is a valuable asset to our nation. Moreover, Mr. Chastain has excelled in establishing stakeholder partnerships and currently serves as an Executive Steering Committee Member of the North Carolina Joint Terrorist Task Force (JTTF). His contributions to this task force are crucial to our state's security efforts. Mr. Chastain's outstanding career in federal service, his commitment to national security, and his exemplary leadership in Customs and Border Protection are truly commendable. The Carolinas and our Nation are fortunate to have such a dedicated public servant. We extend our heartfelt appreciation for his remarkable service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WORDS MATTER FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Words Matter for the District of Columbia Courts Act, which would remove the term "retarded" from Title 11 of the District of Columbia Code and replace it with more appropriate and respectful terminology. I am pleased that Representative MARC MOLINARO is the co-lead of this bill.

Removing the term from the law has bipartisan support. In 2010, Congress removed several instances of the term from federal law by passing Rosa's Law (P.L. 111-256). Earlier this year, I joined both Republican and Democratic colleagues in introducing the Words Matter Act, which would remove several more instances of the term from federal law.

The term is used three times in Title 11 of the D.C. Code, and, under the D.C. Home Rule Act, only Congress can amend Title 11 of the D.C. Code.

There was a time when the term was a clinical term, but in more recent years, it has become a slur used against people with intellectual disabilities. Words indisputably matter, and I know our country is better than keeping such language in our law.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING CVSOA PRESIDENT BRUCE WILBER

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Bruce A. Wilber, who has dedicated his life to serving both his country and his community. Mr. Wilber's journey is one of resilience, dedication, and unwavering commitment to those he serves.

Born in June 1957 on the Menominee Indian Reservation in Keshana, Wisconsin, Mr. Wilber emerged as a beacon of leadership, being the oldest of seven children. His father's legacy as a Korean War veteran instilled in him a profound sense of duty to his country and eventually inspired him to join the military. After answering the call to serve, Bruce Wilber became a motor transport operator stationed in Caserma Ederle, a base in Livorno, Italy.

Upon concluding his military service, Mr. Wilber transitioned to the civilian sector, where he contributed to the logging industry and later served in law enforcement. Unfortunately, his law enforcement career was cut short due to an injury. However, this setback did not deter him. Mr. Wilber's tenacity shone through as he pursued an associate degree in alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) counseling from the College of Menominee Nation.

His journey took a significant turn as he assumed the role of an AODA counselor at the Maehnowesekiyah Wellness Center, the treatment facility for the Menominee Nation. In this capacity, he was instrumental in establishing and maintaining mental and physical wellness programs for veterans and members of the Menominee Tribe for a decade. At each stop in his career, he continued to serve a greater purpose and those around him.

In August 2016, Mr. Wilber became the Tribal Veterans Service Officer (TVSO) and a County Veterans Service Officer (CVSO) for the Menominee Nation and Menominee County, respectively. He extended his service by joining the Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officers Association (CVSOA), a vital organization that represents all 11 recognized tribes and 72 counties in Wisconsin.

After several years as a CVSO, it is with great pride that we acknowledge Mr. Wilber's election as the first Native American president of the State County Veterans Service Officer Association (CVSOA). I am sure that with his experience and unwavering dedication to the veteran's community, Mr. Wilber will excel in this new role.

Mr. Wilber's dedication also extends to his family, having celebrated 30 years of marriage and having raised seven children. The Wilber family's sacrifices have been profound, including the loss of a son who served with the Marines in Iraq and tragically passing away in an

accident at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. Mr. Wilber carries the memory of his son in his heart and draws inspiration from his son's legacy to continue being a positive role model for others.

I am proud that my office has been able to work with Bruce in his role as TVSO and CVSO. It is an incredible honor to recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Bruce as he continues to make a profound impact on the lives of our veterans, the Menominee tribe, Northeast Wisconsin, and our country.

CONGRATULATING HERMIT WOODS WINERY AND EATERY ON BEING NOMINATED TO THE 2023 AMERICA'S TOP SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hermit Woods Winery and Eatery, a New Hampshire small business that was recently nominated to the 2023 America's Top Small Business Summit. For 13 years Hermit Woods Winery and Eatery has embodied our state's values of determination and innovation, heightened consumer experiences with high-quality, locally-sourced products. This recent recognition by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is a testament to Hermit Woods Winery and Eatery's impact on our local economy and involvement in the community. The next generation of New Hampshire business leaders will look to Hermit Woods for inspiration.

