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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. MILLER of Illinois).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 16, 2024

I hereby appoint the Honorable MARY E. MILLER to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, 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 11:50 a.m.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 248TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HALIFAX RESOLVES

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

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a pivotal chapter in our great Nation's history, a moment that forever altered the course of our destiny. It was 248 years ago that the seeds of liberty were sown in Halifax, North Carolina.

On April 12, 1776, a group of visionary delegates took a stand that would define the character and direction of a country yet to be born. The Halifax Resolves were not simply words on paper. They were a proclamation and a declaration of a dream for freedom that was bigger than themselves and bigger than any one of us.

That dream became North Carolina's loud call for American independence. The Halifax Resolves were born from a year of passionate debate, from a people united not by what they could see, but what they could imagine, a people who believed that a just world was possible.

We gathered over the weekend to commemorate the 248th anniversary of this momentous occasion, not only to reflect on the bravery and wisdom of our predecessors, but to recommit ourselves to the timeless principles embodied in the Halifax Resolves.

Madam Speaker, I stand on the shoulders of giants, and we must always remember that it is through the courage of those who came before us that we enjoy the freedoms that we hold dear today, a story of courage, a story of hope, a story that tells us that the path to freedom and independence may be long, but it is well worth it in the end.

Happy anniversary to the Halifax Resolves. May the legacy of freedom and bravery and independence continue to inspire us for generations to come.

HONORING NATIONAL LIBRARIAN DAY

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Librarian Day, which is recognized every April 16.

As we celebrate the profound impact of literature, let us not forget the un-

sung heroes behind its organization and dissemination, our dedicated librarians, of which my mother was one. With roughly 17,500 public libraries spread across the Nation, including more than 550 within Iowa, librarians are the pillar of our communities.

In an era marked by rapid digital transformation, librarians have managed to adapt to the times. Libraries now offer audiobooks, e-reader materials, free computer skills classes, and access to free online resources. Many public libraries even offer language and citizenship classes, access to useful tools, technology like 3D printers and computers, and free workshops on a variety of hobbies and life skills. They provide a quiet shelter during hot or rainy days at no cost, and they serve as a safe, welcoming hangout for people of all ages.

I am grateful for our librarians and thank them for all that they do.

IN RECOGNITION OF CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNERS ISHIKA DESAI AND NISHITA GUDIPAT

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ishika Desai and Nishita Gudipat from Pleasant Valley High School on winning the 2024 Congressional App Challenge.

Ishika and Nishita created an app called Orbit that manages the productivity of their fellow students. Every year, students around the country are asked to create an app that solves a district-specific problem, and this year, Ishika and Nishita rose to the occasion in Iowa's First Congressional District with Orbit.

The app challenge was created in 2016 to foster an appreciation for computer science and STEM. Since its inception, over 40,000 students across 50 States have participated in the challenge. The winning teams get their app displayed at the Capitol Building for a year. They also get to fly out to D.C. and meet with their Representatives.

□ 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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I was happy to meet with these young ladies and their parents and see firsthand how their app works. I congratulate them and all the winners.

IN CELEBRATION OF MODERN WOODMEN PARK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Iowa's very own Modern Woodmen Park for once again being named the number one minor league ballpark in the country.

Modern Woodmen Park is home to the Quad City Bandits and seats more than 17,000 people. This stadium is perfect for baseball fanatics, as well as families who want to spend quality time together.

Attached to the field is a kids' amusement park that features roller coasters and the State's only double-decker carousel. This park has been a staple of Davenport since 1931 and provides the city with a much-needed economic boost.

I am proud of all those who help maintain this beautiful park, and I look forward to my next game there.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAITLIN CLARK

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Caitlin Clark, the University of Iowa's superstar player, for being selected first overall in the 2024 WNBA draft by the Indiana Fever.

Following back-to-back seasons of playing in the national championship game, Caitlin now finds herself competing for the most prestigious award in all of women's basketball, a WNBA championship.

Caitlin finished her illustrious college career as the highest scorer in NCAA basketball history, surpassing legends such as "Pistol" Pete Maravich and Kelsey Plum. She also won all major Player of the Year awards in her junior and senior years.

I could not be prouder of Caitlin and all that she accomplished at her young age. Additionally, even Coach Lisa Bluder said: When she came into the locker room as a freshman, she said: We are going to go to the Final Four.

No one believed her, but she inspired her coaches, her team, and her community to make it happen.

I can't wait to see the impact she has on the WNBA. As always, Go Hawks.

IN MEMORY OF CANDACE CARROLL

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

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Candace Carroll, a longtime San Diego attorney, constituent, and friend.

To say Candace was a trailblazer would be an understatement. I don't know how many women entered the legal profession in 1974, the year Candace graduated from Duke Law School. I do know that, just 4 years earlier, there were only 13,000 women lawyers in the entire United States.

Today, there are more than half a million.

Candace said of Duke Law: It was the first place I had ever been where, if you were a fairly loud, smart, and opinionated woman who put your hand up all the time, you were welcomed.

Indeed, Candace was never one to stay silent. Her accomplishments reflect that.

Her impressive legal career included a clerkship with the D.C. Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, 7 years as an appellate attorney for the National Labor Relations Board, and she practiced with Sullivan Hill Rez & Engel in San Diego for 30 years.

A mother of three, she advocated for women attorneys who were struggling to juggle a work-life balance, and she was also a champion for underserved communities, serving on the boards of San Diego Volunteer Lawyers, the national and local ACLU, and the San Diego chapter of the International Rescue Committee.

She cared about the next generation of attorneys. She taught seminars at Duke Law and the University of San Diego School of Law, where she supervised a Ninth Circuit legal clinic. She and her husband, Len, established fellowships at Duke to aid students working in nonpaid public interest positions during law school.

Candace also loved the arts. She served on the board of directors of the San Diego Opera and was credited with helping save the organization from being forced to shut down.

Madam Speaker, if everything I have mentioned doesn't reflect someone who has embraced a life of giving back, Candace also served as President of the San Diego County Bar Association and the California Women Lawyers, and chaired Senator Barbara Boxer's San Diego-area advisory committee for Federal judge and U.S. attorney nominations.

Sadly, Candace died from leukemia at her home in San Diego on January 24 with her husband, Len, and her sons, Daniel, Matthew, and David by her side. She was an inspiration to those who were lucky enough to know her friendship, compassion, and commitment to service firsthand, and San Diego is a better place because of her.

DESIGNATION OF TIJUANA RIVER AS ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST ENDANGERED RIVERS

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the unfortunate designation today of the Tijuana River as one of America's most endangered rivers. While it gives me no pride that the Tijuana River is receiving this distinction, it will help bring critical attention to this environmental catastrophe and public health threat.

The sewage crisis has plagued the river for far too long, harming the environment, public health, tourism, our national security, and residents' quality of life.

We are finally beginning to turn the page on this crisis, thanks to advocacy efforts like this, and soon the story of

the Tijuana River will, I hope, be one of triumph and not tragedy.

Last month, we celebrated a victory when we secured \$156 million for the U.S. International Boundary and Water Commission's construction budget. This money will go toward fixing and upgrading the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant. It keeps us on track to begin work this year, but there is still a lot more to be done.

We will need to secure additional funding over the next few years to ensure this project is completed without delay and at the fully intended capacity.

I will continue working with my colleagues here in Congress to end this crisis so that, one day, the Tijuana River earns the distinction of being an environmental jewel and not an environmental disaster.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PICKETT COUNTY LADY BOBCATS

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, for many folks I represent in the Upper Cumberland Region of Tennessee, this year feels a lot like 1989. That is the last time that Pickett County Lady Bobcats were named TSSAA girls' basketball State champions.

They reclaimed that title last month when they defeated the Moore County Lady Raiders 56-45 in the class 1A final. The championship, Madam Speaker, was a family affair. Lady Bobcats guard Zoe Nicholas now joins her aunt and grandmother in having been members of a Pickett County State championship team.

It doesn't stop there. Nicholas' cousin, Callie Reeder, is also on the winning team and was even named Tournament Most Valuable Player.

The coach that led the team to victory, Brent Smith, has a brother named Barry, who happened to coach the last winning team 35 years ago.

It is important to note that, even though this is the first State championship in a while, the program does very well every season. It is also important to note that, each time the Lady Bobcats have made it out of the quarterfinals and advanced to the State championship, they have won.

I congratulate the current champions for keeping that now six-time winning streak alive.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Pickett County and many places like it that take so much pride in their families, communities, and their home team.

Again, I congratulate the Pickett County Lady Bobcats 2024 TSSAA Single A girls' basketball State champions.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2024-2025 TENNESSEE FFA STATE OFFICER TEAM

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the 2024-2025 Tennessee Future Farmers of America State Officer team.

I commend FFA for all it does to support our Nation's young people and the many ways it has helped produce some of our Nation's best and brightest.

For countless elected officials, including me, FFA is where it all started. It is where we began honing leadership skills, learning ways to meet challenges, big and small, and seeing the value of hard work.

□ 1015

The experiences FFA students are afforded in those few short years will continue to matter to them throughout their lives.

Serving in an officer role can be transformative. I know because I had the chance to be one myself. I was elected FFA president of my local chapter in Cookeville, Tennessee, in 1982. The following year, I was fortunate enough to be elected Middle Tennessee State vice president.

My time as an FFA State officer taught me tremendous lessons I am proud to hold on to until this very day. I still keep two of my FFA blue corduroy jackets in framed cases on my office wall as a reminder of the lessons learned from that experience.

I say all of this to send a message to FFA students everywhere: Living to serve isn't just part of the FFA motto; it is a lifestyle.

I congratulate the newly elected Tennessee FFA State officers: T. Wayne Williams, State president; Emily Whitehead, East Tennessee State vice president; Skylar Baird, Middle Tennessee State vice president; Sarah Ault, West Tennessee State vice president; Shelbi Wallace, State secretary; Eli Julian, treasurer; Paige Pardue, reporter; and Lexi Rush, sentinel.

FFA chapters across Tennessee are preparing student leaders for big things. In fact, it is those chapter officers and this slate of State officers that give me so much hope for the future of our State.

Madam Speaker and Members of Congress, please join me in recognizing the newly elected Tennessee FFA State officers. I congratulate each of them.

AMERICA STANDS WITH ISRAEL

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

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to make it crystal clear: America stands with Israel.

On October 7, 2023, Iranian-backed Hamas terrorists invaded Israel, killing and kidnapping both Israelis and Americans, resulting in the deadliest day for the Jewish people since World War II.

In the aftermath of the October 7 attacks, House Republicans made it clear that we always have been and always will be staunch supporters of Israel. Unfortunately, the Biden administration and some radical Washington Democrats have taken a different approach.

Since day one, President Biden's mission has been to appease the Iranian re-

gime in Tehran as if it would be effective in discouraging bad behavior. President Biden took a sledgehammer to President Trump's policies, which actually worked and deterred terrorism, by reversing permanent sanctions on Iranian drones and missiles, allowing them to expire in October 2023.

In September of last year, President Biden unfroze \$6 billion in Iranian funds for the release of five American hostages. While we are grateful that those Americans are free, exchanging \$6 billion in assets sets an alarming precedent that only further incentivizes hostage-taking by Iran and other bad actors. America does not negotiate with terrorists.

The President's appeasement in dealing with the terrorist regime in Tehran backfired and put American and Israeli lives at risk. After 4 years of peace in the Middle East under President Trump, President Biden has empowered Iranian proxies and put the entire region at risk.

If it isn't clear enough to the Biden administration, here is a wake-up call: The President's policies aren't working. They are failing. In fact, President Biden's policies are so disastrous that for the first time in history, Iran has launched a direct military assault on Israel.

Some people are claiming that Israel should not respond to Iran's attack based on the punches thrown but rather on the punches that landed. Of the more than 300 drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles that Iran launched at Israel, fortunately, the Iron Dome and other defense mechanisms protected Israel from much of the damage that Iran intended to cause.

In no other country would we spew such a nuanced foreign affairs strategy. America would not tolerate this behavior from any neighboring country, and neither should Israel.

Since October 7, House Republicans have passed legislation to support our ally. We supported Israel's right to self-defense, condemned Hamas terrorism, rejected anti-Semitism, reaffirmed America's commitment to Israel's security, pushed the Biden administration to reinstate and refreeze the Iranian assets and further prevent Iran from funding terrorism. We have fully funded U.S.-Israel cooperative missile defense programs and supported the expansion of the Abraham Accords to encourage peace in the Middle East.

This week, Congress will again vote on legislation to condemn the behavior of the Iranian regime and show our unequivocal support for our ally, Israel. For House Republicans and for me, there is no question: America stands with Israel.

Now, Mr. President, the choice is yours. Abandon our strongest ally in the Middle East or join House Republicans in standing with our ally and sole democratic partner in the Middle East, Israel.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF KEVIN "CATFISH" JACKSON

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, as you know, I come down here quite often. I consider this to be one of the great privileges that we have in Congress—to recognize people in our districts for the lives that they lived, for the achievements that they achieved.

Some of them I know, and some of them I don't. All of them deserve to be recognized because all of them have done great things.

Today, I come down to honor someone who was a dear friend.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my dear friend, Kevin "Catfish" Jackson.

Kevin grew up in Cartersville, Georgia. Those who knew him recognized his talent and motivated him to pursue a future in athletics and academics. He actually wanted to quit high school. He wanted to become a lineman for Georgia Power. His coaches saw his athletic ability and encouraged him to continue on, and he did. He will be remembered for, among many things, being a member of the 1980 University of Georgia National Championship football team. He played under Coach Vince Dooley and Coach Erk Russell.

In fact, Coach Russell told the story about how he got his nickname, "Catfish." Some people say it was because the coach said he fought like a cat and drank like a fish. The coach also said that it might have been because, one day in practice, he was waddling around in the mud and looked like a catfish.

Due to his dedication, teamwork, and love for the sport, he was voted by his teammates as co-captain for the Georgia Bulldogs in 1983. Later, he was selected by his coaches for the Coach Wally Butts award for "the player who pays the price," a title that recognized his willingness to sacrifice for others without any ends.

After graduating with a degree in business education, Kevin moved to the city of Savannah, my hometown, and he became a very prominent businessman and a very important member of our community. He applied what he learned both in the classroom and on the field to his business ventures and earned a reputation for treating staff with the respect that he hoped to receive in return.

His sales career started in 1985. He first worked as a salesman for the Georgia Fastener and Safety Company in Savannah. Then, he went on to serve as vice president of marketing at Scapa Group.

In 1999, he founded his own business, EnviroVac Holdings, a company committed to environmental and industrial cleaning services. As president and CEO, he successfully expanded his company across the southeastern region of the Nation.

Kevin was a man of many passions. He lived life like he was. He lived life big. He was known for giving his all in everything he worked on.

He served as chairman of the Savannah Economic Development Authority. He served on the boards of directors for the Georgia Ports Authority, the Georgia Economic Development Authority, the lottery, and so much more.

Despite his many obligations, he always looked out for his community, and his strong faith guided him to tirelessly serve others. He lent his talents to many wonderful organizations, including the Alzheimer's Association, Bethesda Academy, CASA, Leukemia Society, Cure for Cancer, Feed the Hungry, United Way, YMCA, and Savannah Christian Prep School.

I would be remiss if I did not mention his involvement in the organization Band of Brothers. In fact, for a while, we met at his business. The Band of Brothers is a prayer group, a Bible study that meets every week on Friday mornings at 6:30. Kevin was a big part of getting that started.

He was always there when you needed him, both in his career and his personal endeavors. His heart was always filled with gratitude, and his personality brought joy to all he met.

More than anything, he loved his family. I loved following him on Instagram, seeing all the different posts that he would have enjoying his grandchildren. He even built them a zoo, practically a zoo, a farm with all the farm animals.

Words cannot express the profound impact that Catfish has left on his community. He will be missed, but his career and service have created a legacy that will never be forgotten.

The Savannah and broader Georgia community are praying for Kevin's family. His memory will live on in our hearts forever. We suffered a great void in our community with the loss of Kevin "Catfish" Jackson, but his memory will live on forever.

RECOGNIZING DEDICATION AND SERVICE OF NICK SELIMOS

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

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to be on this House floor and recognize people who have done great things for the community and for other people.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Nick Selimos, whose service and dedication to his work continue to unite and uplift Washington, D.C., where over 589,000 government employees work and live.

Nick has served as the maitre d' of The Monocle Restaurant for over 50 years this month. He is not an elected leader. He is not a lobbyist. He is not a congressional staffer. Yet, his impact and influence reaches as far as anyone with political power in this town would have.

Nick knows about the lives of individuals who have walked into The Monocle every day. Not only does he know political affiliations, not only does he know committee positions or the bills they are working on, but he also knows how their spouses are doing, where their kids just got accepted to school, and when their next grandkid is on the way.

It is his incredible memory paired with a genuine care for people that has made him a success in this town. When Nick started at The Monocle in 1974, Washington was a much smaller town, and the nature of politics and the entire political arena was much different. Nick has grown alongside it, matching the needs and changes in this town stride for stride.

Nick's deep knowledge and understanding of the needs of his guests exemplifies why people continue to return to The Monocle, along with the great food that they provide daily. It is why I take my staff, my friends, and my family time and time again to The Monocle. He is truly an outstanding leader. His demeanor and dedication to service guide the atmosphere of the entire restaurant.

As we recognize Mr. Nick Selimos, let us be inspired by his example so that we may do our work and that we may do it well for the betterment of the people we serve. He has set the gold standard for over 50 years, and his commitment and service will long be remembered.

Madam Speaker, I hope we will all join in giving Nick a big thank-you.

□ 1030

RECOGNIZING MAYOR ERNEST CHARGUALAF

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

Mr. MOYLAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Mayor Ernest Chargualaf, who is retiring this year after over a decade of public service. Having been elected in 2008, Mayor Chargualaf holds the distinction of being the mayor of the southernmost village of Guam, the village of Malesso.

Mayor Chargualaf's history of service dates back to his time working for the Government of Guam. A lifelong public servant, Mayor Chargualaf was previously the Youth Center Supervisor with the Department of Parks and Recreation and held several positions at the Public Defender Corporation.

A few of his accomplishments during his tenure include: securing over 200 new crypts at the cemetery, completing the long-awaited land exchange for 32 families in the Land for the Landless program, repairing the community center, dedicating and renaming the pier park as the Malesso Veterans Sons & Daughters Pier Park, and the placement of four government lots behind the mayor's office.

Present day, Mayor Chargualaf is known for his leadership abilities, gen-

erosity, and his tenacity in advocating for the people of Malesso. He and his team continue to commit their time to ensuring there are programs for the elderly and sports activities for the youth.

I will certainly remember him as a gifted public servant who could make a village a family and carry out the spirit of "harmony," "inafa' maolek."

I would like to personally thank Mayor Chargualaf for his unwavering dedication and commitment to Malesso and its residents. I wish him the best in his retirement and thank him for his many years of service. I am confident his legacy will inspire future leaders to come. "Hooray," "Biba," Mayor Chargualaf. "Hooray," "Biba," Malesso.