Hermit Woods is an industry leader and a trusted community partner. Its model of brewing with the fruits, flowers, and vegetables grown by local farmers and foragers showcases its culinary creativity and commitment to fostering community connections. Each bottle at the Winery is brewed with the spirit of community that defines the work at Hermit Woods. The Granite State is thankful for these small businesses that provide quality products, build relationships between neighbors, and strengthen the economy.

I look forward to seeing all that Hermit Woods accomplishes in the years to come, and I am confident that it will continue to serve as a guide for other business leaders in the state. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I applaud Hermit Woods for its commitment to the values of business innovation and community compassion. I wish Hermit Woods continued success in its future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING OKALOOSA STEMM ACADEMY

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a school from my district, the Okaloosa Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Medical (STEMM) Academy, on achieving the remarkable milestone of

being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School. Okaloosa STEMM Academy is one of only 13 schools from the State of Florida to earn this distinction and one of only 353 nationwide in 2023. This achievement is a testament to the teachers and staff's dedication to student success and their pursuit of excellence.

The Okaloosa STEMM Academy is an innovative middle school that provides a free and public education to sixth through eighth grade students in Okaloosa County with a curriculum focused on academic rigor and excellence. The STEMM Academy was established in 2012 as part of the Okaloosa STEMM Center. The curriculum has been specifically designed to enable students to transition to high school having completed numerous high school courses, including Algebra I Honors, Geometry I Honors, Physical Science Honors, Fundamentals of Web Design, and Earth Space Science Honors. I am proud that Northwest Florida is home to a multi-faceted academy for students interested in pursuing STEMM careers.

I, along with all of Northwest Florida, thank Principal Scheree Martin, the teachers, administration, and staff at Okaloosa STEMM Academy for their hard work and dedication to their students, families, and this community.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I am privileged to recognize Okaloosa STEMM Academy on this incredible achievement.

HONORING RHONDA GIVENS BOLES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a breast cancer hero, Mrs. Rhonda Givens Boles.

Rhonda Boles was born on March 1, 1972, in Clarksdale to Roger Givens and Jamie Sharkey Givens. She has two amazing sons, Preston II—a freshman pre-veterinary medicine major at Mississippi State University, and Matthew Jamison—a junior at Pillow Academy.

Rhonda was a 1990 graduate of Greenwood High School and completed a Bachelor of Science degree at Jackson State University in 1994. She completed her master's degree at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. Obtaining both a Bachelor and Master of Science in nursing before becoming a board-certified family nurse practitioner. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated.

Rhonda married Dr. Preston Boles of Greenwood after moving back to Mississippi from Nashville, and they have enjoyed 21 years of marital bliss.

Rhonda has a love for her New Zion Missionary Baptist Church Family and has served in many capacities: as speaker, advocate, and facilitator for health-care discussions during the months of October and February, where she educated the congregants on breast cancer awareness and other health-related topics.

Rhonda was named The Greenwood Commonwealth's 2023 Mother of the Year in May. The title she proudly claimed was being her two sons' biggest cheerleader who did not carry pom-poms and was often heard giving

the quick retort when asked why something had to be done.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a breast cancer hero, Mrs. Rhonda Givens Boles.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHARTER SCHOOLS USA AND CEO JONATHAN HAGE

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of Charter Schools USA and its President and CEO, Jonathan Hage.

Mr. Hage worked closely with former governor Jeb Bush in developing charter school legislation in Florida, opening the first charter school in the state. He has diligently worked with legislative representatives on both sides of the aisle to create equitable student learning opportunities. He has provided high-quality educational options for more than 95,000 students in Florida, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina.

Furthermore, Mr. Hage is a veteran who served in the Army Special Forces as a Green Beret. He is committed to supporting the military community through hiring practices that recruit, maintain, and promote veterans from all military branches. Additionally, where permitted by each school's charter agreement, students from military families are given enrollment preference. These commitments helped a Florida school receive the Florida Purple Star School of Distinction, recognizing schools that support the unique needs of military families and provide resources for military-connected students when transitioning to a new school environment.

I am pleased to honor Mr. Jonathan Hage and Charter Schools USA for their continued commitment to student excellence by providing an educational environment that builds strong minds and good hearts to ensure a brighter future for all.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MILDRED MCKINNEY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Mildred McKinney and her dedication to St. Thomas United Methodist Church.

Mildred McKinney was born on December 12, 1945. She is the daughter of the late George and Lillie Oden and is the wife of Mr. Ralph McKinney. Her siblings are the late Carolyn Oden Jackson, the late Rudolph Halcome, and the late Willie Joe Oden.

Mrs. McKinney retired as an administrative secretary from the Sylacauga City School System after 27 years of service.

She is a proud member of the Coosa Valley Medical Center Auxiliary and has contributed over 1900 hours of volunteer service to Coosa Medical Center in Sylacauga.

She has served her church in many various ways. At St. Thomas, she has previously served as past president of the St. Thomas United Methodist women for 9 years, Sunday School Teacher, Sunday school superintendent, Church Secretary, Vacation Bible School Director and Trustee and has sung in the choir.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mrs. McKinney for her dedication to St. Thomas United Methodist Church.

RECOGNIZING THE RANKING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) for receiving its highest ranking for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) according to U.S. News & World Report.

Under the leadership of UMES President, Dr. Heidi M. Anderson, U.S. News ranked UMES in the top 6 of public HBCUs, number 200 among all public colleges and universities, and number 14 among 78 HBCUs in their 2023–2024 report. UMES ranked two spots higher than last year's report and is the university highest ranking since U.S. News created its HBCU category in 2007.

As the representative of Maryland's Eastern Shore, it is my distinct honor to recognize UMES for its remarkable achievement and I look forward to seeing the university continue to shape the minds of our Nation's future. Congratulations to UMES and Go Hawks.

HONORING THE U.S. AIR FORCE AIRBORNE LASER LABORATORY

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. MOONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible accomplishments of the U.S. Air Force Airborne Laser Laboratory.

Five decades ago, in the midst of the Cold War, the men and women of the ALL undertook a seemingly impossible task: developing a laser defense system capable of tracking, engaging and destroying incoming missiles from an airborne platform. Although the Air Force had successfully demonstrated their ability to use a land-based laser to destroy drone aircraft, the ALL would represent the first time in history that an aircraft-based system would attempt that feat.

For more than a decade, Air Force scientists and engineers, both military and civilian, pushed scientific boundaries, working on a converted KC-135 tanker aircraft in a huge yellow hanger at Kirkland Air Force Base. These pioneers were not employing the latest technologies, they were inventing brand-new technologies as they discovered new challenges. Many of those new technologies are in use today, in both directed energy and kinetic weapons programs.

In 1983 their hard work paid off when the ALL was successfully tested against AIM-9B Sidewinder missiles fired toward the aircraft in flight. Although the fighter aircraft firing those missiles were positioned out of range, any miscalculation could have been disastrous. Lt. Col Dennis Boesen, who was one of the ALL's Test Directors as well as a Vietnam combat veteran, pointed out, they were putting their lives in the hands of pilots, engineers and even the ordnance specialists to do their job perfectly. They put themselves in the path of a missile—five missiles, in fact—to prove a technology designed to save lives. Their faith in their fellow airmen, officers and scientists is a testament to this incredible team.

In joint testing with the U.S. Navy, the ALL shot down a BMQ-34A drone representing a Soviet cruise missile. Again, the ALL performed flawlessly, destroying the drone and demonstrating that airborne laser weapons are possible. In fact, the technological breakthroughs achieved with the ALL helped inspire President Ronald Reagan to launch the Strategic Defense Initiative and lead several years later to the YAL-1A airborne laser system.

Mr. Speaker, as conflicts around the world show us every day, the U.S. and its allies are constantly under attack from new and more sophisticated enemies. If we are going to continue protecting our citizens and our allies, we need to ensure that our fighting men and women have the best technology possible. The men and women who worked on the ALL deserve our deepest appreciation for what they accomplished to keep this country safe and, as the ALL logo states, give us all "Peace Through Light."

TRIBUTE TO JIM GORMAN

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the memory of Mr. James C. Gorman of Mansfield, Ohio. A longtime philanthropist and industrialist, Mr. Gorman died on September 21 at age 99.

Mr. Gorman was born in Mansfield in 1924. A 1941 graduate of Mansfield Senior High School, he flew more than 70 combat missions in C-47s in New Guinea and the Philippines during World War II. He was a charter member of the Ohio National Guard's 179th Airlift Wing in 1948, flying P-51s.