SENDING A CLEAR MESSAGE TO TEHRAN

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

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I stand before you today to speak on the unbreakable bond between the United States and Israel, a partnership rooted not just in strategic interests, but in our shared values of democracy, freedom, and justice. This critical alliance not only shapes the destiny of our nations but also upholds the very principles that define our civilization.

When Iran launched an unprecedented attack on Israel this past weekend, we saw the forces of tyranny emboldened against beacons of freedom. We saw the importance of U.S. leadership and alliances in chaotic regions, but ultimately, we saw the result of inaction.

For 6 months, Israel, our greatest ally in the Middle East, has been at war for its very survival. We have supported them and prayed for their safety from the very beginning. In November, when they needed us, this House, the Republican majority, passed a bill to aid our friends. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle didn't want to take \$14 billion out of the \$80 billion they handed over to the IRS to pay for it.

The result of this was weakness. We showed weakness to our allies and to the world. This cannot stand. The United States has a moral obligation to support our allies in democracy and regional security against the forces of tyranny and terrorism. We have a moral obligation to bring another bill to the floor to support this alliance.

Let us send a clear message to Tehran and to the world: The United States stands unequivocally with Israel. We will not waver in our commitment to defend our ally from the threats of Iran and its proxies. We must do this to free the Palestinians in Gaza from the tyranny of Hamas. We must do this for Israel. We must do this to send a message to the world.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 33 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ROSE) at noon.

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, You foil the plans of nations. You thwart the purpose of people. God, what hope do we who represent this Nation have? Lord, how can we, who work on behalf of the American people, get anything done without You?

When You look down from Your Heavens and see us, when You look from Your dwelling place and observe our lives, we pray You would consider our hearts and shape them according to Your perfect plan.

Blessed is the nation whose God is You, O Lord, for Your plans stand firm forever. The purposes of Your heart will sustain all generations who seek to serve You.

May our hope be ever in Your unfailing love. May all that we do revere You. Deliver us from the famine of our faith and the failure of our flawed designs. For You alone are our help and our shield.

Let Your unfailing love rest upon us, Lord, even as we put our hope in You.

We pray these prayers in Your sovereign name.

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 Illinois (Ms. BUDZINSKI) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. BUDZINSKI 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 commu-

nicated to the House by Ms. Avery M. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

FAMILIES ASSAULTED BY BIDENFLATION

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, since Biden came to office, the pocketbooks of American families have been assaulted.

Upon his arrival, inflation was just 1.4 percent, but with Bidenflation of spend, borrow, and tax, inflation has reached a 40-year high, destroying jobs.

Bidenflation is a tax on American citizens and a direct result of the reckless spending of Biden and far-left Democrats, costing households over \$12,000 more a year just for the basics.

Examples of such price increases include eggs, which are up by 49 percent; baby food, up 31 percent; electricity, up 29 percent; pet food, up 24 percent; and coffee, up 20 percent.

House Republicans will continue to fight to reduce inflation and create jobs.

In conclusion, God bless our troops who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism moves from the Afghanistan safe haven to America. We do not need new border laws. We need to enforce the current existing laws. Biden shamefully opens the borders for dictators as more 9/11 attacks across America are imminent, as warned by the FBI.

REMEMBERING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR. WILLIAM PATTERSON

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

Ms. BUDZINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and celebrate the life of someone who served as a pillar of his community and beacon of light to the students of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Dr. William Patterson.

Dr. Patterson was a professor and community mentor who was dedicated to bettering the lives of the young people around him.

During his time as an associate professor at the University of Illinois School of Music, Dr. Patterson worked with the Moyer Boys and Girls Club and created new initiatives for Black middle school, high school, and college students, like the Hip Hop Xpress Urban STEM Lab.

Dr. Patterson's impact on our community cannot be overstated. He was known for always being fully present until the work was done.

As we mourn his loss, we also celebrate Dr. Patterson and his work, work that we must honor by continuing to follow his example of leadership and excellence. May his legacy live on to empower and inspire young people to blossom into bright, civic-minded leaders for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING SERVICE CLUBS AND THEIR VOLUNTEERS

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize members of the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, the Kiwanis Club, and the Optimist organization, who are on Capitol Hill today.

Volunteer service is a cornerstone of a successful, strong, and healthy community. It is also an important staple of American life. I am a member of my hometown organization, the Howard Area Lions Club, so I know firsthand the good this club does around the world.

To share the impactful work of service clubs and our volunteers, Congressman JIMMY PANETTA of California, who is a Rotarian, and I founded the Congressional Service Organization Caucus in 2019.

Later today, the Congressional Service Organization Caucus will host a Member and staff briefing. Speakers from Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis, and Optimist clubs will share how their members strive to make the world a better place, one community at a time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join the Congressional Service Organization Caucus to ensure service to others remains a viable part of American life for generations to come.

TAKING SPOONFULS' PLEDGE TO WASTE LESS

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have officially taken the pledge. An incredible organization from Massachusetts called Spoonfuls is calling on all of us to reduce our wasted food footprint while helping those who don't know where their next meal is coming from.

I have always said that, in America, we have a mismatch: Acres of fresh fruits and vegetables and some of the most talented farmers in the world, yet nearly 40 million Americans go hungry. We have enough food to feed everyone, yet so much goes to waste.

In fact, about 40 percent of the food the U.S. produces ends up thrown in the trash, and too much of it is perfectly good to eat.

In Congress, I was proud to get the Food Donation Improvement Act to President Biden's desk, making it easier for organizations to donate unused food. This law is a win-win for organizations looking to do good and for Americans who are hungry.

Mr. Speaker, I will continue to look for ways to minimize food waste in my life, and I hope that others, including my colleagues in Congress, will join me in this fun, commonsense commitment. Let us rededicate ourselves to ending hunger now.

CONGRATULATING MIRAJ PATEL

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents, Miraj Patel, on becoming the first Houstonian and the youngest person ever to lead the Asian American Hotel Owners Association in its 35-year history.

In Miraj, they have elected a young man born and raised in my district to be the leader of the largest hotel owners association in the United States, with over 20,000 members.

Miraj's passion for the hotel industry started in his family's 30-room motel on Wayside Drive, in the heart of my district. Now, it has grown into an American success story and proves that your dreams can come true.

I am truly excited about Miraj's vision and what it will bring to the Asian American Hotel Owners Association. I know, from his heart, he will always put people first.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate and wish Miraj nothing but success in his new endeavor.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6323, IRAN COUNTERTERRORISM ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 1143, CONDEMNING IRAN'S UNPRECEDENTED DRONE AND MISSILE ATTACK ON ISRAEL; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4691, IRAN SANCTIONS RELIEF REVIEW ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5947, TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESCISSION OF CERTAIN WAIVERS AND LICENSES RELATING TO IRAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6046, STANDING AGAINST HOUTH AGGRESSION ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4639, FOURTH AMENDMENT IS NOT FOR SALE ACT

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1149 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1149

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6323) to modify the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel. The resolution shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the resolution and preamble to adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 4691) to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-30 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 4. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5947) to provide for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 5. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 6046) to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. In lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules

Committee Print 118-29 shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 6. At any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4639) to amend section 2702 of title 18, United States Code, to prevent law enforcement and intelligence agencies from obtaining subscriber or customer records in exchange for anything of value, to address communications and records in the possession of intermediary internet service providers, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. An amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-28 shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as the original bill for the purpose of further amendment under the five-minute rule and shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. No further amendment to the bill, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such further amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such further amendments are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill, as amended, to the House with such further amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any further amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit.

□ 1215

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. For the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the ranking member of the Rules Committee and my good friend, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all

Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this rule and in support of the underlying legislation.

House Resolution 1149 provides for consideration of six measures: H.R. 6323, H. Res. 1143, H.R. 4691, H.R. 5947, H.R. 6046, and H.R. 4639.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6323, the Iran Counterterrorism Act of 2023, under a closed rule, with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees and provides one motion to recommit.

Additionally, the rule provides for consideration of H. Res. 1143, a resolution condemning Iran's unprecedented attack on Israel, under a closed rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees.

Further, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4691, the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act of 2023, under a closed rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees and provides one motion to recommit.

The rule also provides for consideration of H.R. 5947, which provides for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, under a closed rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees and provides for one motion to recommit.

The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 6046, the Standing Against Houthi Aggression Act, under a closed rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their respective designees and provides one motion to recommit.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule provides for consideration of H.R. 4639, the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act, under a structured rule with 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees and provides one motion to recommit. The rule makes in order three amendments.

Mr. Speaker, President Joe Biden's foreign policy decisions have been a complete disaster on the world stage and have emboldened our adversaries and empowered foreign terrorist organizations.

Sadly, we were forewarned about all of this. Former President Obama's De-

fense Secretary, Robert Gates, stated nearly a decade ago regarding President Biden: "I think he has been wrong on nearly every major foreign policy and national security issue over the past four decades."

He is right. Let's look at the facts.

In the first year alone, the President green-lit Nord Stream 2 to provide Russian gas to Europe while simultaneously blocking the Keystone XL pipeline here at home. He issued 94 executive orders on immigration, which has led to an unprecedented invasion at our southern border. To appease his far-left radical base, he delisted the Houthis as a foreign terrorist organization, which directly led to this conflict in the Red Sea. He is responsible for the complete surrender of Afghanistan, which killed 13 American servicemembers, stranded thousands of Americans, returned the Taliban to power, and expanded ISIS-K and al-Qaida.

In 2022, his policies of appeasement led to the largest invasion of Europe since World War II. To help his party in the mid-terms, he depleted the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to its lowest levels since I was born, 1983, and he sent millions of barrels of oil to Communist China.

In the first days of 2023, he allowed a Chinese spy balloon to cross the entire country, which collected intelligence on innocent Americans. On the 22nd anniversary of 9/11, on the very anniversary, in an insult to the people who suffered those terrorist attacks, Joe Biden unfroze \$6 billion in oil sanctions to Iran just days before an Iranian proxy group killed over a thousand people in Israel.

How does Iran thank us? Our troops in the Middle East faced over 100 attacks from proxy networks, which led to the death of three servicemembers in Jordan.

Just this year, Biden waived billions of dollars in sanctions to allow Iranian energy exports into Iraq—and I kid you not—while also announcing an indefinite pause to new approvals of U.S. liquefied natural gas exports from here.

Guess who benefits from that? It is not the United States. It is not the American worker. It is Russia, China, and Iran who benefit from Joe Biden's reckless foreign policy.

This administration's policies truly embody the slogan: America last. That is why House Republicans are bringing to the floor this week legislation to condemn Iran's recent attack on Israel, block Biden's ransom payments to Iran, redesignate the Houthis as a foreign terrorist organization, and apply maximum pressure on the Iranian regime.

We cannot stand idly by as the Biden administration hands over the keys to the Ayatollah; the dictator in Communist China, Chairman Xi; and the dictator Vladimir Putin.

This week's votes will be very clear: Do you stand with our ally and strategic partner Israel, or do you stand with the authoritarian regime in Tehran?

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I join the gentleman from Pennsylvania in condemning Iran's attack on Israel, and I also express my growing concern at this situation. I hope that President Biden continues working to de-escalate tensions. I don't think that any of us want this to turn into a broader conflict that puts even more civilians at risk.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank President Biden because, as Commander in Chief, he ordered our military to shoot down more than 70 drones and 3 ballistic missiles that Iran launched. Because of his actions and his work to unite our allies in the region, Israeli airspace was defended, and 99 percent of the projectiles fired by Iran were intercepted.

That is real. That is concrete. That is tangible.

Listening to my friends on the other side. I think they blame Joe Biden for everything. I mean, they blame him for Iran's attack more than they blame Iran. I think they have people on their side who blame Joe Biden for the earthquake, and I think one of my friends on the other side of the aisle blamed Joe Biden for the eclipse. This is crazy.

At some point they need to stop playing the blame game and work with Democrats to address these global challenges in a thoughtful and bipartisan way. Instead of doing that, instead of bringing everybody together, what we have from Republicans is a fake response to a real crisis.

The majority dusted off a bunch of old bills, some of which have never had a hearing and have never been marked up by committee, and they are bringing them to the floor. I guess they decided the original schedule for the week would have looked bad because they originally planned to bring up bills dealing with household appliances.

You heard that right, Mr. Speaker. With all the crises going on in the world, the majority's plan this week was to bring up a bill about refrigerator freedom. Not just one bill or two bills; they had a whole week, six bills, dedicated to appliances. They wanted us to debate the Liberty in Laundry Act this week. It took an actual international emergency to get them to notice how out of touch and absurd their policy agenda is.

Meanwhile, Democrats have been saying for months and months that we need Republicans to get serious about helping our allies, and for months we have heard excuse after excuse from Republicans.

First, they said we had to wait until H.R. 2, their extreme MAGA border bill, became law. Then they changed their tune because they tanked their

own border bill. Next, they told us to wait until the Federal Government was fully funded. We did that, and the MAGA caucus moved the goalposts yet again. Then Democrats were told aid for Ukraine had to wait until the House reauthorized FISA.

Guess what, Mr. Speaker? Republicans are out of excuses and our allies are out of time. Speaker Johnson's inaction has consequences. He has emboldened our adversaries and left our allies wondering: Where is America? I hear reports that he is in back-room discussions with Members to find a way forward on Ukraine funding, and I hope that we see the aid our allies need on the floor this week and that there is no partisan B.S. attached to it.

What our allies need right now aren't more empty, do-nothing exercises and political messaging like we are doing today. They need our help immediately.

These bills we are debating do not meet this moment at all. The very first thing we should have done this week is come back and debate a bipartisan bill that can provide real, tangible help to our allies. Instead, we get more wasted time, more broken promises, more useless rhetoric from this Republican majority.

Has anyone even asked the Senate if these bills are going anywhere over there, Mr. Speaker?

They passed the sanctions bill on Iran 6 months ago and haven't sent it to the Senate yet. Are they going to send any of these bills to the Senate or is this all for show, so they can send out a press release to say they did something?

Meanwhile, the world is wondering when America will get our act together and when this Republican majority is going to get their act together, stop playing politics, and start doing their job.

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, in recent days, far-left activists have chanted "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

In Chicago, cheers broke out over the weekend when Iran started attacking Israel during a meeting about the upcoming DNC convention. Just think about that for a moment. This isn't your grandfather's Democratic Party.

In the 3 months following the October 7 attack, there has been an increase of 360 percent in anti-Semitic incidents in this country. It was reported earlier this year that there was an exodus of Jewish families leaving Oakland, California, because of the anti-Semitic radicalization of the teachers union in that city. This isn't 1930s Nazi Germany. This is 21st century California where we are seeing this happen.

If you doubt me, just listen to the leaders of the Democratic Party. Here is Representative RASHIDA TLAIIB, who said: "From the river to the sea is an aspirational call for freedom, human rights, and peaceful coexistence, not

death, destruction, or hate." This is an absolute lie. "From the river to the sea" is a call for genocide of the Jewish people and the destruction of the State of Israel. There is Representative TLAIIB condoning a call for genocide.

Let's not forget about Representative ILHAN OMAR, who said: "We have seen unthinkable atrocities committed by the U.S., Hamas, Israel, Afghanistan, and the Taliban." Equating the United States, the U.S. military, and the Israeli Defense Forces to terrorist organizations is not only disgusting, it is absolutely disgraceful. She also said: "Israel has hypnotized the world," alluding to an anti-Semitic trope that we have seen for absolutely centuries.

Now, here is Representative JAYAPAL, as well, who said: "Well, we condemn Hamas' firing of those rockets, but I think you have to look at what prompted even that behavior."

It is very clear, far-left activists look to their leaders for direction. The Democratic thought leaders in that party sympathize with terrorists.

I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my good friend and the chairman of the Rules Committee.

□ 1230

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

I rise today in support of this very important rule. Specifically, I rise in support of Israel following the attack on Israel by Iran this past weekend.

This direct attack on Israel is unprecedented. It does mark the first time that Iran has directly attacked Israel from Iranian soil. In total, more than 300 drones were launched toward Israel, severely injuring a 7-year-old girl and damaging a military base.

While the United States worked with longstanding allies to help assist in the interception of these missiles and drones, it is clear that the stability of the region is only as strong as the Israeli-United States partnership.

Understanding this and the gravity of Iran's attack, Republicans have put forth legislation this week to condemn the attack and reaffirm our support for Israel. Be assured, Mr. Speaker, Israel does have a right to self-defense.

This rule and the underlying legislation in the rule reaffirms the United States' commitment to Israel's security, it designates the Houthis as a foreign terrorist organization, and it holds Iran accountable for their support of proxy wars and terrorism in the region.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that the United States take up these measures and ensure the safety of Israel and the safety of the United States. Undeniably, Iran should be held accountable for this attack. This legislation seeks to do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the rule from my colleagues.

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

Let me just say I have never heard so much B.S. in my life, to be honest with

you. Let me just remind my colleagues that Donald Trump, the guy they apologize for constantly, is the one who let Iran attack U.S. troops.

Donald Trump is the one who allowed not one but dozens of Chinese spy balloons to fly overhead without telling us.

Donald Trump is the one who gave classified Israeli intelligence to the Russians, intelligence they could have given to Iran.

Donald Trump is the one who went to North Korea—remember that—and tried to get a brutal dictator to love him. He said, hey, Kim Jong-un and I are in love.

Donald Trump is the one who tried to extort Ukraine by withholding our aid, and he was impeached over it.

Donald Trump praises Putin, he fawns over Xi Jinping and Victor Orban, and he sends Kim Jong-un love letters.

It is pathetic. It is pathetic.

Donald Trump is the one who praised an angry mob who attacked the United States Capitol and injured people. That is all good for my friends on the other side.

At every step of the way, Trump stood with America's adversaries and those who oppose democracy. I am sorry that is an inconvenient truth for my Republican friends, but it is the truth.

Contrast that with Joe Biden. Joe Biden rallied the world to Ukraine's defense. He defended our ally Israel in their air space, and he has rebuilt our image on the world stage and has stood up for democracy.

My friends on the other side said nothing when the previous President was apologizing and praising every tin horn dictator in the world who had no regard for human rights.

Democrats are the party of democracy. Republicans can use whatever rhetoric they want about the far-left this and the far-left that. Their party has been radicalized by MAGA extremists.

Here we are at this late date debating legislation that is going nowhere when, in fact, our allies, specifically Ukraine, is out of money and out of equipment to defend themselves against Russia, and my friends just sit there and twiddle their thumbs.

This is pathetic. This is pathetic.

I urge my colleagues to understand what is going on here. We are doing this exercise that is going nowhere. I do not know who it is designed to please—maybe to show that we are doing work when we are not doing work.

We actually passed a bill on Iran—6 months ago to be exact—that is still here. They never even sent it over to the Senate. This is all for show. Meanwhile, we have a real crisis on our hands.

I hope my friends will get serious. Let's waste this time doing these bills that are problematic and that are

going nowhere, but don't come and lecture us about democracy or about protecting Israel, about protecting democracy in Ukraine.

It is because of House Republicans that the world right now is on the brink, and I hope that hopefully in the next couple of days you come to your senses and allow us to provide relief to our ally Ukraine. I hope that we do that because if not, it will be too late. You have waited so long, constantly giving in to the most extreme right-wing elements of your party, people who have nothing but contempt for Ukraine, for democratic movements who couldn't give damn about human rights.