Jim served as president of the Gorman Rupp Company, a pump manufacturing business founded by his father, J.C. Gorman, and business partner H.E. Rupp in the 1930s. His strong leadership and loyalty to his employees led to steady growth and international renown in the industry. It was just four years ago that Jim retired as a member of Gorman Rupp's board of directors, wrapping up 73 years with the company.

Jim was known throughout the region for his generosity and his dedication to his community. He and his family donated land to establish the Gorman Nature Center, the Bellville Dog Park, the Frank P. Lahm Aviation Museum, and an area YMCA sports complex.

Jim volunteered his time in many ways, serving as president of both the Mansfield Rotary Club and the Mansfield Aviation Club. He

co-founded and led the Beechcraft Heritage Museum and was president of the Experimental Aircraft Association Foundation.

Among the accolades Jim received through his career were the Mansfield-Richland Area Chamber of Commerce Chairman's Award, the Construction Industry Manufacturers Association Lifetime Achievement Award, the North Central State College Hall Excellence Award, the Beechcraft Heritage Museum Young Eagle Award, and the Experimental Aircraft Association Chairman's Award, as well as induction into the North Central State College Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame and the North Central Ohio Industrial Museum Hall of Fame.

Jim was predeceased by Marjorie, his wife of 65 years who shared his love of aviation. He is survived by their son, Jeff; their daughter, Gayle; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, we are grateful that good men like Jim Gorman dedicate their lives to the service of others, enriching countless lives and giving back so much more than they receive. On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I offer his family my condolences as they continue to reflect on this pillar of the community and his contributions to Mansfield and Richland County.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 7

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Tourism, Trade, and Export Promotion

To hold hearings to examine sustainable tourism for a thriving economy.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law

To hold hearings to examine social media and the teen mental health crisis.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of J. Todd Inman, of Kentucky, to

be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board, and Samuel H. Slater, of Massachusetts, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure

To hold hearings to examine causes of roadway safety challenges and possible interventions.

SD-406

NOVEMBER 8

9 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine the President's supplemental request for the Departments of Health and Human Services and Homeland Security.

SD-106

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the philosophy of AI, focusing on learning from history and shaping our future.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine fairness and fiscal responsibility.

SD-608

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine accessing clean water infrastructure assistance, focusing on small, rural, disadvantaged and underserved communities.

SD-406

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. national security interests in Ukraine.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Retirement Security

To hold hearings to examine policy considerations for Artificial Intelligence in health care.

SD-430

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine fentanyl in Native communities, focusing on Native perspectives on addressing the growing crisis.

SD-628

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine reforming the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, focusing on the PREVAIL Act and proposals to promote U.S. innovation leadership.

SD-226

NOVEMBER 9

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of federal coal mine land reclamation and abandoned coal mine land economic revitalization programs.

SD-366

NOVEMBER 14

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife

To hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities to facilitate wildlife movement and improve migration corridors.

SD-406

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 4366, Consolidated Appropriations Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5269–S5320

Measures Introduced: Twenty-three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 3175–3197. **Pages S5314–15**

Measures Passed:

Consolidated Appropriations Act: By 82 yeas to 15 nays (Vote No. 284), Senate passed H.R. 4366, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, by the order of the Senate of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, and after taking action on the following amendments and motion proposed thereto: **Pages S5269–84**

Adopted:

Schumer (for Murray/Collins) Amendment No. 1092, in the nature of a substitute. (A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the requirement of a 60 affirmative vote threshold, be withdrawn.) **Page S5282**

Rejected:

By 46 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 280), Paul Amendment No. 1217 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S5274–75**

By 23 yeas to 74 nays (Vote No. 281), Thune (for Paul) Amendment No. 1347 (to Amendment No. 1092), to reduce the amounts appropriated in divisions B and C and to rescind amounts appropriated to the Internal Revenue Service. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S5276**

By 52 yeas to 45 nays (Vote No. 282), Cruz/Cornyn Amendment No. 1249 (to Amendment No.

1092), to ensure that United States diplomats and officials of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission are able to advance efforts seeking compliance by the United Mexican States with the 1944 Treaty on Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S5281–82**

By 46 yeas to 51 nays (Vote No. 283), Paul (for Lee) Amendment No. 1121 (to Amendment No. 1092), to require congressional review of certain agency rulemaking. (Pursuant to the order of Tuesday, October 24, 2023, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Page S5282**

Withdrawn:

Cramer/Manchin Amendment No. 1241 (to Amendment No. 1092), to prohibit the use of funds to finalize, implement, administer, or enforce the proposed rule of the Federal Highway Administration relating to greenhouse gas emissions performance measures. **Page S5274**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Schumer motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on Murray motion to suspend Rule XVI for the consideration of Schumer (for Murray/Collins) Amendment No. 1092 (listed above) to the bill, was rendered moot. **Page S5274**

Measures Failed:

Block Grant Assistance Act: Committee on Appropriations was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 662, to amend the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 to improve disaster relief funding for agricultural producers, and the bill failed of passage in a roll call vote, 43 yeas to 53 nays (Vote No. 285), after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5284–85**

Scott (FL)/Rubio Amendment No. 1357, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S5284**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–27) **Page S5314**

Franchetti Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, November 2, 2023, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti 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. **Page S5300**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

Herro Mustafa Garg, of California, to be Ambassador to the Arab Republic of Egypt. **Page S5300**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Kurt Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

76 Army nominations in the rank of general.

9 Coast Guard nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Foreign Service, and Space Force.

Pages S5318–20

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Laura Daniel-Davis, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior, which was sent to the Senate on January 23, 2023. **Page S5320**

Messages from the House: **Page S5314**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S5314**

Executive Communications: **Page S5314**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5315–16**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5316–17**

Additional Statements: **Pages S5313–14**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S5317–18**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S5318**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—285) **Pages S5275–76, S5281–83, S5285**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 10:42 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5318.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

EXTREME EVENT ATTRIBUTION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the science of extreme event attribution, focusing on how climate change is fueling severe weather events, after receiving testimony from Michael Wehner, University of California Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Department of Energy; Jennifer Jurado, Broward County Resilient Environment Department, Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and Paul M. Dabbar, Columbia University Center on Global Energy Policy and Bohr Quantum Technology, Scarsdale, New York.

UKRAINE

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on Ukraine from Brett M. Holmgren, Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research, and Christopher W. Smith, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Eastern Europe and Policy and Regional Affairs, both of the Department of State; and Laura K. Cooper, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Russia, Ukraine, and Eurasia.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, who was introduced by Senators Shaheen and Hassan, Edward Sunyol Kiel, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Jersey, who was introduced by Senators Menendez and Booker, Sarah French Russell, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, who was introduced by Senator Blumenthal, and Christopher Charles Fonzone, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, who was introduced by Senator Durbin, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

THREATS TO ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine ongoing threats to election administration, after receiving testimony

from Arizona Secretary of State Adrian Fontes, Phoenix; Pennsylvania Secretary of the Commonwealth Al Schmidt, Harrisburg; Nebraska Deputy Secretary of State for Elections Wayne J. Bena, Lincoln; Alan Farley, Rutherford County Election Commission, Murfreesboro, Tennessee; and Elizabeth Howard, Brennan Center For Justice, Washington, D.C.

AMERICA'S OUTDOOR RECREATION ECONOMY

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded a hearing to examine small businesses and America's outdoor recreation economy, including S. 1411, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require greater transparency for Federal regulatory decisions that impact small businesses, S. 1744, to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, S. 2185, to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, S. 873, to improve recreation opportunities on, and facilitate greater access to, Federal public land, and S. 2611, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to expand the snow survey and water supply forecasting program to

serve the Northeastern United States, after receiving testimony from Jessica Wahl Turner, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, Washington, D.C.; Rebecca Peters, Vacation Okoboji, Arnolds Park, Iowa; Andrew Drummond, Ski The Whites, LLC, Jackson, New Hampshire; and Christopher Fox, Ducks Unlimited, Johnston, Iowa.

VA RESEARCH

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine research at the Department of Veterans Affairs, after receiving testimony from Rachel Ramoni, Chief Research and Development Officer, Office of Research and Development, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and Matt Kuntz, National Alliance on Mental Illness for Montana, Helena.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 45 public bills, H.R. 6126–6170; and 9 resolutions, H. Res. 829–837, were introduced. **Pages H5227–29**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H5231–32**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4509, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage to only pay claims submitted by hospitals that have in place policies and procedures to ensure accurate billing practices, and for other purposes, with amendment (H. Rept. 118–258);

H.R. 4508, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to clarify and strengthen the application of certain employer-sponsored health plan disclosure requirements, with amendment (H. Rept. 118–259); and

H.R. 4527, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure plan fiduciaries may access de-identified information relating to health claims, and for other purposes, with amendment (H. Rept. 118–260). **Pages H5226–27**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H5186**