It is pathetic that at this late date we are here doing this and not doing what we should have done a long time ago—and that is provide Ukraine the assistance it needs to push back on Russia.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair reminds Members to refrain from engaging in personalities toward presumptive nominees for the Office of President.

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

You know, there is a lot of emotion coming from the other side of the aisle, but as a really good friend has told me before, facts don't care about your feelings. If you look at the facts it is pretty clear the difference between the Democrats, Obama and Biden, and President Trump.

Let's just look at Russia. It is not a coincidence that Vladimir Putin moved into Crimea and parts of Georgia when President Obama was in office, and then for the 4 years President Trump was in office, there were zero military incursions. Then as soon as Joe Biden took office, he moves into Ukraine. Actions speak louder than words. Again, those facts don't care about your feelings.

Let's look at Ukraine. You want to talk about conditioning aid? Joe Biden conditioned lethal aid on Ukraine, forcing the Ukrainians to fire a prosecutor that was investigating a corrupt oil and gas company that Hunter Biden just happened to be on the board of. I will let you draw your own conclusions on that, but it is very clear that Joe Biden actually did what President Trump was wrongfully impeached for, and then he actually bragged about it on TV.

He also had many missteps. Remember at the beginning of the lead-up to the war, Joe Biden said that we would tolerate a "minor incursion" in Ukrainian territory, just whetting the appetite of Vladimir Putin. Then when the Russians did invade, and Joe Biden slow-walked lethal aid. Where were the MiGs that were sent? Why didn't we get the Ukrainians anti-aircraft air batteries? Why didn't we jam the electronic abilities of the Russians to

make sure that they didn't have air superiority?

The Ukrainians still don't have the lethal aid because Joe Biden and his far-left radical administration slow-walked the aid from the beginning of this war. It has been an absolute disaster because of Joe Biden's incompetence and the incompetence of those he surrounds himself with.

I find it very rich to then attack President Trump's record on Israel. Who was the first U.S. President to move the Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem? It was Donald Trump, making him the most pro-Israeli President we have ever had. Who was it that had the Abraham Accords? It wasn't Joe Biden. That was President Trump who had the Abraham Accords. If he was a Democrat, he would have won two Nobel Peace Prizes for that.

Let's not forget about Joe Biden, who still up to today, is calling for a ceasefire when our number one ally in the world, Israel, is fighting for its life against a terrorist organization in Hamas. The people across the aisle and people in the White House are calling for a ceasefire on that. I think that is absolutely unacceptable.

For all the talk about supporting our fellow democracies, let me remind you that there is one thriving democratic state in the Middle East. There is only one democracy in the Middle East, and that is Israel. It would be nice if my friends across the aisle would support that democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY), my good friend.

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

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for yielding the time today.

I rise today in support of the underlying legislation to put a stop to the Biden administration's policies of appeasement and stand firmly with our friend and ally, the great State of Israel.

On October 7, 2023, Hamas—bankrolled by the Iranian regime with funds that could have been spent on food or medicine or other humanitarian needs of the Iranian people—murdered and kidnapped children, they raped women, and they brutalized the elderly. It was barbarism that the world hadn't seen in years.

The evil we saw on display on October 7 was done at the behest of and with the resources provided by Iran's fundamentalist leaders. These are the very same leaders that call for death to Americans, Israelis, and the extermination of the Jewish state and Jews everywhere. I want to remind everyone here today that we are still American, and we still have American and Israeli hostages in Gaza. They are still being held by a terror group whose lifeline has been and continues to be Iran.

Mr. Speaker, the true cost of the Biden administration's failed policies

of appeasing this terrorist state is on full display. Just this weekend, Iran launched a full-scale military assault on our ally with 330 drones, low-flying cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles.

The time for appeasement has long since passed. Let me remind everyone that President Biden continued to allow Iran to access \$10 billion even after they funded the horrific attacks on October 7. It is ridiculous and frankly disgusting that any of my colleagues would continue to advocate and to serve as apologists for state sponsors of terrorism.

In the face of so much aggression in the region, I am relieved to see that Israel, with the help of the United States, the United Kingdom, and so many other allies, were able to minimize the damage from Iran's recent attacks. We would not be at this point if it had not been for President Biden's relaxing of sanctions and disgraceful attempts at appeasement in a vain attempt to resurrect the failed Obama-era nuclear agreement, an agreement that did nothing but empower Iran and its proxies in the region.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I am here today on the House floor calling for this administration and my colleagues on the other side of the aisle to stop pretending that we can negotiate or appease a regime that wishes genocide on the Jewish people and the destruction of the State of Israel.

I strongly support the underlying legislation to put a check on this administration's reckless policies toward Iran that have jeopardized the safety of the American people and the survival of our friend and ally, the State of Israel, as they fight to defend themselves.

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

Oh, my goodness, Mr. Speaker, listen to the gentleman from New York (Mr. LANGWORTHY). He got up, and he blamed the President of the United States more for Iran's attack on Israel than he blamed the supreme leader of Iran.

It is pathetic. It is pathetic.

I say to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER), yes, we are emotional when we talk about this stuff. We are emotional when we talk about this stuff because the bottom line is people are dying, and we have Members on the other side of the aisle who continue to use Putin's talking points in defending why we are not giving aid to Ukraine. That is not me saying that. That is the Republican chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

So, I mean, this is a really important moment here, whether we are going to stand with our friends in Ukraine, whether we are going to help them stand up to Russia, or whether following the example of Trump we are going to turn a blind eye. I mean, Putin is hoping that maybe Trump wins and the Republicans win because then he knows he can take over Ukraine.

Yes, we are emotional because people are dying. Russia has launched a vicious war against Ukraine, and we are emotional when we talk about not only protecting Israel but protecting innocent people in Gaza as well because we actually think human rights matter.

Human rights knows no political party, knows no country's boundaries. Everyone's human rights ought to be upheld. We are emotional because we are sick and tired of the rhetoric coming from my Republican friends. We are sick and tired of them apologizing for Putin all the time or turning a blind eye on human rights abuses in the Middle East or anywhere else in the world.

Coming to the floor with bills that my friends know are going nowhere—I mean, we have done similar bills before that are still being held at the desk and have not been sent to the Senate. This is all about show business.

Enough. Enough.

We have an opportunity to come together, put politics aside, and do the right thing. I hope my friends will join us in that effort.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

□ 1245

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for pointing out the importance of the moment we are in and the fact that there are people dying. There are children dying of hunger. How is it that we do not cry for that, and that we do not cry for solutions?

Mr. Speaker, I, like all of my colleagues here today, strongly condemn Iran's heinous and unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel over the weekend. We should all be proud of how President Biden, the United States military, and our allies struck down hundreds of drones to minimize the casualties and the damage from the attack.

This is the mark of a strong President, bringing our allies together to combat the threat to democracies around the world. The United States should lead because we are the strongest when we lead coalitions of democratic nations.

When the Republican majority scrapped this week's meaningless agenda of protecting the freedom of refrigerators, we thought this would be the moment when the Republican House leadership would finally rise to the challenge of funding the fight against tyranny. This rule, however, is a disappointment. It is incremental bills with titles condemning Iran, but the bills themselves, where it counts, the text of the legislation, does little. Lots of talk in the title but no real solutions in the bills.

It is especially sad because we have a bipartisan bill that would provide the bullets that Ukraine needs to defeat Russia, that would provide the humanitarian assistance that the starving

children in Gaza need to stay alive, that would provide more assistance to Israel, and that would combat China's increased aggression in the Indo-Pacific.

I know the vast majority of my Republican colleagues want to do the right thing for Ukraine, but when extreme Putin-protecting Republicans fail to curb Russia's aggression, they support Iran.

We cannot see these global threats in isolation. Iran's attack on Israel is tied to the efforts of Russia, Iran, and China to reassert themselves against the West, against America, and against democracy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD the March 2024 Breaking Defense article titled: "Extremely Concerned": American generals raise alarm over Iran's tightening ties with Russia, China."

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New Mexico?

There was no objection.

[From Breaking Defense, March 22, 2024]

EXTREMELY CONCERNED: AMERICAN GENERALS RAISE ALARM OVER IRAN'S TIGHTENING TIES WITH RUSSIA, CHINA

(By Agnes Helou)

BEIRUT.—As wars rage in Gaza and Ukraine, senior US military officials sounded the alarm to lawmakers about the renewed relationships between China, Russia and Iran in both the Middle East and Africa, suggesting alliances of geopolitical convenience intertwining the three could threaten America's position in both regions.

"I'm very concerned about this renewed relationship between Russia, China and Iran," US Central Command head Gen. Michael Kurilla told a House Armed Services hearing Thursday. "What we're seeing is Iran is reliant on China and Russia is reliant on Iran."

Kurilla explained that China buys "90 percent" of Iran's oil, which is sanctioned by the U.S. In return, China uses Iran's influence as part of an effort to "replace the US as one of the dominant forces in the Middle East."

"So in effect, China is funding Iran's subversive and malign behavior in the region," he said.

Iran, meanwhile, has provided thousands of one-way attack drones to Russia for its war in Ukraine and now has even "built a factory in Russia" to produce more locally, Kurilla said. The general said he couldn't discuss in an open setting what Russia is providing Iran for this help, but said that it was "concerning."

In his testimony Kurilla didn't get complete the triangle, but US officials contend that China has provided at least non-lethal aid to Russia since Moscow's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, and just prior to the invasion Russia's Vladimir Putin and China's Xi Jinping announced a "no limits" partnership.

Earlier this month, Iran conducted maritime exercise with Russia and China, dubbed as Maritime Security Belt. The exercise reportedly took place in the North Indian Ocean and the Sea of Oman.

Similarly US Africa Command chief Gen. Michael Langley said the US also should be worried about Russian and Chinese increased footprint in Africa.

"We should be extremely concerned because I would say that both are very, very

much exploitative when possible, but they are also coercive when necessary," he said. "They're trying to get what they want. They're trying to replace the West and, moreover, the United States in our access and influence across this crucial continent."

Langley said Beijing and Moscow are offering "shiny objects" to "our African partners." The US counters those temptations, he said, with a "hole government approach with USAID and the State Department" as well as the military there.

Back in the Middle East, Kurilla said the region "faces its most volatile security situation in the past half century" in the wake of Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel, Israel's massive, deadly counter-attack and the months-long campaign of Yemen-based Houthis to strike at commercial shipping targets in the Red Sea.

"The events of [October 7] not only permanently changed Israel and Gaza. They created the conditions for malign actors to sow instability throughout the region and beyond," Kurilla said.

He added that Iran, which backs Hamas and the Houthis as well as Hezbollah in Lebanon, has exploited "what they saw as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reshape the Middle East to their advantage."

"Iran has worked for decades to encircle the region with its proxies. And in the past six months, we have seen every proxy and the Iranian threat network operationalized in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Gaza, the West Bank, and Yemen," he said. "Iran's expansive network of proxies is equipped with advanced sophisticated weaponry, and threaten some of the most vital trade in the world with global and US implications."

Kurilla stressed that Iran knows that its "decade-long vision cannot be realized if countries in the region continue to expand integration with each other and deepen their partnership with United States."

He said that American "partners" in the region "are committed to advancing the region, and the United States remains their partner of choice for now."

The US leads two operations in the Red Sea: the defensive Operation Prosperity Guardian, meant to protect ships from incoming Houthi missiles and drones, and Operation Poseidon Archer, an offensive series of strikes undertaken along with the UK on Houthi targets in Yemen. Kurilla said a third effort is aimed at interdicting Iran's supply of arms to the Houthis.

Prosperity Guardian's international membership has fluctuated since its launch in December, but Kurilla said Thursday it currently has 24 partners, 17 of which were "public."

But it's Iran that's the source of much of the problem, Kurilla said.

"Iran must be compelled to cease their malign behavior and their actions of directing and supplying funding and training these proxies," he said. "We want to deny [the Houthi's] ability to be resupplied. That will take a whole tougher and actually international effort much like we did with counter piracy, to be able to go after that because only two ships can resupply the vast majority of the equipment that we've destroyed so far of the Houthis."

"We have to stop that we have to increase the international effort to be able to do the inspections on the vessels that are going into Hodeidah [port in Yemen]," he said. "We need to isolate the Houthis in the information environment, we have to impose costs on Iran. So there's consequences to their behavior."

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, in the article, the U.S. Central Command head, General Michael

Kurilla, says: "I am very concerned about this renewed relationship between Russia, China, and Iran. What we are seeing is Iran is reliant on China and Russia is reliant on Iran."

We cannot waste another day of precious floor time instead of getting directly to passing the bipartisan security bill that would actually hurt Iran. The Senate sent us the security bill 63 days ago. Twenty-two Senate Republicans voted for that bill. That is as bipartisan as you will ever get in the Senate.

Instead, we are in a holding pattern, waiting for Republicans to publicly share the text of bills they promise will provide humanitarian assistance and support Ukraine, the Indo-Pacific, and Israel.

Why should we be waiting? The Senate bill has been available for review by every office for 63 days.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my Republican colleagues to put real solutions up for a vote, and I urge all of my colleagues to vote "no" on this rule.

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

Mr. Speaker, I guess I should congratulate my friends from across the aisle for finally realizing there is a link between Russia, China, and Iran. This has been U.S. foreign policy since at least the early 2000s, but better late than never, I guess.

I am taken aback by the fact that there is an allegation that Joe Biden is a strong President because he shot down the drones that Iran sent into Israel. If the President was strong, drones would not have been sent to Israel in the first place.

Again, let's not forget that under President Trump, Russia was not attacking Ukraine and Iran was not attacking Israel. It is the President's weakness and his policies of incompetence and American weakness that have invited this aggression.

For the talk about Ukraine, we on this side of the aisle have intellectual honesty and consistency on this because you can be for defeating Russia and also for Israel defeating Hamas. You can also be for holding Iran in check.

It is weird that the same people on the other side of the aisle who say if you talk about a peace settlement between Russia and Ukraine, that we are somehow using Russian talking points. Those same people will be the same ones who say we need to have a ceasefire in Gaza before the IDF is afforded their God-given right to destroy their enemy, Hamas. It sounds to me like the talking points of Hamas, but I will let others draw their own conclusion on that.

Talking about more failures in the Biden administration, let's talk about the southern border and about how many terrorists have crossed that southern border.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 340 encounters at

the southern border from individuals who are actually on the terrorist watch list. Just this month, news broke that a terrorist from Afghanistan, whose organization is responsible for the deaths of numerous Americans, was released twice—not once, but twice—into the interior of the United States after crossing our southern border. He then roamed around unrestricted for almost a year before he was captured.

Then earlier this year, a member of Al-Shabaab, which is an al-Qaida affiliate in Somalia, one of their members was able to live in the U.S. freely for almost a year, as well.

It is absolutely crystal clear: Biden and radical, extreme leftist Democrats cannot be trusted to protect our communities and secure the southern border. The numbers speak for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, talking about incompetence, let's go back and talk about the surrender of Afghanistan.

Remember, under President Trump, there were zero fatalities for the last 18 months before Joe Biden took office. Yet, the President, Joe Biden, felt the need to surrender Afghanistan to the Taliban.

In 2021, the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan was absolutely the worst military blunder in my lifetime. The Biden administration abandoned the Bagram Air Base and released terrorist fighters from prison, including one that killed 13 servicemembers at Abbey Gate. It has led to a rise in al-Qaida and ISIS-K. The CENTCOM Commander testified just last month that ISIS-K will have the capability within 6 months to do external operations against the West.

We know through our OIG reports that President Biden and his failed bureaucrats in the State Department are funding the Taliban and al-Qaida through international assistance, but it didn't impact just the Middle East. This has also emboldened China, Russia, and Iran, the three countries that Democrats apparently just discovered there is a connection between in their anti-Western positions.

Reports indicate that the withdrawal helped Putin justify his invasion of Ukraine. It is just another blunder in a long list of Biden foreign policy failures.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD), my good friend and a sheriff.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. It is good to stand with him on this very important topic.

Mr. Speaker, I have to tell you, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 4639, which is the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act included in the rule before us today.

I have to tell you, I am standing shoulder to shoulder here. Although you don't see them, every major law enforcement agency in this country is standing with me in this opposition. The Fraternal Order of Police, Major County Sheriffs of America, Major Cit-

ies Chiefs Association, National Association of Police Organizations, National Sheriffs' Association, and the list goes on.

I am disappointed to say that the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act truly is one of the most antipolice bills I have seen since I have been in Congress.

No one's Fourth Amendment rights are being bought. No one's Fourth Amendment rights are being sold. No one's Fourth Amendment rights are being violated.

This bill will simply block law enforcement from accessing open-source, commercially available, lawfully collected data that can help them solve crimes. It can help them develop probable cause.

Google and Facebook can access this data. The Chinese can access this data. Cartels and criminals can access this data. But we are not going to let the police access this data.

Now, my advocates will say: Private citizens and foreign adversaries can't put you in jail. Well, that may be true. Some of them can actually do worse to you.

Here is the thing that we need to remember: No one can put you in jail without probable cause of committing a crime. This is open-source data. Only law enforcement will be blocked from collecting and accessing this data.

The bottom line is, the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act will make communities far less safe, Mr. Speaker.

I adamantly oppose this bill. I will still vote "yes" on the rule because I believe in our process of regular order that gives Members the opportunity to hear both sides, debate, offer amendments, and, ultimately, vote a bill up or down. I am absolutely good with that.

Lately, some of my colleagues claim that they want regular order, yet they vote against regular order time and time again when they join with the Democrats to take down a rule. Seven times, I think, since I have been in Congress we have seen these rules go down. It is their way or the highway, and that is sad.

We promised the American people we would do better. Voting down a rule is not doing better.

Mr. Speaker, let's pass this rule. Let's pass the bills included in this rule that will punish Iranian aggression toward our ally Israel. Then, let's defeat the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act, which is only going to make our communities less safe.

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

Mr. Speaker, I think I have heard everything. The gentleman from Florida just talked about regular order, saying to vote for this rule because it represents regular order. I mean, he and I have a different opinion of what regular order is.

There are six bills. Five of them are completely closed rules. Is that regular order?

Two of these bills that are closed never went through committee or never had a markup in committee. Is that regular order?

Boy, I need to send the gentleman a textbook on what regular order is. This is not what it is.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. RESCHENTHALER) is giving us lectures about Biden and leadership. I should remind the gentleman that the Republicans are on their second Speaker of this Congress right now. If reports are to be believed that were in the newspapers this morning, you have Republicans wanting to get rid of this Speaker and go on to a third Speaker.

I mean, please, oh my goodness, lecturing us on leadership?

You are upset that Joe Biden used the U.S. military to help intercept Iranian missiles into Israel. You say that is a lack of leadership by President Biden. On the contrary, that is leadership. It is protecting our ally from missiles from an adversary.

When Donald Trump was President and 109 U.S. troops suffered brain injuries in a strike by Iran, what was the leadership that the former President demonstrated? He did nothing, no response. Iran just did it, and he did nothing. He downplayed it like it was no big deal.