Recess: The House recessed at 12:24 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H5186**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization:

H. Res. 599, a resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization; **Pages H5197–99**

Peace and Tolerance in Palestinian Education Act: H.R. 3266, to require the Secretary of State to submit annual reports reviewing the curriculum used by the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes; **Pages H5199–H5201**

Declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable:

H. Res. 559, a resolution declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 354 yeas to 53 nays, Roll No. 560; and **Pages H5187–89, H5219–20**

Hamas International Financing Prevention Act: H.R. 340, amended, to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for terrorist organizations, including Hamas and the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 363 yeas to 46 nays, Roll No. 561. **Pages H5189–93, H5220–21**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Stop Harboring Iranian Petroleum Act: H.R. 3774, amended, to impose additional sanctions with respect to the importation or facilitation of the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes; and **Pages H5193–97**

Condemning the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff:

H. Res. 798, amended, a resolution condemning the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff, condemning anti-semitism on college campuses, and supporting the right of Jewish students to exercise their First Amendment rights. **Pages H5201–05**

Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2024: The House passed H.R. 4364, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 214 yeas and 197 nays, Roll No. 563. **Pages H5205–14, H5221–22**

Rejected the Espallat motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 201 yeas to 209 nays, Roll No. 562. **Page H5221**

H. Res. 756, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4394) and (H.R. 4364), was agreed to on Tuesday, October 3rd.

In the Matter of George Santos:

The House failed to agree to H. Res. 773, providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the House of Representatives, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 179 yeas and 213 nays, with 19 members voting present, Roll No. 564. **Pages H5214–18, H5222–23**

Recess: The House recessed at 5:43 p.m. and reconvened at 6:26 p.m. **Page H5218**

Question of Privilege: Representative Greene (GA) rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. Upon examination of the resolution, the Chair determined that the resolution qualified. Subsequently, the House agreed to the

Clark (MA) motion to table H. Res. 829, censuring Representative Rashida Tlaib for antisemitic activity, sympathizing with terrorist organizations, and leading an insurrection at the United States Capitol Complex, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 222 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 559. **Pages H5218–19**

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, November 2nd. **Page H5223**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction declared in Executive Order 12938 is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–76) **Page H5205**

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on pages H5205 and H5218.

Senate Referrals: S. 1170 and S. 1146 were held at the desk. **Pages H5205, H5218**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H5218–19, H5219–20, H5220, H5221, H5221–22, and H5222–23.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 8:08 p.m. **Page H5225**

Committee Meetings

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024; ISRAEL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 4820, the “Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”; H.R. 4821, the “Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024”; and H.R. 6126, the “Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024”. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 8–3, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4821, the “Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act”, 2024, H.R. 4820, the “Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,

2024”, and H.R. 6126, the “Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024.” The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4821, the “Department of the Interior, Environment, 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. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part A of 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 part A of 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 part A of the Rules Committee 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 H.R. 4820, the “Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, 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. The

rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report, amendments en bloc described in section 8 and pro forma amendments described in section 9. 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 9 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 part B of the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 8 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 part B of the Rules Committee 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 9 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 H.R. 6126, the “Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in 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. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Chairman Cole, Chairman DeLauro, and Representatives Quigley, Simpson, Pingree, Diaz-Balart, Griffith, Cohen, Rosendale, Nadler, Schweikert, Wasserman Schultz, Stauber, Waters, Tiffany, and Grothman.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine ensuring financial protection for servicemembers, veterans, and their families, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the opportunities and challenges in deploying carbon capture utilization and sequestration and direct air capture technologies on federal and non-Federal lands, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: business meeting to consider the nominations of Marjorie A. Rollinson, of Virginia, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury, and Patricia Hart Neuman, of the District of Columbia, and Demetrios L. Kouzoukas, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, and both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Martin O'Malley, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Harry Coker, Jr., of Kansas, to be National Cyber Director, Jeff Rezmovic, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, and Suzanne Elizabeth Summerlin, of Florida, to be General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, 10 a.m., SD-562.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider an authorization for subpoenas relating to the Supreme Court ethics investigation, and the nominations of Mustafa Taher Kasubhai, to be United States District Judge for the District of Oregon, and Eumi K. Lee, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, 10 a.m., SH-216.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, markup on legislation to establish a supply chain resiliency and crisis response program in the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes; H.R. 5390, the "Critical Infrastructure Manufacturing Feasibility Act"; H.R. 5398, the "Advancing Tech Startups Act"; H.R. 5146, the "Advancing Gig Economy Act"; H.R. 3950, the "Transparency In Charges for Key Events Ticketing Act"; legislation on the Speculative Ticketing Ban; legislation on the No Hidden Fees on Extra Expenses for Stays Act; H.R. 6125, the "Online Dating Safety Act of 2023"; H.R. 5202, the "Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Reauthorization Act"; H.R. 2964, the "Wastewater Infrastructure Pollution Pre-