I am sorry, we have a different opinion of what leadership is all about. The fact of the matter is that we are looking for some leadership on the other side of the aisle to support Ukraine in their fight against Russia. I mean, the Senate acted a long time ago, and my Republican friends continue to do nothing but sit back and scream about Joe Biden and cover up all of Donald Trump's misdeeds and ignore all of his weaknesses. Meanwhile, Ukraine is literally at the edge right now.

I mean, this is a strange way of defining leadership. Do you want to show some leadership? Let's help our ally Ukraine. Let's stop Russia in its tracks rather than giving comfort to Vladimir Putin.

□ 1300

Now, I know when the former President was in office, he had a lot of nice words to say about Vladimir Putin, praised him as this great friend and this great leader. Then again, the former President also said he and Kim Jong-un, one of the most notorious dictators in the world, were in love. How pathetic. How disgusting.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. DAVIDSON), my good friend and the author of the Fourth Amendment Is Not For Sale Act.

Mr. DAVIDSON. Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

We all swore an oath to support and defend the Constitution. The Fourth

Amendment does not say that if you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear. It says as an American, you have a reasonable expectation of privacy. It goes on to say that you can have that privacy infringed upon if there is a probable cause warrant or a subpoena issued.

What our agencies are doing, though, is they are buying data around that to avoid having to even get a warrant or subpoena in the first place.

The Fourth Amendment is Not For Sale Act protects private information. Public information is not prohibited in any way. Whether you pay somebody to do the search for you or you do it yourself, public information is like the plain view doctrine. There is no limitation on that.

Mr. HIGGINS is clarifying that. CLAY HIGGINS, one of our colleagues, has served as a lifetime law enforcement officer. The Judiciary Committee, where numerous law enforcement officers serve, couldn't possibly be more pro-law enforcement because they have done the career themselves, and they have supported this bill out of committee.

To clarify that this bill is for law enforcement, Mr. HIGGINS has offered an amendment to say what the intent of the bill is. Automated license plate readers are there. That information has already been disclosed to the government. You know you have disclosed it. The license plate is designed to be a plain-view item in public.

Nothing about this should make policing harder, except that as Ketanji Brown Jackson, a Justice on the United States Supreme Court, said: The First Amendment is getting in the way.

Of what? Filtering speech.

If you think that the Fourth Amendment is getting in the way of enforcing the law, it is designed to. It is supposed to be a limitation on the ability of government to go after citizens because the government is entrusted with great powers.

Mr. Speaker, this rule is an important process to getting a vote on the bill. I thank the leadership team for putting it on the floor today.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, not one, not one of the bills under this rule, would prevent Iran from carrying on future attacks, not a single one.

What are we doing here? The answer is simple. Republican leadership can't organize their clown show of a conference. MAGA members are playing politics with a global crisis, blaming Joe Biden instead of Iran, and to top it all off, many of them continue siding with Putin, an ally of Iran, in his war of aggression against Ukraine.

The people of Ukraine have been bombarded by Iranian drones for months and months and months, and Republicans have refused to do anything about it, not a single thing.

Republicans had an emergency Rules Committee meeting. They scrapped their whole agenda this week to debate these useless bills that we are talking about right now. There has been nothing for months and months while the people of Ukraine beg for our help, nothing. In fact, not only has this Republican majority done nothing, they have Members who echo Putin's propaganda and mimic Kremlin talking points. You can't make this stuff up.

What do our allies see when they look at us now? When the Speaker even mentions potential action to support our allies, extreme MAGA Republicans threaten to remove the Speaker and shut down Congress again.

Mr. Speaker, is this the message we want to send our allies when they need us most? This is shameful. We are at a turning point right now, an inflection point in human history. Are Iran, Russia, and their allies going to write the next chapter of the story, or are people around the world going to stand up and say democracy is worth fighting for? Is America going to fulfill our obligations and lead the free world as we have always done and as Democrats want to do, or are we not?

We can't only do it sometimes or when it is politically convenient for one party or the other. We need to do it all the time. We need to do it in Ukraine, where people are fighting and dying for their freedom and begging us for support. It is beyond time we pass something real to help them.

The bills that we are talking about right now are messaging bills. We don't even know whether, if they pass, they will even be sent to the Senate because we have passed bills on Iran before, and they are still being held up by the House. We haven't sent them to the United States Senate.

I think people are sick and tired of my Republican friends going through the motions or making believe like they care about human rights or making believe that they care about ending the conflict in Israel or ending the fighting in Ukraine. I think people see through what my Republican friends are doing. They come to the floor and yell and scream and blame Biden for every single thing, yet they continue to do nothing.

This is the last week before we have another break, and it remains to be seen whether or not there will be a package that comes to the floor that will actually help Ukraine stand up against Russia.

I get it. There are a lot of Republicans who apologize for Putin and apologize for Russia; think Russia can do no wrong. The former President, in all of his meetings with Vladimir Putin, praised him and praised him and praised him and said they are really good friends. He doesn't really want us to help Ukraine at all and is imposing all of these new conditions.

We are running out of time. We either do something now or it is too late. What a tragedy to basically hand

Ukraine over to Vladimir Putin, as if that is where he will stop.

This is about human rights. This is about doing what is right. This is about standing up for the principles that this country is supposed to be all about. I just hope we do it.

I say to my colleagues: Vote “no” on this rule. We are wasting the time of this Congress. What we need to do is do something concrete before the end of the week to help Ukraine.

I know it is uncomfortable for my friend from Pennsylvania to hear that. I know he doesn’t want to have to scold some of his Republican colleagues who would like nothing better than to turn a blind eye while Vladimir Putin invades Ukraine.

I was in Ukraine. I met with not only Mr. Zelenskyy, but I met with a lot of average citizens in Ukraine. They are counting on us and the world community to help them protect their country from invasion. I hope that we do that. This, what we are doing today, is a colossal waste of time. That is what we do on a regular basis in this Chamber.

The Republican majority has done a horrific job, and we are now out of time. Let’s hope after we get this rule done and get whatever we are going to vote on done here, that before the end of the week we can actually bring a package to the floor that will help save Ukraine from a Russian invasion.

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

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Under President Trump’s leadership, our Nation was safe and our adversaries were put on notice. He truly embodied the slogan: Peace Through Strength.

As President, President Trump destroyed the ISIS caliphate and took Iranian General Qasem Soleimani and the founder of ISIS, Al-Baghdadi, off the battlefield.

President Trump refocused our Nation on the Indo-Pacific and the growing threat of the Chinese Communist Party. He enacted a maximum pressure campaign on Iran by pulling out of the disastrous Iran deal, placing significant sanctions on the regime, and used military deterrence against their proxy networks.

In stark difference to President Biden, the Trump administration designated the IRGC and the Houthis as foreign terrorist organizations.

When former President Obama failed to enforce his own red line and allowed chemical weapons to be used against the Syrian people, it was President Trump who targeted the Assad regime through force.

He also helped bring peace and stability throughout the globe by negotiating the Abraham Accords, pushed our NATO partners to do their fair share, and moved our Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem. He stood up for the American worker, not the global elite, when he renegotiated NAFTA, placed tariffs on

China, made America energy independent, and secured our southern border.

In comparison, the Biden administration’s foreign policy agenda is worse than simply a nightmare because it is reality. That is why House Republicans this week will stand up for our ally Israel and block some of the disastrous decisions that have helped fund Iran’s terrorist network.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on the previous question and “yes” on the rule. I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. 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 are postponed.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND OF THE EMERGENCY AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF RUSSIAN-AFFILIATED VESSELS TO UNITED STATES PORTS—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-131)

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 declared in Proclamation 10371 of April 21, 2022, with respect to the Russian Federation and the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of Russian-affiliated vessels to United States ports, is to continue in effect beyond April 21, 2024.

The policies and actions of the Government of the Russian Federation to continue the premeditated, unjustified, unprovoked, and brutal war against Ukraine continue to constitute a national emergency by reason of a disturbance or threatened disturbance of

international relations of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Proclamation 10371.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, April 16, 2024.

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 1 o’clock and 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LATURNER) at 1 o’clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1149;

Adoption of the resolution, if ordered; and

Motions to suspend the rules and pass:

H.R. 6245; and

H.R. 6015.

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

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6323, IRAN COUNTERTERRORISM ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. 1143, CONDEMNING IRAN’S UNPRECEDENTED DRONE AND MISSILE ATTACK ON ISRAEL; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4691, IRAN SANCTIONS RELIEF REVIEW ACT OF 2023; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5947, TO PROVIDE FOR THE RESCISSION OF CERTAIN WAIVERS AND LICENSES RELATING TO IRAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 6046, STANDING AGAINST HOUSHI AGGRESSION ACT; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4639, FOURTH AMENDMENT IS NOT FOR SALE ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1149) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6323) to modify

the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4691) to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5947) to provide for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6046) to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4639) to amend section 2702 of title 18, United States Code, to prevent law enforcement and intelligence agencies from obtaining subscriber or customer records in exchange for anything of value, to address communications and records in the possession of intermediary internet service providers, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question on the resolution.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 212, nays 208, not voting 11, as follows:

[Roll No. 124]

YEAS—212

Aderholt	D'Esposito	Harshbarger
Alford	Davidson	Hern
Allen	De La Cruz	Higgins (LA)
Amodei	DesJarlais	Hill
Armstrong	Diaz-Balart	Hinson
Arrington	Donalds	Houchin
Babin	Duarte	Hudson
Bacon	Duncan	Huizenga
Baird	Dunn (FL)	Hunt
Balderson	Edwards	Issa
Banks	Ellzey	Jackson (TX)
Barr	Emmer	James
Bean (FL)	Estes	Johnson (LA)
Bentz	Ezell	Johnson (SD)
Bergman	Fallon	Jordan
Bice	Feenstra	Joyce (OH)
Biggs	Ferguson	Joyce (PA)
Bilirakis	Finstad	Kean (NJ)
Bishop (NC)	Fischbach	Kelly (MS)
Boebert	Fitzgerald	Kelly (PA)
Bost	Fitzpatrick	Kiggans (VA)
Brecheen	Fleischmann	Kiley
Buchanan	Flood	Kim (CA)
Bucshon	Fox	Kustoff
Burchett	Franklin, Scott	LaHood
Burgess	Fry	LaLota
Burlison	Fulcher	LaMalfa
Calvert	Gaetz	Lamborn
Cammack	Gallagher	Langworthy
Carey	Garbarino	Latta
Carl	Garcia, Mike	LaTurner
Carter (GA)	Gimenez	Lawler
Carter (TX)	Gonzales, Tony	Lee (FL)
Chavez-DeRemer	Good (VA)	Lesko
Ciscomani	Gooden (TX)	Letlow
Cline	Gosar	Loudermilk
Cloud	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Clyde	Green (TN)	Luna
Cole	Greene (GA)	Luttrell
Collins	Griffith	Mace
Comer	Grothman	Malliotakis
Crane	Guest	Maloy
Crawford	Guthrie	Mann
Crenshaw	Hageman	Massie
Curtis	Harris	McCaul

McClain	Posey
McClintock	Reschenthaler
McCormick	Rodgers (WA)
Miller (IL)	Rogers (AL)
Miller (OH)	Rogers (KY)
Miller (WV)	Rose
Miller-Meeks	Rosendale
Mills	Rouzer
Mollinaro	Roy
Moolenaar	Rutherford
Mooney	Salazar
Moore (AL)	Scalise
Moore (UT)	Schweikert
Moran	Scott, Austin
Murphy	Self
Nehls	Sessions
Newhouse	Simpson
Norman	Smith (MO)
Nunn (IA)	Smith (NE)
Obernolte	Smith (NJ)
Ogles	Smucker
Owens	Spartz
Palmer	Stauber
Pence	Steel
Perry	Stefanik
Pfluger	Steil

NAYS—208

Adams	Goldman (NY)
Aguiar	Pascarell
Allred	Pelosi
Amo	Peltola
Auchincloss	Perez
Balint	Peters
Beatty	Pettersen
Bera	Phillips
Beyer	Pingree
Bishop (GA)	Pocan
Blumenauer	Porter
Blunt Rochester	Pressley
Bonamici	Quigley
Bowman	Ramirez
Boyle (PA)	Raskin
Brown	Ross
Brownley	Ruiz
Budzinski	Ruppersberger
Bush	Ryan
Carbajal	Salinas
Cardenas	Sanchez
Carson	Sarbanes
Carter (LA)	Scanlon
Cartwright	Schakowsky
Caspar	Schiff
Case	Schneider
Casten	Scholten
Caster (FL)	Schrier
Castro (TX)	Scott (VA)
Cherfilus-	Scott, David
McCormick	Sewell
Chu	Sherman
Clark (MA)	Sherrill
Clarke (NY)	Slotkin
Cleaver	Smith (WA)
Clyburn	Sorensen
Cohen	Soto
Connolly	Spanberger
Correa	Stansbury
Costa	Stanton
Courtney	Stevens
Craig	Strickland
Crockett	Suozzi
Crow	Swalwell
Cuellar	Sykes
Davids (KS)	Takano
Davis (IL)	Thanedar
Davis (NC)	Thompson (CA)
Dean (PA)	Thompson (MS)
DeGette	Titus
McGarvey	Tlaib
McGovern	Tokuda
Meeks	Tonko
Menendez	Torres (CA)
Meng	Torres (NY)
Mfume	Trahan
Moore (WI)	Trone
Morrell	Underwood
Moskowitz	Vargas
Moulton	Vasquez
Mrvan	Veasey
Mullin	Velázquez
Nader	Wasserman
Napolitano	Schultz
Neal	Waters
Neguse	Watson Coleman
Nickel	Wexton
Norcross	Wild
Ocasio-Cortez	Williams (GA)
Omar	
Pallone	
Panetta	

Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—11

Barragán	Grijalva	Meuser
Caraveo	Luetkemeyer	Payne
Granger	Mast	Wilson (FL)
Graves (LA)	McHenry	

□ 1402

Mr. NICKEL, Ms. MCCOLLUM and ROSS changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 214, noes 208, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 125]

AYES—214

Aderholt	Finstad	Loudermilk
Alford	Fischbach	Lucas
Allen	Fitzgerald	Luna
Amodei	Fitzpatrick	Luttrell
Armstrong	Fleischmann	Mace
Arrington	Flood	Malliotakis
Babin	Fox	Maloy
Bacon	Franklin, Scott	Mann
Baird	Fry	Massie
Balderson	Fulcher	Mast
Banks	Gaetz	McCaul
Barr	Gallagher	McClain
Bean (FL)	Garbarino	McClintock
Bentz	Garcia, Mike	McCormick
Bergman	Gonzales, Tony	McHenry
Bice	Good (VA)	Meuser
Biggs	Gooden (TX)	Miller (IL)
Bilirakis	Gosar	Miller (OH)
Bishop (NC)	Graves (LA)	Miller (WV)
Boebert	Graves (MO)	Miller-Meeks
Bost	Green (TN)	Mills
Brecheen	Greene (GA)	Mollinaro
Buchanan	Griffith	Moolenaar
Bucshon	Grothman	Mooney
Burchett	Guest	Moore (AL)
Burgess	Guthrie	Moore (UT)
Burlison	Hageman	Moran
Calvert	Harris	Murphy
Cammack	Harshbarger	Nehls
Carey	Hern	Newhouse
Carl	Higgins (LA)	Norman
Carter (GA)	Hinson	Nunn (IA)
Carter (TX)	Houchin	Obernolte
Chavez-DeRemer	Hudson	Ogles
Ciscomani	Huizenga	Owens
Cline	Hunt	Palmer
Cloud	Issa	Pence
Clyde	Jackson (TX)	Perry
Cole	James	Pfluger
Collins	Johnson (LA)	Posey
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Reschenthaler
Crane	Jordan	Rodgers (WA)
Crawford	Joyce (OH)	Rogers (AL)
Crenshaw	Joyce (PA)	Rogers (KY)
Curtis	Kean (NJ)	Rose
	Kelly (MS)	Rosendale
	Kelly (PA)	Rouzer
	Kiggans (VA)	Roy
	Kiley	Rutherford
	Kim (CA)	Salazar
	Kustoff	Scalise
	LaHood	Schweikert
	LaLota	Scott, Austin
	LaMalfa	Self
	Lamborn	Sessions
	Langworthy	Simpson
	Latta	Smith (MO)
	LaTurner	Smith (NE)
	Lawler	Smith (NJ)
	Lee (FL)	Smucker
	Lesko	Spartz
	Letlow	Stauber

Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner

Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup

Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—208

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)

NOT VOTING—9

Barragán
Caraveo
Gimenez
Granger
Grijalva
Hill
Luetkemeyer
Payne
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1408

So 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. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote because I stepped out to the Speaker's Lobby for a meeting. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call No. 125.

HOLDING IRANIAN LEADERS
ACCOUNTABLE ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6245) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to report on financial institutions' involvement with officials of the Iranian Government, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. McHENRY) 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 419, nays 4, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 126]

YEAS—419

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amo
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
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
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Collins
Comer
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
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
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris

Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
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 (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul

McClain
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Perry
Peters
Petterson
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise

NAYS—4

Bush
Massie

Omar
Tlaib

NOT VOTING—8

Barragán
Caraveo
Granger

Grijalva
Luetkemeyer
Payne

Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spart
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Suozi
Swalwell
Sykes
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1414

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 126.

IRAN SANCTIONS ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6015) to require the President to prevent the abuse of financial sanctions exemptions by Iran, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 408, nays 13, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 127]

YEAS—408

Adams	Carson	Diaz-Balart
Aderholt	Carter (GA)	Dingell
Aguilar	Carter (LA)	Doggett
Alford	Carter (TX)	Donalds
Allen	Carterwright	Duarte
Allred	Case	Duncan
Amo	Casten	Dunn (FL)
Amodei	Castor (FL)	Edwards
Armstrong	Castro (TX)	Ellzey
Arrington	Chavez-DeRemer	Emmer
Auchincloss	Cherfilus-	Escobar
Babin	McCormick	Eshoo
Bacon	Chu	Españolat
Baird	Ciscomani	Estes
Balderson	Clark (MA)	Evans
Balint	Clarke (NY)	Ezell
Banks	Cleaver	Fallon
Barr	Cline	Feenstra
Bean (FL)	Cloud	Ferguson
Beatty	Clyburn	Finstad
Bentz	Clyde	Fischbach
Bera	Cohen	Fitzgerald
Bergman	Cole	Fitzpatrick
Beyer	Collins	Fleischmann
Bice	Comer	Fletcher
Biggs	Connolly	Flood
Billirakis	Correa	Foster
Bishop (GA)	Costa	Foushee
Bishop (NC)	Courtney	Fox
Blumenauer	Craig	Frankel, Lois
Blunt Rochester	Crane	Franklin, Scott
Boebert	Crawford	Frost
Bonamici	Crenshaw	Fry
Bost	Crockett	Fulcher
Boyle (PA)	Crow	Gaetz
Brecheen	Cuellar	Gallagher
Brown	Curtis	Gallego
Brownley	D'Esposito	Garamendi
Buchanan	Davidson	Garbarino
Bucshon	Davis (IL)	Garcia (TX)
Budzinski	Davis (NC)	Garcia, Mike
Burchett	De La Cruz	Garcia, Robert
Burgess	Dean (PA)	Jimenez
Burlison	DeGette	Golden (ME)
Calvert	DeLauro	Goldman (NY)
Cammack	DelBene	Gomez
Carbajal	Deluzio	Gonzales, Tony
Cárdenas	DeSaulnier	Gonzalez,
Carey	DesJarlais	Vicente
Carl		Good (VA)

Gooden (TX)	Mace	Sánchez
Gosar	Magaziner	Sarbanes
Gottheimer	Malliotakis	Scalise
Graves (LA)	Maloy	Scanlon
Graves (MO)	Mann	Schakowsky
Green (TN)	Manning	Schiff
Green, Al (TX)	Mast	Schneider
Greene (GA)	Matsui	Scholten
Griffith	McBath	Schrier
Grothman	McCaul	Schweikert
Guest	McClellan	Scott (VA)
Guthrie	McClintock	Scott, Austin
Hageman	McCollum	Scott, David
Harder (CA)	McCormick	Self
Harris	McGarvey	Sessions
Harshbarger	McGovern	Sewell
Hayes	McHenry	Sherman
Hern	Meeks	Sherrill
Higgins (LA)	Menendez	Simpson
Hill	Meng	Slotkin
Himes	Meuser	Smith (MO)
Hinson	Mfume	Smith (NE)
Horsford	Miller (IL)	Smith (NJ)
Houchin	Miller (OH)	Smith (WA)
Houlahan	Miller (WV)	Smucker
Hoyer	Miller-Meeks	Sorensen
Hoyle (OR)	Mills	Soto
Hudson	Molinaro	Spanberger
Huffman	Moolenaar	Spartz
Huizenga	Mooney	Stansbury
Hunt	Moore (AL)	Stanton
Issa	Moore (UT)	Stauber
Ivey	Moore (WI)	Steel
Jackson (IL)	Moran	Stefanik
Jackson (NC)	Morelle	Steil
Jackson (TX)	Moskowitz	Steube
Jackson Lee	Moulton	Stevens
Jacobs	Mrvan	Strickland
James	Mullin	Strong
Jeffries	Murphy	Suozzi
Johnson (GA)	Nadler	Swalwell
Johnson (LA)	Napolitano	Sykes
Johnson (SD)	Neal	Takano
Jordan	Neguse	Tenney
Joyce (OH)	Nehls	Thanedar
Joyce (PA)	Newhouse	Thompson (CA)
Kamlager-Dove	Nickel	Thompson (MS)
Kaptur	Norcross	Thompson (PA)
Kean (NJ)	Norman	Tiffany
Keating	Nunn (IA)	Timmons
Kelly (IL)	Obernalte	Titus
Kelly (MS)	Ogles	Tokuda
Kelly (PA)	Owens	Tonko
Khanna	Pallone	Torres (CA)
Kiggans (VA)	Palmer	Torres (NY)
Kildee	Panetta	Trahan
Kiley	Pappas	Trone
Kilmer	Fascrell	Turner
Kim (CA)	Pelosi	Underwood
Kim (NJ)	Peltola	Valadao
Krishnamoorthi	Pence	Van Drew
Kuster	Perez	Van Dуйne
Kustoff	Perry	Van Orden
LaHood	Pettersen	Vargas
LaLota	Pfluger	Vasquez
LaMalfa	Phillips	Veasey
Lamborn	Pingree	Velázquez
Landsman	Pocan	Wagner
Langworthy	Porter	Walberg
Larsen (WA)	Posey	Waltz
Larson (CT)	Quigley	Wasserman
Latta	Raskin	Schultz
LaTurner	Reschenthaler	Waters
Lawler	Rodgers (WA)	Watson Coleman
Lee (FL)	Rogers (AL)	Webster (FL)
Lee (NV)	Rogers (KY)	Wenstrup
Leger Fernandez	Rose	Westerman
Lesko	Rosendale	Wexton
Letlow	Ross	Wild
Levin	Rouzer	Williams (GA)
Lieu	Roy	Williams (NY)
Lofgren	Ruiz	Williams (TX)
Loudermilk	Ruppersberger	Wilson (SC)
Lucas	Rutherford	Wittman
Luna	Ryan	Womack
Luttrell	Salazar	Yakym
Lynch	Salinas	Zinke

NAYS—13

Bowman	Lee (CA)
Bush	Lee (PA)
Casar	Massie
Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez
Jayapal	Omar

NOT VOTING—10

Barragán	Luetkemeyer	Weber (TX)
Caraveo	McClain	Wilson (FL)
Granger	Payne	
Grijalva	Peters	

□ 1421

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.

□ 1430

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLOOD). 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.

STRENGTHENING TOOLS TO COUNTER THE USE OF HUMAN SHIELDS ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5917) to amend the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act to modify and extend that Act, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5917

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 “Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields Act”.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to fully implement and enforce sanctions against terrorist organizations and other malign actors that use innocent civilians as human shields.

SEC. 3. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF SANCTIONING THE USE OF CIVILIANS AS DEFENSELESS SHIELDS ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115-348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) Each foreign person that the President determines, on or after the date of the enactment of the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields Act—

“(A) is a member of Palestine Islamic Jihad or is knowingly acting on behalf of Palestine Islamic Jihad; and

“(B) knowingly orders, controls, or otherwise directs the use of civilians protected as such by the law of war to shield military objectives from attack.”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) as subsections (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS.—Not later than 120 days after receiving a request from the chairman and ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional committees with respect to whether a foreign person meets the criteria of a person described in subsection (b) or (c), the President shall—

“(1) determine if the person meets such criteria; and

“(2) submit a written justification to the chairman and ranking member detailing whether or not the President imposed or intends to impose sanctions described in subsection (b) or (c) with respect to such person.”.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 4 of the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

“(7) PALESTINE ISLAMIC JIHAD.—The term ‘Palestine Islamic Jihad’ means—

“(A) the entity known as Palestine Islamic Jihad and designated by the Secretary of State as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); or

“(B) any person identified as an agent or instrumentality of Palestine Islamic Jihad on the list of specially designated nationals and blocked persons maintained by the Office of Foreign Asset Control of the Department of the Treasury, the property or interests in property of which are blocked pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).”.

(c) SUNSET.—Section 5 of the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by striking “December 31, 2023” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

(d) SEVERABILITY.—The Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act (Public Law 115–348; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 6. SEVERABILITY.

“If any provision of this Act, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance, is found to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or the application of that provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected.”.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON COUNTERING THE USE OF HUMAN SHIELDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that contains the following:

(1) A description of the lessons learned from the United States and its allies and partners in addressing the use of human shields by terrorist organizations such as Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestine Islamic Jihad, and any other organization as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(2) A description of a specific plan and actions being taken by the Department of Defense to incorporate the lessons learned as identified in paragraph (1) into Department of Defense operating guidance, relevant capabilities, and tactics, techniques, and procedures to deter, counter, and address the challenge posed by the use of human shields and hold accountable terrorist organizations for the use of human shields.

(3) A description of specific measures being developed and implemented by the United States Government to mobilize and leverage

allied nations, including member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), to deter, counter, and hold accountable terrorist organizations for the use of human shields.

(4) The current status of joint exercises, doctrine development, education, and training on countering the use of human shields in multinational centers of excellence.

(5) The current status of participation of members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense civilian personnel in any multinational center of excellence for the purposes of countering the use of human shields.

(6) The feasibility and advisability of beginning or continuing participation of members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense civilian personnel to promote the integration of joint exercises, doctrine development, education, and training on countering the use of human shields into multinational centers of excellence.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “multinational center of excellence” has the meaning given that term in section 344 of title 10, United States Code.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. GALLAGHER, for introducing this important bipartisan legislation to address ongoing atrocities committed by Hamas and other Iran-backed terrorist organizations.

For years, it has been well documented how terrorist organizations like Hamas, Hezbollah, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad use civilians as human shields in conflict.

Hezbollah terrorists are systematically embedded in civilian areas and population centers throughout Lebanon. Hezbollah has embedded hundreds of arms depots, thousands of terrorists, and tens of thousands of rockets throughout densely populated southern Lebanon, and Hamas’ utter disregard for human life has been made plain for all to see since October 7.

After murdering 1,200 people on October 7, 2023, and taking 240 hostages, they have prevented innocent Palestinians from fleeing conflict zones and repeatedly rejected proposals that would bring a pause to the fighting in Gaza.

These terrorists do not care about innocent civilian lives. They know exactly what they are doing when they use a hospital as military headquarters and stockpile weapons in schools. Terrorist groups like Hamas, Hezbollah, and Palestinian Islamic Jihad have no regard for the lives of the innocent

women and children they place in harm’s way by co-locating civilian and military targets.

Every civilian that is harmed in this war is harmed as a result of Hamas’ actions. As Israel defends itself against the threat of Hamas and other Iran-backed terrorist groups, we must address the urgent issue of terrorist organizations using civilian shields immediately.

Congress must stand against these brutal practices and strengthen their ability to hold these terrorists accountable for their crimes.

The 2018 Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act established a strong framework for holding Hamas and other terrorist organizations accountable. This legislation today would reauthorize the 2018 law through the year 2030 and add Palestinian Islamic Jihad as a covered entity. It also establishes new tools to ensure that those who use human shields are held accountable.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,

Washington, DC, March 20, 2024.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 5917, the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields 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. 5917 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, April 3, 2024.

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. 5917, the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields 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.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.

Hon. MICHAEL T. McCAUL,
*Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. McCAUL: I write concerning H.R. 5917, the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields Act. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions within H.R. 5917 that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Armed Services, I forego any further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Committee on Armed Services takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 5917 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation and that our committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction.

Finally, I ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included by the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL D. ROGERS,
*Chairman, House Committee
on Armed Services.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.

Hon. MIKE ROGERS,
*Chairman, Committee on Armed Services,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROGERS: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5917, the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields 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. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 5917, the Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields Act, and I thank my colleagues, Representative GALLAGHER and Representative SHERMAN, for introducing this legislation.

As we all know, Hamas regularly uses people as human shields, hiding behind them and thereby endangering innocent Palestinian civilians. We have seen this clearly in the months since October 7, but this behavior is not new. It is and has been the de facto policy of Hamas for many years.

Hamas has operated from under, inside, and adjacent to hospitals, schools, and other civilian structures. Within civilian buildings, they have stored weapons caches and ammunition, built miles of tunnels underground, and launched attacks from behind women and children.

When Israel instructed families in Gaza to flee to the south for safety, Hamas demanded people stay in Gaza City, to remain in place, saying that it was beneficial to their strategy.

Hamas does not care for the Palestinian people. They never have. They never will. Hamas only means to exploit them as human shields.

This behavior of hiding behind non-combatants is a clear violation of international law and has been an unconscionable contributor to the deaths of too many innocent Palestinian people.

This measure, H.R. 5917, amends the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act, adding additional terrorist entities, bolstering congressional oversight and reporting requirements, and extending its sunset provision.

This legislation will renew and strengthen existing law, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

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

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER), the author of this bill.

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

It is fitting, at least for me, that we are debating this today because one of the very first bills I got passed as a freshman Member of Congress working across the aisle with my fellow classmate, Representative SUOZZI, was the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians As Defenseless Shields Act, which first created the authority for the President to sanction Hamas and Hezbollah for their use of human shields.

I remember at the time talking about this barbaric practice. I was met with shock and surprise.

Unfortunately, in the wake of October 7, the entire world has seen the lengths that these terrorist groups will go to in order to advance their genocidal cause, using innocent women and

children as human shields. The fact that this may be one of the last bills I get passed in Congress is fitting.

As I alluded to, there is nothing new about this despicable practice, which Hamas has perfected, of using civilians and hostages as human shields. They have been doing it for decades, placing innocents in harm's way. They have been unmasked in recent months for the world to see.

Rocket launchers, weapons caches, and terrorist fighters are found in or near civilian population centers, including sites like schools and mosques, to deliberately limit the Israeli military from striking Hamas targets or, if they do, to incur the condemnation of the world against them in order to limit their effectiveness going forward.

Our condemnation of this heinous war crime is not enough. We must use the full weight of American sanctions to curtail this practice and encourage like-minded countries to combat it, as well.

This bipartisan bill does just that. As the ranking member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs talked about so eloquently, we extend the sunset of that authority, which dates back to 2018, from 2023 to 2030. It includes updates to ensure this is used to punish terrorists. Importantly, it gives the chairmen and ranking members of several congressional committees the power to require a written response from the President with a determination of whether a foreign person meets the criteria for sanctions and the President's justification for imposing or not imposing sanctions.

Additionally, it requires mandatory sanctions on Palestinian Islamic Jihad members who use human shields and supports constructive efforts to combat human shields by requiring the Department of Defense to submit a report to Congress on efforts to equip our allies to counter the use of human shields across the globe.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I thank Chairman McCAUL and Ranking Member MEEKS for their leadership of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and for their support of this bill during the markup.

I am also grateful for Congressman SHERMAN's partnership in this effort to renew and update these important sanctions.

Again, I think back to where I was 8 years ago as a freshman Member talking about what was then a very niche and poorly understood issue. Unfortunately, because of the barbarism on display, because of Hamas' actions in attacking and killing innocent Israelis, now the entire world has seen this barbaric practice up close. It is time for us to act.

I draw great optimism from the fact that even in this, with everything we have going on in Congress, Republicans and Democrats can come together on something this common sense to stand with our allies and stand firmly against our enemies.

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

Mr. Speaker, Hamas has not only shown complete disregard for the Palestinian people. It has also used them as human shields as an intentional war tactic. It is unconscionable and in clear violation of international law, contributing to the deaths of innocent non-combatants.

This measure updates and extends the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act by adding additional terrorist entities, bolstering congressional oversight and reporting requirements, and extending its sunset provisions.

The strengthening of this existing statute is timely, important, and necessary, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5917.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for his support. This is a really important bipartisan piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to do all that we can to address the crimes committed by Hamas and other Iran-backed terrorist groups. The use of civilians as human shields in conflict is abhorrent and immoral.

Congress must do everything in its power to hold Hamas and other terrorist groups accountable for these crimes. We have a responsibility to protect innocent civilians around the world who are used as human shields.

Mr. Speaker, I urge 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 Texas (Mr. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5917.

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. MORAN. 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.

ILLICIT CAPTAGON TRAFFICKING SUPPRESSION ACT OF 2023

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4681) to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to illicit captagon trafficking, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4681

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 “Illicit Captagon Trafficking Suppression Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Industrial scale production of the amphetamine-type stimulant also known as captagon, and the illicit production of precursor chemicals, in territories held by the regime of President Bashar al Assad in Syria are becoming more sophisticated and pose a severe challenge to regional and international security.

(2) Elements of the Government of Syria are key drivers of illicit trafficking in captagon, with ministerial-level complicity in production and smuggling, using other armed groups such as Hizballah for technical and logistical support in captagon production and trafficking.

(3) As affiliates of the Government of Syria and other actors seek to export captagon, they undermine regional security by empowering a broad range of criminal networks, militant groups, mafia syndicates, and autocratic governments.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to target individuals, entities, and networks associated with the Government of Syria to dismantle and degrade the transnational criminal organizations, including narcotics trafficking networks, associated with the regime of President Bashar al Assad in Syria and Hizballah.

SEC. 4. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO ILLICIT CAPTAGON TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The sanctions described in subsection (b) shall be imposed with respect to any foreign person the President determines, on or after the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) engages in, or attempts to engage in, activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materially contributing to, the illicit production and international illicit proliferation of captagon; or

(2) knowingly receives any property or interest in property that the foreign person knows—

(A) constitutes or is derived from proceeds of activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materially contributing to, the illicit production and international illicit proliferation of captagon; or

(B) was used or intended to be used to commit or to facilitate activities or transactions that have materially contributed to, or pose a significant risk of materially contributing to, the illicit production and international illicit proliferation of captagon.

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) BLOCKING OF PROPERTY.—The President shall exercise all authorities granted 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 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) shall be—

(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.—The visa or other entry documentation of any alien described in subsection (a) is subject to revocation regardless of the issue date of the visa or other entry documentation.

(ii) IMMEDIATE EFFECT.—A revocation under clause (i) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i))—

(I) take effect immediately; and

(II) cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the possession of the alien.

(c) PENALTIES.—Any person that violates, or attempts to violate, subsection (b) or any regulation, license, or order issued pursuant to that subsection, shall be subject to the penalties set forth in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of that section.

(d) WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive 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 important to the national security interests of the United States.

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 60 days after the issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and every 180 days thereafter while the waiver remains in effect, the President shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the reasons for the waiver.

(e) HUMANITARIAN WAIVER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive, for renewable periods not to exceed 2 years, the application of sanctions with respect to a nongovernmental organization providing humanitarian assistance if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that such a waiver is important to address a humanitarian need and is consistent with the national security interests of the United States.

(2) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the issuance of a waiver under paragraph (1), and every 180 days thereafter while the waiver remains in effect, the President shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on the reasons for the waiver.

(f) IMPLEMENTATION.—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) to carry out this section.

(g) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations as necessary for the implementation of this section.

(2) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 10 days before the promulgation of regulations under this subsection, the President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of the proposed regulations and the provisions of this section that the regulations are implementing.

(h) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply 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.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply with respect to an alien if admitting or paroling the alien into the United States is necessary—

(A) 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

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

(i) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

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

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

SEC. 5. DETERMINATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA, HIZBALLAH, AND NETWORKS AFFILIATED WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA OR HIZBALLAH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall—

(1) determine whether each foreign person described in subsection (b) meets the criteria for sanctions under this Act; and

(2) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing—

(A) a list of all foreign persons described in subsection (b) that meet the criteria for imposition of sanctions under this Act;

(B) for each foreign person identified pursuant to subparagraph (A), a statement of whether sanctions have been imposed or will be imposed within 30 days of the submission of the report; and

(C) with respect to any person identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) for whom sanctions have not been imposed and will not be imposed within 30 days of the submission of the report, the specific authority under which otherwise applicable sanctions are being waived, have otherwise been determined not to apply, or are not being imposed and a complete justification of the decision to waive or otherwise not apply such sanctions.

(b) FOREIGN PERSONS DESCRIBED.—The foreign persons described in this subsection are the following:

- (1) Maher Al Assad.
- (2) Imad Abu Zureiq.
- (3) Amer Taysir Khiti.
- (4) Taher al-Kayyali.
- (5) Raji Falhout.
- (6) Mohammed Asif Issa Shalish.
- (7) Abdellatif Hamid.
- (8) Mustafa Al Masalmeh.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

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

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

(2) CAPTAGON.—The term “captagon” means any compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of a stimulant in schedule I or II of section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812), including—

(A) amphetamine, methamphetamine, and fenethylamine;

(B) any immediate precursor or controlled substance analogue of such a stimulant, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802); and

(C) any isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers of such a stimulant, whenever the existence of such isomers, esters, ethers, and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation.

(3) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term “foreign person” —

(A) means an individual or entity that is not a United States person; and

(B) includes a foreign state (as such term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code).

(4) ILLICIT PROLIFERATION.—The term “illicit proliferation” refers to any illicit activity to produce, manufacture, distribute, sell, or knowingly finance or transport.