vention and Environmental Safety Act"; H.R. 5556, the "Reinforcing American-Made Products Act"; H.R. 1797, the "Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act"; legislation on the Awning Safety Act of 2023; H.R. 4310, the "Youth Poisoning Protection Act"; H.R. 4814, the "Consumer Safety Technology Act"; and H.R. 906, the "Right to Equitable and Professional Auto Industry Repair Act", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, hearing entitled "Examining the SEC's Agenda: Unintended Consequences for U.S. Capital Markets and Investors", 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance, hearing entitled "The Factors Influencing the High Cost of Insurance for Consumers", 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 2601, the "National Human Trafficking Hotline Enhancement Act"; H.R. 5430, the "Prohibiting Punishment of Acquitted Conduct Act of 2023"; H.R. 5404, the "Countering Chinese Espionage Reporting Act"; H.R. 5475, the "Prohibiting Adversarial Patents Act of 2023"; and H.R. 3315, the "National Guard and Reservists Debt Relief Extension Act of 2023", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Member Day", 10:15 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Trust in Transparency: Holding VA Accountable and Protecting Whistleblowers", 10 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing on H.R. 522, the "Deliver for Veterans Act"; H.R. 2830, the "Veteran Improvement Commercial Driver License Act of 2023"; H.R. 3601, the "Student Veteran Work Study Modernization Act"; H.R. 3722, the "Daniel J. Harvey, Jr. and Adam Lambert Improving Servicemember Transition to Reduce Veteran Suicide Act"; H.R. 3738, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes; H.R. 3816, the "Veterans' Entry to Apprenticeship Act"; H.R. 5190, the "Military Family Protection from Debt Act"; H.R. 5702, the "Expanding Access for Online Veteran Students Act"; H.R. 5785, to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the requirements of the Edith Nourse Rogers STEM Scholarship; H.R. 5913, the "Consolidating Veteran Employment Services for Improved Performance Act of 2023"; H.R. 5914, to amend title, United States Code, to improve the processes to approve programs of education for purposes of the educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; H.R. 5956, the "G.I. Bill Improvement Act of 2023"; and legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to waive the fee for a housing loan guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for a veteran with a service-connected disability who applied for such loan before receiving a disability rating from the Secretary, 2 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5863, the "Federal Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2023"; H.R. 5862, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 relating to authority of U.S. Customs and Border

Protection to consolidate, modify, or reorganize Customs revenue functions; H.R. 1568, the “Moving Americans Privacy Protection Act”; H.R. 5861, the “BRIDGE for

Workers Act”; and H.R. 6068, the “Clergy Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, November 2

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, November 2

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti 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, with a vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at approximately 11 a.m.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 6126, Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024; H.R. 4821, Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024; and H.R. 4820, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Burgess, Michael C., Tex., E1037
 Bush, Cori, Mo., E1034, E1036
 Cartwright, Matt, Pa., E1036
 Edwards, Chuck, N.C., E1035
 Fitzpatrick, Brian K., Pa., E1034, E1037
 Gaetz, Matt, Fla., E1039

Gallagher, Mike, Wisc., E1038
 Harris, Andy, Md., E1040
 Jordan, Jim, Ohio, E1040
 Kiggans, Jenniver A., Va., E1035
 Mooney, Alexander X., W.Va., E1040
 Moskowitz, Jared, Fla., E1033, E1039
 Norman, Ralph, S.C., E1034, E1038

Norton, Eleanor Holmes, The District of Columbia, E1038
 Pappas, Chris, N.H., E1033, E1039
 Rogers, Mike, Ala., E1033, E1039
 Rutherford, John H., Fla., E1035
 Spanberger, Abigail Davis, Va., E1036
 Thompson, Bennie G., Miss., E1033, E1033, E1034, E1034, E1035, E1036, E1037, E1037, E1039



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