(5) KNOWINGLY.—The term “knowingly” has the meaning given that term in section 14 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

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

(A) a United States citizen;

(B) a permanent resident alien of the United States;

(C) 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; or

(D) a person in the United States.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MORAN. 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 Texas?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important bipartisan legislation to combat the illicit captagon trade, and I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for introducing it.

In recent years, captagon, a highly addictive amphetamine-type stimulant drug, has flooded the Middle East. Captagon makes its users aggressive and dangerous, increasing their capacity to commit crimes and acts of violence.

In recent years, we have seen a sudden, drastic rise in captagon smuggling and usage throughout the Middle East. The brutal Iran-backed Assad regime in Syria is one of the main producers of captagon in the region. These war criminals are using narcotrafficking to evade global sanctions and fund their atrocities.

Since 2011, hundreds of thousands of innocent civilians have died because of the Assad regime's unrelenting brutality. This is a regime that, with the support of Russia, Iran, and Hezbollah, tortures men, women, and children on an unthinkable scale. The Assad regime has repeatedly used chemical weapons against the Syrian people.

In response to these crimes, the United States and many of our part-

ners imposed overwhelming sanctions on the Assad regime, but the Assad regime found a workaround in the illicit drug trade. They are further destabilizing the Middle East by flooding our partner countries with drugs, and they are using the profits to stay afloat, despite our existing sanctions.

That is why the legislation we are considering today is so important. It provides updated sanctions authorities to make sure we are cutting off all forms of financing used by the Assad regime and its criminal associates.

This legislation would impose sanctions on anyone engaged in the production or proliferation of captagon, and it requires a report on whether Syrian and Hezbollah leaders should be sanctioned under this bill.

We must act now to cut off the financial lifeline that the illicit production of captagon provides the Assad regime.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,

Washington, DC, March 20, 2024.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 4681, the Illicit Captagon Trafficking Suppression Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

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

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 4681 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 THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, April 3, 2024.

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. 4681, the Illicit Captagon Trafficking Suppression Act of 2023, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to

seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

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

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4681, and I thank my friend and colleague, Congressman FRENCH HILL, for introducing this measure.

For years, the Assad regime has fueled its brutal and oppressive campaign against the Syrian people through the revenue of a drug trafficking network estimated to be worth billions of dollars.

Syria remains the largest producer of captagon, a dangerous and highly addictive amphetamine popular in the Middle East, and Assad's regime, affiliates, and criminal networks have used that trade to enrich themselves and fuel their war machine.

□ 1445

The Biden administration has taken significant steps to improve our coordination with allies and partners to interdict and disrupt the illicit network responsible for distributing captagon, but more can be done.

This measure builds on previous efforts to mandate sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for captagon trafficking as well as congressional reporting mandates to inform this body on what steps the United States is taking to counter these criminal efforts.

Disrupting Syria's narcotics trade is key to eliminating Assad's remaining financial lifeline, and this legislation is critical to that effort.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), vice chairman of the Financial Services Committee, a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the author of this bill.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas, and I certainly thank my good friend from New York, the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, for his collaboration on this bill, H.R. 4681, the Illicit Captagon Trafficking Suppression Act.

I appreciate Mr. MOSKOWITZ, my partner and collaborator in drafting this measure. With the help of Mr. MCCAUL from Texas and Mr. MEEKS from New York, this bill passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee 44-0. It is a key follow-up to my CAPTAGON Act of 2022, which was enacted into law as a part of the National Defense Authorization Act of that year.

This measure would further press the Assad regime in Syria by imposing new sanctions to directly target individuals and networks associated with the production and trafficking of this dangerous drug, captagon, and the resulting illicit finance.

This illegal drug trafficking is being orchestrated by Assad's relatives, leaders in his security forces, and those affiliated with Iran-backed terror group Hezbollah. These sanctions and a successful U.S.-led captagon strategy are necessary in order to disrupt the illicit funds to the Assad regime and Hezbollah.

Mr. Speaker, this drug is exiting Syria by way of Lebanon and the Syrian ports to the Mediterranean. It has been found in Europe. It has been found manufactured in Europe. Most of it passes across the land border in Jordan and finds its way to the Gulf, where it is addicting citizens in Jordan, it is addicting citizens in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and that illicit money is fueling terrorism in the region.

For 12 years, Assad, with his terror partners, Iran and Russia, have murdered and imprisoned Syrians, bombed hospitals, and gassed his own citizens. Since 2018, narcotic production and trafficking in Syria have turned Syria and the Assad regime from simply a broken, failed state of mass murder to a narco-state, with Assad's crimes against his own citizens expanding to drug trafficking.

If we fail to stop captagon's trade, then the Assad regime will continue to drive the ongoing conflict in his country, provide a lifeline to extremist groups, and permit our adversaries such as Iran, Russia, and China to strengthen their engagement in Syria, posing a larger threat to Israel and other allies in the region.

To enhance greater stability in the Middle East, the U.S. Government must continue to work with our allies and partners in the region and in Europe to increase pressure on stopping the proliferation of this drug.

In 2023, following the State Department's initiation of the U.S. captagon strategy, I traveled to the region. I visited the area three times, and captagon was an essential topic on each trip. Everybody I visited with, from a diplomatic point of view, wanted to talk about the impact of captagon.

Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq directly have seen captagon trade infiltrate their borders. Egypt, Israel, and Turkey all express concern about the money fueling terrorism.

While I commend the Biden Treasury Department and the United Kingdom jointly for using Caesar sanctions last spring to sanction individuals for captagon, it is important we step up our efforts and add specific targeted sanctions like those contained in this bill for the production and trafficking of this drug.

This bill is an important component in pushing back against diplomatic normalization with the Assad regime,

pushing back on the intense terror leadership of Iran in every aspect and conflict in the region, and standing in full support of our ally Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation. I thank my colleagues on the House Financial Services Committee and Foreign Affairs Committee for helping bring this bill to the House floor.

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

Under the Assad regime, Syria has turned into a narco-state, utilizing the proceeds from the illicit captagon drug network to fuel its brutal war on the Syrian people.

This legislation builds on the Biden administration's efforts to coordinate with our allies and partners to dismantle the captagon trade network, mandating additional sanctions on individuals and entities responsible for captagon trafficking, and requires reporting requirements to the United States Congress on the administration's efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4681, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, the captagon threat is new to many of us, but the speed at which this drug trade has grown in the last few years is alarming.

Creating new sanctions, specific to this drug trade, is necessary to stem this threat before it can grow even more dangerous. It is also essential to stopping the cash flow to the Assad regime.

This bipartisan legislation is a key tool in our efforts to counter the Assad regime and its Russian and Iranian backers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge 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 Texas (Mr. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4681, 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. MORAN. 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

S. 3858. An act to establish within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Secretary of the Senate inform the House of Representatives that the Senate is ready to receive the Managers appointed by the House for the purpose of exhibiting articles of impeachment against Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, agreeably to the notice communicated to the Senate, and that the Senate stands ready to receive the honorable Managers on the part of the House of Representatives in order that they may present and exhibit the said articles of impeachment against the said Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

NO TECHNOLOGY FOR TERROR ACT

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6603) to apply foreign-direct product rules to Iran, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6603

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 “No Technology for Terror Act”.

SEC. 2. APPLICATION OF FOREIGN-DIRECT PRODUCT RULES TO IRAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a foreign-produced item shall be subject to the Export Administration Regulations (pursuant to the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.)) if the item—

(1) meets—

(A) the product scope requirements described in subsection (b); and

(B) the destination scope requirements described in subsection (c); and

(2) is exported, reexported, or in-country transferred to Iran from abroad or involves the Government of Iran.

(b) PRODUCT SCOPE REQUIREMENTS.—A foreign-produced item meets the product scope requirements of this subsection if the item—

(1) is a direct product of United States-origin technology or software subject to the Export Administration Regulations that is specified in a covered Export Control Classification Number or is identified in supplement no. 7 to part 746 of the Export Administration Regulations; or

(2) is produced by any plant or major component of a plant that is located outside the United States, if the plant or major component of a plant, whether made in the United States or a foreign country, itself is a direct product of United States-origin technology or software subject to the Export Administration Regulations that is specified in a covered Export Control Classification Number.

(c) DESTINATION SCOPE REQUIREMENTS.—A foreign-produced item meets the destination scope requirements of this subsection if there is knowledge that the foreign-produced item is destined to Iran or will be incorporated into or used in the production or development of any part, component, or equipment subject to the Export Administration Regulations and produced in or destined to Iran.

(d) LICENSE REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A license shall be required to export, reexport, or in-country transfer a

foreign-produced item from abroad that meets the product scope requirements described in subsection (b) and the destination scope requirements described in subsection (c) and is subject to the Export Administration Regulations pursuant to this section.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The license requirements of paragraph (1) shall not apply to—

(A) food, medicine, or medical devices that are—

(i) designated as EAR99; or

(ii) not designated under or listed on the Commerce Control List; or

(B) services, software, or hardware (other than services, software, or hardware for end-users owned or controlled by the Government of Iran) that are—

(i) necessarily and ordinarily incident to communications; or

(ii) designated as—

(I) EAR99; or

(II) Export Control Classification Number 5A992.c or 5D992.c, and classified in accordance with section 740.17 of title 15 Code of Federal Regulations; and

(iii) subject to a general license issued by the Department of Commerce or Department of Treasury.

(e) NATIONAL INTEREST WAIVER.—The Secretary of Commerce may waive the requirements imposed under this section if the Secretary—

(1) determines that the waiver is in the national interests of the United States; and

(2) submits to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report explaining which requirements are being waived and the reasons for the waiver.

(f) SUNSET.—The authority provided under this section shall terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Commerce Control List” means the list maintained pursuant to part 744 of the Export Administration Regulations;

(2) the term “covered Export Control Classification Number” means an Export Control Classification Number in product group D or E of Category 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9 of the Commerce Control List;

(3) the terms “Export Administration Regulations”, “export”, “reexport”, and “in-country transfer” have the meanings given those terms in section 1742 of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4801); and

(4) the terms “direct product”, “technology”, “software”, “major component”, “knowledge”, “production”, “development”, “part”, “component”, “equipment”, and “government end users” have the meanings given those terms in section 734.9 or part 772 of the Export Administration Regulations, as the case may be.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MORAN. 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 Texas.

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 6603, the No Technology for Terror Act, and thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MOSKOWITZ) for their support in co-leading this important bipartisan legislation.

This bill would codify recently expanded export control sanctions on Iran, restricting their ability to manufacture missiles and drones using U.S. material and technology.

This weekend, Iran unleashed an unprecedented direct attack on Israel, launching over 350 missiles and drones. Thankfully, 99 percent of these were intercepted by Israel, the United States, and other partners. Were it not for our incredible, capable militaries, this could have been an absolute catastrophe.

Iran has the largest missile arsenal in the Middle East, and it is increasingly supplying malign actors around the world with missiles and drones as a merchant of death. Iran's weapons are spreading death and destruction around the world.

The Iran-backed Houthis use drones to fuel their attacks on global ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Iran's proxies in Iraq and Syria have launched over 170 attacks on U.S. troops in the last 6 months. Iran-backed Hezbollah is aggressively firing on Israel's northern border.

Russia uses these weapons to target civilians and civilian infrastructure in its illegal war of aggression against Ukraine. In fact, reports have found that components recovered in the Iranian-made drones used against the people of Ukraine have included more than 50 American-made components.

Other reports have found that out of roughly 500 components identified in a recovered Iranian drone, 82 percent were manufactured by United States companies.

These reports are backed by a June 2023 report released by the State Department where they acknowledged that Iran relies on foreign procurement and that Iran even prefers American-made sourcing to manufacture its lethal weapons. This is unacceptable.

Urgent action is needed to combat Iran's longstanding missile and drone proliferation. That includes doing more to prevent them from accessing and benefiting from U.S. parts and technology.

In addition to robust sanctions enforcement to cut off its key sources of financial and military support to proxies like Hezbollah, the Houthis, and Hamas, we must make full use of our export controls to limit the export or re-export of U.S. goods and technology to Iran.

The No Technology for Terror Act will do just that. The limitations set forth in my bill would make it harder for Iran to produce missiles and drones

that are used against American troops and our allies and will make it more difficult to transfer these weapons to Russia and other proxies.

American equipment, technology, and other know-how under no circumstance should be transferred to Iran. The Iranian regime is relentlessly evil and seeks to become the superpower in the Middle East, which means eliminating America and its allies at all costs.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill as it extends the foreign-direct product rule to Iran, which restricts the re-export or transfer of U.S.-originated items from one foreign country to Iran.

Iran and its terrorist proxies continue to sow instability on a global scale. We must take urgent action to restrict Iran's access to technology that it uses to manufacture lethal missiles and drones.

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

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in strong support of H.R. 6603.

This past weekend, Mr. Speaker, Iran launched more than 350 drones and ballistic missiles toward our ally Israel, an attack largely thwarted by the Israeli Defense Forces, alongside American, British, French, Jordanian, and other partner militaries. Nevertheless, the attack demonstrated Iran's airborne capacity and domestic drone and missile capabilities. Iran has not only launched its drones at Israel, but they have provided them to Russia for use in Putin's illegal war in Ukraine.

The administration has implemented numerous export controls to prevent American materials from being sent to Iran for use in their drone program. It has been an interagency priority to help ensure our technologies do not wind up in the hands of the enemy.

To that end, the Bureau of Industry and Security has imposed a foreign-direct product rule, BIS' most powerful tool, to prevent the production and proliferation of Iranian drones and missiles.

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The legislation before us now, the No Technology for Terror Act introduced by my colleagues, Mr. MORAN and Mr. MCCAUL, makes permanent certain U.S. export control restrictions on American-made drones technology, and would be the first instance ever of codifying a foreign-direct product rule.

During markup of this bill, the bill was improved to include exceptions to ensure it does not unintentionally prevent the sale of humanitarian goods such as food and medicine. The bill also contains a national interest waiver to provide the executive branch greater flexibility in minimizing the export control's humanitarian impact and maximizing our leverage against Iran. A waiver also provides Iran an incentive to stop its malignant conduct,

cease its nuclear ambitions, and end its funding for terrorism.

While it is a big deal to codify a foreign-direct product rule, Iran's conduct and the flexibility built into the legislation warrant my support and the support of all the Members of this House.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives MORAN and Chairman MCCAUL for their good-faith efforts to make this bill a bipartisan bill, and I encourage my colleagues to join with me in supporting this measure.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, Iran's weaponized drone program is a threat to our allies, Israel and Ukraine, and to United States national security. This legislation codifies the Biden administration's export control restrictions to prohibit United States-made technology and software from being transferred to Iran, preventing that technology from being used in the manufacturing of Iranian drones.

I thank Representative MORAN and Chairman MCCAUL for introducing this legislation and for working in the good-faith, bipartisan manner that we often do on this committee so that we can make this legislation as effective and flexible as it needs to be.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 6603, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, first, I thank the ranking member for his support and his work on this bill as well.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to work together to do all that we can to address Iran's ongoing proliferation of lethal drones and missiles. From Israel to Ukraine, we see the devastating impacts of failing to do so.

In order to safeguard our national security and innocent civilians around the world, we need to make sure that U.S.-origin goods are not helping Iran manufacture deadly weapons. That is what this bill, the No Technology for Terror Act, does.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, H.R. 6603, the No Technology for Terror Act, to stop supplying goods to Iran that are used against us.

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 Texas (Mr. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6603, 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. MORAN. 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.

NO PAYDAYS FOR HOSTAGE-TAKERS ACT

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5826) to require a report on sanctions under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5826

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 "No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Islamic Republic of Iran has a long history of hostage-taking and wrongful detention of United States nationals, including its illegal detention of 52 American diplomats from 1979 to 1981.

(2) The Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.), named in honor of Robert Levinson, the longest-held hostage in United States history who is presumed to have been killed by the regime while in Iranian custody, authorizes sanctions with respect to foreign persons who are responsible for or complicit in hostage-taking or unlawful or wrongful detention of United States nationals abroad.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to undertake additional actions and impose strict penalties to deter the Government of Iran and other hostile governments and non-state actors from hostage-taking or wrongfully detaining United States nationals.

SEC. 4. REPORT AND CERTIFICATION ON RESTRICTED IRANIAN FUNDS RELEASED TO QATAR.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter for 6 years, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate the following:

(1) A report on the \$6,000,000,000 in funds transferred from restricted Iranian accounts in the Republic of South Korea to restricted accounts in Qatar on or after August 9, 2023.

(2) A certification as to whether credible evidence or intelligence exists that any of the funds transferred have been used for any purpose other than humanitarian purposes.

(3) A certification as to whether credible evidence or intelligence exists that the funds transferred have enabled the Government of Iran to increase spending on defense, intelligence, or malign foreign activities.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a)(1) shall include the following:

(1) An itemized list of all transactions involving the use of funds transferred, including the value of such transactions, the parties to such transactions, the financial institutions involved, the goods purchased in each transaction, the destinations and end user of such goods, the date on which the United States was notified of such transaction, and the date the transaction occurred.

(2) The quantity of funds described in subsection (a)(1) in restricted accounts in Qatar at the beginning and end of each reporting period.

(3) A thorough description of the process the United States Government utilized during the reporting period to review transactions involving the use of funds transferred in order to verify that such transactions were humanitarian in nature.

SEC. 5. REVIEW AND DETERMINATION AND REPORTS ON SANCTIONS UNDER THE ROBERT LEVINSON HOSTAGE RECOVERY AND HOSTAGE-TAKING ACCOUNTABILITY ACT.

(a) **REVIEW AND DETERMINATION.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter for 6 years, the President shall—

(1) review all cases of the hostage-taking of a United States national in Iran or at the direction of the Government of Iran and all cases of the unlawful or wrongful detention of a United States national in Iran or at the direction of the Government of Iran that have occurred during the preceding 10-year period; and

(2) make a determination as to whether any foreign person, based on credible evidence—

(A) is responsible for or complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing, the hostage-taking of the United States national or the unlawful or wrongful detention of the United States national; or

(B) knowingly provides financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services in support of, an activity described in subparagraph (A).

(b) **REPORTS.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter for 6 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) identifies all foreign persons with respect to which the President has made a determination under subsection (a)(2); and

(2) with respect to each such foreign person—

(A) states whether sanctions have been imposed under section 306 of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741d) or will be imposed within 30 days of the date of the submission of the report; and

(B) for whom sanctions have not been imposed or will not be imposed under section 306 of such Act, provides a description of the specific authority under which otherwise applicable sanctions are being waived, have otherwise been determined not to apply, or are not being imposed and a complete justification of the decision to waive or otherwise not apply the sanctions authorized by such sanctions programs and authorities.

SEC. 6. REQUIREMENT TO LIMIT TRAVEL OF IRANIAN DIPLOMATS AT THE UNITED NATIONS.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) United States visa restrictions on sanctioned individuals often contain exceptions for activities in order 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.

(2) Section 6 of Public Law 80-357 (commonly known as the “United Nations Headquarters Agreement Act”) provides “Nothing in the agreement shall be construed as in any way diminishing, abridging, or weakening the right of the United States to safeguard its own security.”

(3) Congress has directed the President to use the President’s authority, including the authorities contained in section 6 of Public Law 80-357, to deny any individual’s admission to the United States as a representative

to the United Nations if the President determines that such individual has been found to have been engaged in espionage activities or a terrorist activity directed against the United States or its allies and may pose a threat to United States national security interests.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that Iran’s longstanding hostage-taking and wrongful detention of United States nationals, assassination plots against United States nationals outside and within the United States, and intelligence activities are a security or terrorist threat to the United States and United States interests and shall be a primary consideration in limiting travel of Iranian diplomats seeking admission to the United States for United Nations activities and their family members.

(c) **DENIAL OF VISAS.**—Section 407(a)(1) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (8 U.S.C. 1102 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “(1)” and inserting “(1)(A)”;

(2) by striking “and” at the end and inserting “or”;

(3) by adding further at the end the following:

“(B) has been sanctioned pursuant to Executive Order 13224 (66 Fed. Reg. 49079; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism) or Executive Order 13382 (70 Fed. Reg. 38567; relating to blocking property of weapons of mass destruction proliferators and their supporters) as of the date of the enactment of the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act; and”.

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on whether the President has taken action to restrict the travel of Iranian diplomats seeking admission to the United States for United Nations activities and their family members and identifying each such instance in which visas were denied or travel was restricted.

SEC. 7. REPORT ON BLOCKED IRANIAN ASSETS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

(1) An itemized list of any identifiable assets with a valuation of more than \$100,000 belonging to Iranian individuals and entities that are or have been blocked or otherwise frozen pursuant to any sanctions program under any jurisdiction globally, in the prior 2 years.

(2) Any changes to the status of such assets, including unblocking, unfreezing, or transferring such assets, in the prior 2 years.

(3) With respect to any changes identified in paragraph (2), whether the United States Government took any action, including waiving of sanctions, that related to such unblocking or unfreezing, and a justification for any such United States actions.

SEC. 8. REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO FREEZE AND SEIZE IRANIAN ASSETS.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Attorney General should, to the extent practicable—

(1) carry out a coordinated international effort to find, restrain, freeze, and where appropriate and legally authorized, seize, confiscate or forfeit the assets of those individuals and entities that have been sanctioned in connection with Iran’s malign activities, including hostage-taking, wrongful detention, and human rights violations; and

(2) work with foreign governments—

(A) to share intelligence of financial investigations, as appropriate;

(B) to oversee the assets identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(C) to provide technical assistance to help governments establish the necessary legal framework to carry out asset forfeitures.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on actions described in subsection (a).

SEC. 9. DETERMINATION AND REPORT ON INVALIDATING UNITED STATES PASSPORTS FOR TRAVEL TO IRAN.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Secretary of State maintains authority to restrict the use of United States passports for travel to or use in a country or area which the Secretary has determined is a country or area in which there is imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travelers, in accordance with section 51.63 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations.

(2) In 2017, the Secretary of State declared United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through North Korea, unless specially validated for such travel, after United States citizen Otto Warmbier suffered grievous injuries in North Korean custody, which led to his death.

(3) The ban on use of United States passports for travel to North Korea was renewed in 2023.

(b) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should declare United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through Iran due to the imminent danger to the public health and physical safety of United States travelers stemming from the threat of wrongful detention or being taken hostage by the Iranian regime.

(c) **DETERMINATION AND REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary of State shall determine and report to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate—

(1) whether the travel of United States persons to Iran presents an imminent danger to the public health or physical safety of United States travelers; and

(2) whether the Secretary is exercising his authority to declare United States passports invalid for travel to, in, or through Iran.

SEC. 10. STRATEGY TO DETER HOSTAGE-TAKING.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall develop and submit to Congress a strategy to deter and prevent wrongful detention and hostage-taking by United States adversaries, including identifying penalties for wrongful detention and hostage-taking, identifying clear United States Government policies barring the payment of ransom or transactions that could be viewed as ransom by the United States Government, and detailing plans to coordinate with United States allies and partners on such strategy.

SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

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

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate.

(2) **FOREIGN PERSON.**—The term “foreign person”—

(A) means an individual or entity that is not a United States person; and

(B) includes a foreign state (as such term is defined in section 1603 of title 28, United States Code).

(3) UNITED STATES NATIONAL.—The term “United States national” has the meaning given that term in section 307(2) of the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741e(2)).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act.

For 45 years, the outrageous regime in Tehran has kidnapped American hostages. It is a cruel, yet consistent, part of this bloodthirsty regime's character. Iran utilizes hostage-taking as a negotiating tactic and a funding mechanism. In doing so, Iran repeatedly victimizes innocent Americans and their families who endure years of false accusations, wretched conditions, and separation. No one deserves this treatment. Iranian Americans are very successful and appreciated in America, and all Americans equally appreciate the oppressed people of Iran.

Unfortunately, both the Obama and Biden administrations have made the catastrophic mistake of cutting financial deals with Iran in order to free hostages. Make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, Iran sees dollar signs whenever it sees American passports. It knows it can take innocent Americans, hold them in prison for years, and see a windfall at the end. This is the same tactic of war criminal Putin, kidnapping Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich.

In 2016, the Obama administration ignorantly capitulated a \$1.7 billion ransom to Iran, including a \$400 million payment in pallets of cash at the same time that Iran released four U.S. hostages.

At the time, many warned that if the United States Government would pay for hostages, then Iran would keep taking them and demand a higher and higher price.

Sure enough, in the next 7 years, Iran continued to hold and collect more American hostages. These people suffered away from their families and were deprived of their liberty for years

until last summer, the Biden administration cut a deal to secure their freedom by granting loan access to \$6 billion in sanctioned funds used to murder Iranians and to murder Americans, such as the three Army Reservists from Georgia killed on January 28 of this year.

Some might claim that these funds are only for humanitarian goods. First, this naively puts too much trust in a regime skilled at sanctions evasion and other forms of illicit finance. Second, money is fungible, and this deal freed up \$6 billion in funds for the regime to finance its military program, terrorist proxies, nuclear activities, and repression.

Right now, Iran is incentivized to keep taking hostages. They keep benefiting.

That is why today we are considering my bipartisan bill to ensure that Iran never again profits from taking American hostages. This bill imposes sanctions on Iranian officials identified as being responsible for or complicit in taking American citizens hostage. It also greatly limits the travel of Iranian diplomats at the U.N. They should not be allowed to come here and gallivant around the New York metropolitan area while innocent Americans languish in Iranian prisons.

It also requires a detailed report to give Congress full visibility on how Iran is using the \$6 billion so that the American people's elected Representatives can conduct thorough oversight of these funds.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important bill to protect Americans from Iran's brutal hostage-taking, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2024.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 5826, the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers 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. 5826 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 fu-

ture 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, April 3, 2024.

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. 5826, the No Paydays for Hostage-Takers 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. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5826, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I appreciate the intent of this measure brought to the floor by my friend and colleague from South Carolina, Representative WILSON, which is to help better prevent hostile governments such as Iran from taking Americans hostage or wrongfully detaining them overseas.

I believe Democrats and Republicans must work together and ensure the State Department has all the resources and authorities from Congress that it needs to bring Americans home who have been unjustly held abroad and to offer them the support they need when they return home.

I understand and agree with my colleague's intent to disincentivize bad behavior by hostile actors, and to make clear to anyone who would wrongfully detain any of our citizens that it will not be tolerated.

However, I am concerned that some of the messages sent in this bill risk undermining our key partners in the battle to protect American citizens. I want to make sure the State Department's Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs is given the latitude to negotiate and get the job done.

I would like to offer my appreciation to the SPEHA team for the hard and difficult work it continues to undertake on behalf of the American people. We need to empower that office and the families of wrongful detainees that rely on its vital assistance and advocacy, not inadvertently burden it with extensive reporting or overly restrictive policy prescriptions.

I also want to be certain we do not restrict the freedom of movement of

Americans, something that is fundamental to our liberty and, specifically, the impact such a move would have on hundreds of thousands of Iranian Americans who expect our government, unlike the regime in Tehran, to respect their fundamental rights.

That is why I am glad the language on the issue has been made nonbinding, and I really appreciate Representative WILSON working with us on this bill and the effort to make sure that the United States Government's approach on hostages and wrongful detention is smart and effective. We have worked together to achieve this.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I encourage my colleagues to join in supporting this measure. Again, we must do everything we can to prevent Americans from being illegally detained abroad.

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank Mr. WILSON from South Carolina for introducing this bill. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5826, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I am grateful for the leadership of MICHAEL MCCAUL, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and the ranking member, GREG MEEKS. Those of us in South Carolina are always happy to point out his South Carolina heritage as he now ably represents Queens, but we remember his heritage of Rock Hill, and we appreciate his success.

This legislation is so important to strike back against Iran's decades-long strategy of taking innocent Americans hostage to the House floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the 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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5826, 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. WILSON of South Carolina. 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.

□ 1515

SOLIDIFY IRAN SANCTIONS ACT OF 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3033) to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3033

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 "Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) requires the imposition of sanctions with respect to Iran's illicit weapons programs, conventional weapons and ballistic missile development, and support for terrorism, including Iran's Revolutionary Guards Corps.

(2) The Government of Iran has acquired destabilizing conventional weapons systems from the Russian Federation and other malign actors, and is funneling weapons and financial support to its terrorist proxies throughout the Middle East, threatening allies and partners of the United States, such as Israel.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to fully implement and enforce the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note).

SEC. 4. REPEAL OF SUNSET.

Section 13 of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking "SUNSET";

(2) by striking "(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—"; and

(3) by striking subsection (b).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, for 27 years, this law, the Iran Sanctions Act, enacted in 1996, has been the foundation of our pressure campaign to compel Iran to abandon its ballistic missile development and support for terrorism.

In the intervening years, these sanctions have been expanded as the threat posed by the Iranian nuclear program and other malign activities become increasingly obvious and pressing. What we saw this weekend is that these sanctions are more necessary than ever.

Iran, for the first time ever, has launched a direct attack on Israel, firing over 300 missiles and drones directly at Israel. Thankfully, 99 percent of these weapons were intercepted by Israel, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Jordan.

Iran has the largest ballistic missile arsenal in the Middle East. It is not

amassing these weapons for show. It is amassing these weapons to use them, just as they gruesomely did this weekend.

At the same time, Iran is pressing forward with its provocative nuclear program, expanding its stockpile of near-weapons-grade enriched uranium and refusing to cooperate in the dispute with the IAEA.

Iranian terrorist puppets are showing the world the destructive capabilities they have gained from years of Iranian support. Hamas launched its October 7 massacre that murdered over 1,200 innocent people in Israel, Hezbollah in Lebanon launched nearly daily attacks on Israel's northern border, and the Houthis in Yemen are lobbing missiles and UAVs at ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Additionally, Iran is selling these dangerous weapons to war criminal Putin to fuel his murderous war against the people of Ukraine.

The threat Iran poses to the United States and our allies is growing more and more entrenched. We need a policy response that is durable and shows that we are committed day in and day out to choking off any financial support to the Iranian malign activities.

Today, that is why the House is considering the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act, which would eliminate the upcoming 2026 sunset from the Iran Sanctions Act. We need to send Iran a clear and simple message: You cannot just wait out the sanctions. The sanctions will not expire on some arbitrary date. The only way to make the U.S. sanctions go away is to stop sanctionable conduct and not be a threat to the United States and our allies, period.

The fact that we are considering this bill under suspension of the rules is hugely important. It shows that eliminating this sunset is not controversial. Republicans and Democrats agree that we need durable, long-term pressure on Iran.

This bill passed out of the Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously, and I am grateful that it is being considered on the floor today.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2023.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: I write regarding H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023. Provisions of this bill fall within the Judiciary Committee's Rule X jurisdiction, and I appreciate that you consulted with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee agrees that it shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

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

of a conference with the Senate involving this measure or similar legislation.

I ask that you please include this letter in your committee's report to accompany this legislation or insert this letter in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 3033 on the House floor. I appreciate the cooperative manner in which our committees have worked on this matter, and I look forward to working collaboratively in the future on matters of shared jurisdiction. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM JORDAN,
Chairman.

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

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN JORDAN: Thank you for consulting with the Foreign Affairs Committee and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

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

I will seek to place our letters on 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.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN MCCAUL: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Financial Services regarding H.R. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023. I agree that the Committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that, by foregoing consideration of H.R. 3033 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved on this or similar legislation as it moves forward. The Committee also reserves the right to see appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any conference with the Senate involving this or similar legislation, and we request your support for any such request.

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

Sincerely,

PATRICK MCHENRY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 14, 2024.

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. 3033, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023, so that the measure may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

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

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

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3033. For the past 26 years, Congress and the executive branch have worked together to put pressure on Iran's energy sector to deny Iran funds for implementing its nefarious nuclear program and state-sponsored terror activities.

The Iran Sanctions Act, or ISA, originally passed into law in 1996 and has been the key statutory element undergirding our sanctions infrastructure.

Since 1996, Congress has built upon this legislation multiple times and has expanded the list of transactions that are considered violations of the ISA. These sanctions, combined with sanctions on Iran's financial system and petroleum transactions, and together with aggressive diplomacy, are what drove Iran to the negotiating table to finalize the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

The JCPOA effectively shut off every pathway to an Iranian nuclear weapon before it was unwisely torn down in 2018, leaving us in the dangerous position we are now in.

The ISA is the only major Iran sanctions statute that contains a sunset provision. In general, sunset provisions have value. They force Congress to re-evaluate and reconsider sanctions to adjust to new situations.

Therefore, we must all ask ourselves an important question: Under what circumstances can Congress envision the necessity of abandoning our sanctions infrastructure while this regime is in power? Even in the instance a new Iran deal is reached and successfully implemented, I believe we would want this sanctions infrastructure in place, just as it was under the JCPOA, so that Iran and the international community knows what awaits them if progress is not made.

Furthermore, if Congress loses this sanctions infrastructure, we will be ceding even more of our authority to the executive branch of government, who will solely rely on its executive powers to implement sanctions unbound by the program developed by the United States Congress.

This legislation sends an important message. It protects an important statute, and it serves the interests of the American people.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. STEEL), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means and the author of this legislation.

Mrs. STEEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to urge passage of my bill, the Solidify Iran Sanctions Act.

The Iranian regime poses one of the greatest threats to peace throughout the Middle East and the world. They are a state sponsor of terrorism. The Houthis, who Iran backs, are terrorizing ships throughout the Red Sea. They are funding Hamas. They are a sworn enemy of America, and their number one goal is to destroy Israel.

Even more troubling, they are doing everything possible to build a nuclear weapon. Iran's deplorable attack on Israel demands consequences.

The Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 is set to expire in 2026. There should be no sunset date to stop funding for Iran-backed terrorism throughout the world. The Solidify Iran Sanctions Act does what it says, solidifies those sanctions, making them permanent.

The people of Israel, American soldiers, and innocent people throughout the Middle East should not live in fear of the Iranian regime and their terror. We must act now.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MCCAUL and Congresswoman SUSIE LEE for their leadership and partnership on this important issue, and I urge all my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for yielding me time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3033 reinforces our existing sanctions infrastructure, eliminating the sunset provision of the original Iran Sanctions Act of 1996.

Although I believe that sunset clauses are important, previous provisions in U.S. sanctions-related legislation compelling Congress to reassess sanctions, the ISA is the only major Iran-related sanctions statute with a sunset clause.

Even if the United States does manage to negotiate a new Iran deal to end Tehran's nuclear weapons program, the ISA is an important deterrent and reminder to Iran what awaits should they rescind the deal.

Additionally, losing the ISA at any point would only further cede more

power to the executive branch of government with its executive powers to implement sanctions.

Therefore, I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3033, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Madam Speaker, just 2 days ago, the world was sadly stunned by the Iranian unprecedented attack on the civilian population of Israel. The regime in Tehran is committed to threatening the United States and our ally Israel.

Iran is not going to voluntarily stop sponsoring the puppets that they have of Hezbollah, the Houthis, or Hamas. They are not going to give up their missiles and drones out of the goodness of their hearts. They are most certainly not going to stop their nuclear program. They truly do believe and chant in their parliament, in English: "Death to Israel. Death to America."

The Iran threat is wide-ranging and multifaceted, and the Iran Sanctions Act is a foundation of tools to combat it. We know this threat isn't going away anytime soon, so let's stop fooling ourselves that a sunset makes any sense on these provisions.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful to have the bipartisan support with Ranking Member GREG MEEKS, working with Chairman MIKE MCCAUL, and that we are here today.

I urge my colleagues to join in bringing our statutes in line with the strategic reality on the ground.

Madam Speaker, additionally, Representative MICHELLE STEEL is to be appreciated. Even before the attacks took place, she brought this issue up to address the murderous conduct of the regime in Tehran.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. STEEL). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3033.

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. WILSON of South Carolina. 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.

URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO EXPEDITIOUSLY DESIGNATE THE ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY GUARD CORPS AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION UNDER COMMON POSITION 931, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the

rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 288) urging the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position 931, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 288

Whereas the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and its Basij paramilitary force have been used by Ayatollahs Khomeini and Khamenei to maintain the Iranian regime's power;

Whereas the IRGC Basij have been used to quash numerous protests and democratic uprisings in Iran, including the Green Movement;

Whereas the IRGC Basij continue to perpetrate wide-scale human rights abuses inside Iran, including against women, children, and minorities;

Whereas the IRGC Basij are actively suppressing the ongoing protests sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini and calls for the regime to be toppled;

Whereas the IRGC Basij are responding to these demonstrations with violence, arrests, and murder, including the arrest of journalists covering these protests;

Whereas the IRGC trains, funds, arms, and shares intelligence with dangerous proxy forces throughout the Middle East and abroad, including Hezbollah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ), the Houthis, and Kata'ib Hezbollah, which have targeted civilians and both Europeans and Americans;

Whereas the IRGC continues to provide critical support to Bashar al-Assad and his autocratic regime in Syria;

Whereas the IRGC is actively fueling Russian President Vladimir Putin's illegal war of aggression against Ukraine through the provision of hundreds of lethal kamikaze drones and overseeing plans for the construction of a new factory in Russia with the capacity to produce thousands of Iranian-designed drones;

Whereas the Iranian-assisted Russian war of aggression poses a direct threat to European security and sovereignty;

Whereas the IRGC has targeted dissidents around the world, including throughout Europe;

Whereas the IRGC Quds Force is responsible for Iranian extraterritorial operations, and they likely played a key role in Iranian assassinations in the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, France, Germany, Bulgaria, and Cyprus in recent years;

Whereas the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, France, Denmark, and Albania have all either arrested or expelled Iranian Government officials implicated in terrorist or assassination plots in their respective countries;

Whereas the IRGC engaged in a murder-for-hire plot to target former National Security Advisor John Bolton and former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo for their efforts targeting the IRGC and killing IRGC-Quds Force Commander Qasem Soleimani;

Whereas the IRGC was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the United States in 2019;

Whereas Iran executed British-Iranian national Alireza Akbari and as a result the United Kingdom is considering designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization;

Whereas in response to the European Union's consideration of designating the IRGC a terrorist organization, IRGC Commander Hossein Salami has threatened European countries;

Whereas the European Parliament in January 2023 voted 598 to 9 in favor of designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization as part of its annual foreign and security policy report;

Whereas the European Parliament also in January 2023 voted overwhelmingly in favor of separate Iran-focused resolution that called for designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization;

Whereas thus far the European Union has only sanctioned individual members and leaders of the IRGC as terrorists but have not yet designated the IRGC in its entirety;

Whereas under European Council Common Position of December 27, 2001, on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP) (in this preamble referred to as "Common Position 931"), the European Union can designate terrorist organizations if "a decision has been taken by a competent authority" that they are a terrorist organization;

Whereas under Council Common Position 931 on combating terrorism, the European Union defines "competent authority" to include "a judicial authority";

Whereas proposals for terrorist organization designations by the European Union can come from third-party countries, including the United States; and

Whereas previous Department of Justice investigations and convictions provide the European Union sufficient proof under Common Position 931: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the "Encouraging the European Union to Determine that the European Union Should Sanction the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Now As a Terrorist Entity Resolution" or the "Encouraging the EU to DESIGNATE Resolution".

SEC. 2. EUROPEAN UNION DESIGNATION OF IRGC AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

The House of Representatives—

(1) urges the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position of December 27, 2001, on the application of specific measures to combat terrorism (2001/931/CFSP);

(2) encourages the Biden administration make European Union designation of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization a diplomatic priority in engagements with the European Union; and

(3) welcomes the efforts of the international community to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution calling on the European

Union to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization.

Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for introducing this very important legislation. Congresswoman TENNEY is appreciated for her tireless efforts of promoting peace through strength. From the Middle East to Europe, the IRGC is fielding conflicts in conjunction with proxies, puppets, dictators, and warlords.

In April of 2019, the United States rightfully designated the IRGC as a foreign terrorist organization for its role in these acts of global terror, including the role in assassination attempts on both American and European soil. In the last 5 years, the IRGC's destabilizing influence has only grown, particularly in Europe, as Iran is helping and collaborating to facilitate war criminal Putin's illegal war of aggression against the people of Ukraine.

□ 1530

In Ukraine, we have seen hundreds of Iranian drones used against civilians and civilian infrastructure. War criminal Putin and the regime of Tehran are in alliance with the dictators of rule of gun invading democracies with rule of law.

The restrictions associated with the U.S. foreign terrorist organization designation limit the IRGC's ability to access U.S. markets, but in Europe, without a corresponding European terror designation, the IRGC can still find ample financing.

This is deeply troubling given the IRGC's extensive history of sanctions evasion, including in EU member states, and increasing cooperation with war criminal Putin to evade Western financial restrictions.

The European Commission has historically claimed it lacks sufficient evidence for such a designation. As the co-chair and founder of the EU Caucus, I especially expect the European Union to designate the IRGC a terrorist organization. To fail is, sadly, ridiculous.

The IRGC's role of fueling terrorism is undeniable. The European Parliament clearly agrees. In January 2023, the European Parliament ratified a resolution calling for the IRGC to be designated, pointing out that it, "both directly and by acting through local proxies, has assassinated diaspora dissidents, kidnapped exiles for abduction to Iran, and plotted bomb attacks in several countries, including the EU member states."

It is long past time for the European Union to join the United States in properly designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, the United States designated the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, or the IRGC, as a foreign terrorist organization, an FTO, in April 2019 because of

its record of terrorism, violation of the laws of armed conflict, assassination attempts, and significant support for regional terrorist groups. Our designation has helped limit the IRGC's ability to access the United States' markets.

Unfortunately, EU markets, absent a similar terror designation, remain viable sources of IRGC income.

The IRGC clearly represents a threat to both American and European security. We must join forces to limit the IRGC's access to capital. It is long past time for the EU to act, as a combination of U.S. and EU designations would have a major impact and will help save lives.

This resolution calls on the EU to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps of Iran as an addition to the EU terror list. Amidst IRGC's ongoing support of Russian war crimes in Ukraine, EU's reluctance risks emboldening the Iranian Government's goal of sowing terror and chaos in the West.

The IRGC clearly presents a threat to the EU and our collective security. It is long past time to cut off its resources and hold Iran accountable. Working together, we can contain and diminish Iranian terrorism and make the world safer for Americans and Europeans alike.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY), a member of the Ways and Means Committee and the author of this resolution.

Ms. TENNEY. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative JOE WILSON, my good friend and dear colleague, and also the ranking member, my colleague from New York, Representative MEEKS, for their support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of my resolution, H. Res. 288, that is on the floor today, the Encouraging the EU to DESIGNATE Resolution.

This resolution encourages our European Union allies to finally designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the IRGC, as a terrorist entity under EU Common Position 931.

What is the IRGC? For those of you who do not know, the IRGC is an Iranian extra-military organization that both conducts the Iranian mullahs' acts of terrorism and is the link between Ayatollah Khamenei and other terror groups, such as Hamas, Hezbollah, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and the Houthis out of Yemen.

For example, the IRGC Quds Force funds, arms, trains, and supports Hamas, Hezbollah, the Houthis, and the PIJ. The IRGC's Basij has been a primary force for quashing the courageous protesters in the wake of the horrible killing of Mahsa Amini by the brutal Iranian regime. The IRGC Navy has antagonized U.S. ships in the Red Sea in

violation of international law. The IRGC Quds Force has played a key role in Iranian-directed assassinations in the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, France, Germany, Bulgaria, and Cyprus in just recent years.

The threat posed by the IRGC is not only abroad. Just a few years ago, the IRGC engaged in a murder-for-hire plot to target former National Security Advisor John Bolton and former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.

If anyone is concerned about whether IRGC is a terrorist entity, I encourage you to read my "Report on IRGC Terrorist Activity" that details the many terrorist plots the IRGC has been involved in. All the information is here. For those of you at home, you can access it on Tenney.house.gov. I took special effort to make sure that people knew exactly what this evil force was up to.

In 2019, President Trump declared the IRGC a foreign terrorist organization. While this was just a tremendous first step, we must encourage our allies to join us and confront the Iranian threat head-on. That is why, last year, I led numerous letters, and many of my colleagues joined with me, to the European Union, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and India, imploring them to please join us and designate the IRGC as a terrorist entity so we could impose sanctions.

Sadly, none of these countries have joined us yet. The Encouraging the EU to DESIGNATE Resolution would implore our EU allies to get off the sidelines and to take a stand against terrorism and for freedom and democracy.

Madam Speaker, I wish Josep Borrell, the EU's High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, were here today because I have a question for him: Do you stand with the United States and for freedom, or do you stand with the Iranian terrorists that have tried and succeeded in killing Europeans across the continent? Sadly, I think we all know the answer.

Madam Speaker, this isn't hard. Some would call it a no-brainer. It is time for the EU to join the U.S. and designate the IRGC as a terrorist entity. I urge all of my colleagues to support this commonsense resolution. We must stand together against the Iranian threat.

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, once again, it is overdue for the EU to designate the IRGC as a terrorist entity. They are nothing but that. By shutting the IRGC out of both the American and European markets, we will be starving them of important resources of funding they rely on to conduct their terrorist and other destabilizing activities.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 288, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, we must continue to do all we can to address the threat

posed by Iran. The IRGC has for decades played a direct role in threatening the European Union and its citizens.

Given its increasing reach, most recently with its murderous support of war criminal Putin's invasion of Ukraine, it is imperative that no stone is left unturned. We must work together to cut off Iran's ability to fuel terrorism on a global scale, and that must include designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization.

Madam Speaker, I thank, in particular, Congresswoman CLAUDIA TENNEY for developing this resolution and her extraordinary efforts in a bipartisan manner to do research on the IRGC that should be very informative to the American people and be a message to even the people of Iran how the oppression of the people of Iran actually has consequences, sadly, around the world. Congresswoman TENNEY effectively promotes the safety and security of American and European families.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution calling on the European Union to designate Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps as a foreign terrorist organization, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 288.

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. WILSON of South Carolina. 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.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE SLOGAN, "FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA, PALESTINE WILL BE FREE" IS ANTISEMITIC AND ITS USE MUST BE CONDEMNED

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 883) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the slogan, "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" is antisemitic and its use must be condemned.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 883

Whereas the slogan "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" is an antisemitic call to arms with the goal of the eradication of the State of Israel, which is located between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea;

Whereas the slogan seeks to deny Jewish people the right to self-determination and calls for the removal of the Jewish people from their ancestral homeland;

Whereas Hamas, the Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations and their sympathizers have used and continue to use this slogan as a rallying cry for action to destroy Israel and exterminate the Jewish people;

Whereas this rallying cry can promote violence against the State of Israel and the Jewish community globally;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas committed a barbaric and uncivilized slaughter against the Jewish people, killing 1,200 people;

Whereas victims of this massacre included children, the elderly, Holocaust survivors, and women, who were murdered indiscriminately in their homes, communities, public spaces, and at a music festival;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas reportedly beheaded dozens of babies, committed countless atrocities, and violently raped women;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas recorded and broadcasted to the world mutilation, desecration, and public parading of bodies;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas took over 240 hostages, including children, women, elderly Israelis, Americans, and other foreign nationals;

Whereas, on October 7, 2023, Hamas murdered the highest number of Jewish people since the Holocaust;

Whereas Hamas' 2017 Charter states, "Hamas rejects any alternative to the full and complete liberation of Palestine, from the river to the sea.";

Whereas Hamas' 2017 Charter states, "There shall be no recognition of the legitimacy of the Zionist entity.";

Whereas Hamas' 2017 Charter states, "Resistance and jihad for the liberation of Palestine will remain a legitimate right.";

Whereas this slogan is used by the same people who utter "death to America" and "death to Israel";

Whereas former Hamas Chief Khaled Meshaal called for the "day of rage", a global mobilization against the State of Israel, which had profound consequences for Jewish communities around the world;

Whereas a member of the Hamas political bureau, Ghazi Hamad, in an interview about the October 7 massacres, vowed, "We must teach Israel a lesson, and we will do it twice and three times. The Al-Aqsa Deluge is just the first time, and there will be a second, a third, a fourth.";

Whereas Ghazi Hamad, in the same interview, responded, "Yes, of course", when asked if he believed in the annihilation of Israel;

Whereas the Secretary General of Hezbollah Hassan Nasrallah stated, "Palestine, from the sea to the river is the property of Arabs and Palestinians and no one has the right to give up even a single grain of earth or one stone.";

Whereas Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, on November 11, 2023, stated that the only solution to this war is "The establishment of the Palestinian State from the river to the sea.";

Whereas the founder of al-Qaeda and the perpetrator of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Osama bin Laden, stated, "Borders must be opened by force so as to obtain all the necessary requirements to liberate the entire Palestine from the river to the sea, God willing.";

Whereas the former Dictator of Iraq, Saddam Hussein, stated, "Glorious and sublime are our martyrs in Palestine, Iraq, and the nation as a whole. Long live Palestine, free

and Arab, from the sea to the river", and "Palestine is Arab and must be liberated from the river to the sea";

Whereas this slogan neglects the fact that innocent civilians are used as human shields by Hamas;

Whereas Hamas intentionally locates its military weapons supply depots and intelligence outposts directly under and within civilian populated sites such as schools, mosques, residential buildings, and hospitals such as the Al Shifa Hospital, the largest hospital in Gaza;

Whereas using civilians as human shields for protecting weapons and fighters from a lawful attack is considered a war crime;

Whereas hateful rhetoric obstructs peace efforts;

Whereas the Anti-Defamation League and the American Jewish Committee deem this slogan antisemitic;

Whereas this slogan incites fear within the Jewish community in the United States and around the world;

Whereas students attending institutions of higher education have chanted and continue to chant this slogan since the barbarous October 7 massacres, yet all the while, their fellow Jewish students are being harassed and intimidated; and

Whereas this slogan has been used recently by violent protestors throughout the United States and the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that—

(1) the slogan, "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free", is outrightly antisemitic and must be strongly condemned;

(2) this slogan is divisive and does a disservice to Israelis, Palestinians, and all those in the region who seek peace;

(3) this slogan rejects calls for peace, stability, and safety in the region;

(4) this slogan perpetuates hatred against the State of Israel and the Jewish people; and

(5) anyone who calls for the eradication of Israel and the Jewish people are antisemitic and must always be condemned.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which 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 South Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I thank our colleague from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) for introducing this important bipartisan resolution to condemn anti-Semitic speech.

Hamas' horrific and murderous attack on Israel on October 7 massacred over 1,200 innocent people. Hamas terrorists committed brutal sexual assaults. They took over 250 people hostage and held them in wretched conditions.

October 7 was the deadliest day for people of Jewish faith since the Holocaust.

Since that awful day 6 months ago, we have seen a shocking rise in anti-Semitic attacks, symbolism, and speech, including a resurgence of the slogan "from the river to the sea."

This phrase, "from the river to the sea," comes directly from the terrorist organization's covenant. Hamas is clear about their ultimate goal: the destruction of the State of Israel and the death of Jews around the world.

Article 7 of the August 18, 1988, Hamas Covenant calls for chasing every Jew behind trees and rocks until the last Jew is found behind a rock and is killed.

We must be clear. This rallying cry, and others like it, have no place in a peaceful and tolerant society. "From the river to the sea" refers to the land between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea. This language calls for entirely destroying the State of Israel and replacing it with the Palestinian state.

Slogans like this are clearly anti-Semitic and hateful. They inherently support the destruction of Israel and denying Jews their right of self-determination of any kind.

Promoting violence against Israel and Jews is anti-Semitism, and we have the responsibility in Congress to condemn such language.

With this resolution, we are condemning this hate speech and standing with our valued ally, Israel. We understand the chant of Tehran gruesomely in English, "Death to Israel, death to America."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1545

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, the 10-word slogan "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" means different things to different people. For many well-meaning supporters of the Palestinian cause, it is a slogan calling for future Palestinian statehood and Palestinian dignity. I agree with those goals, and that is why I support a two-state solution.

To others, particularly to Israelis and Jews in the diaspora, the phrase is a threat, symbolizing the destruction of the Jewish people and the Jewish State of Israel, and I acutely understand that concern as well.

However, a basic truth is evident. If you consider the geographic area between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea to be exclusively Palestine, you are taking the Jewish State of Israel off the map.

As clearly demonstrated by pro-Palestinian protesters following the horrific events of October 7, far too many people who boldly chant this phrase do not want Israel to exist. I know this because when asked, that is how they answer.

As someone steeped in America's civil rights movement, I clearly under-

stand the First Amendment and the right of free speech. I support peaceful protest. I support what my dear friend and former colleague John Lewis taught us about good trouble. It is okay for supporters of the Palestinian cause or the Israeli cause to cause some good trouble.

When good trouble turns into calls for violence or, in this case, wiping the State of Israel off the map, the rhetoric has gone too far. It becomes dangerous, and it can cause people harm. That is why I support this nonbinding resolution critical of that phrase.

Let me be clear: There is absolutely nothing anti-Semitic about advocating for an independent Palestinian state. However, calling for the elimination of the Jewish state, praising Hamas who strives for Israel's destruction, or suggesting that the Jews alone do not have the right to self-determination is anti-Semitic.

I am a strong supporter of a two-state solution, which will result in the area between the river and the sea being the home to a Jewish State of Israel and an independent and prosperous Palestine. That is what we should be chanting for and what I will never give up hope for, a peaceful Middle East, two states side by side.

When I talked to some citizens of Israel right after intifada, all they said is they wanted to live in peace with their neighbors.

When I talked to some young Palestinians in the West Bank, all they said they wanted was to live in peace with their Israeli neighbors.

That is what we should be striving for.

While I am not really happy that we have to consider this resolution that I do believe, unfortunately, was brought here by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle in an attempt to divide this House, I also know the danger of the phrase in question. That is why the resolution actually has my begrudging support.

In this institution, at times you have got to do what you think is the best thing to do, the right thing to do, and that is why I support this resolution, and I encourage my colleagues to join in doing the same.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO), chairman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Management and Technology and the author of this resolution.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 883. I rise today, as well, to thank House Republican leadership for bringing my resolution to a vote as part of their swift and necessary response to Iran's unprecedented attack on Israel. My resolution condemns the slogan "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" because it is blatantly anti-Semitic.

Madam Speaker, it is no coincidence that this slogan has been embraced by not only the violent, barbaric leaders of Hamas, but also countless other terrorist organizations and adversarial nations like Iran. I remind my colleagues that this slogan was used by Iranian leaders responsible for the recent attacks on Israel. It is also no coincidence that this phrase has roots in Hamas' charter, a document which explicitly calls for the destruction of the State of Israel, the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people.

When anti-Semitic activists, masquerading as merely pro-Palestinian, spray-painted this slogan on the site of the 1972 Munich massacre of Israeli Olympians, we know and they know exactly what they are communicating. This slogan communicates one thing and one thing only. It is not human rights. It is certainly not peace. It is the violent destruction of the State of Israel and the Jewish people that live within it.

Madam Speaker, at a time in history when anti-Semitic attacks have surged nearly 400 percent following Hamas' brutal, unprovoked October 7 attack on Israel, we need this resolution now more than ever. When Jewish students throughout this Nation and in my home State of New York at universities like Columbia and Cooper Union speak up about the anti-Semitism they are facing, they cite phrases and slogans just like these. Too often, events that may have started as peaceful protests quickly cross the line and turn into anti-Semitic, anti-Jew rallies. Perhaps the most common denominator in these instances is the presence of this slogan. It is not simply a slogan; it is a threat. It is a threat to Israel. It is a threat to the Jewish people. It does not get us any closer to peace. It gets us further from it. To employ this slogan is to perpetuate the cause of hate and regional instability.

I remind my colleagues that the Anti-Defamation League regards the slogan as anti-Semitic and a cry for Israel to not exist. The ADL informs us that to use this slogan is to call for "effectively erasing and destroying the entire Jewish state." I remind my colleagues that between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea sits America's strongest ally, the Middle East's only democracy, and the ancestral homeland of the Jewish people.

As the Representative of the most Jewish communities in this country, it is very clear that we need to act. Between the Jordan River and the Mediterranean Sea sits Israel, a free, diverse nation, a safe haven for Jewish people formed in the wake of the mass murder of European Jews.

When the world witnessed the tragedies of the Holocaust, we said: "Never again." Now is our chance to mean it and to reject anti-Semitic hate in all of its forms whenever and wherever it rears its ugly head.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Bush	Omar
Massie	Tlaib

NOT VOTING—8

Caraveo Issa Smith (WA)
Granger Luetkemeyer Wilson (FL)
Grijalva Payne

□ 1632

Ms. LEE of California changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ILLCIT CAPTAGON TRAFFICKING SUPPRESSION ACT OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4681) to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to illicit captagon trafficking, 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. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 13, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 129]

YEAS—410

Adams	Carey	DeLauro
Aderholt	Carl	DeBene
Aguilar	Carson	Deluzio
Alford	Carter (GA)	DeSaulnier
Allen	Carter (LA)	DesJarlais
Allred	Carter (TX)	Diaz-Balart
Amo	Cartwright	Dingell
Amodei	Casar	Doggett
Armstrong	Case	Donalds
Arrington	Casten	Duarte
Auchincloss	Castor (FL)	Duncan
Babin	Castro (TX)	Dunn (FL)
Bacon	Chavez-DeRemer	Edwards
Baird	Cherfilus-	Ellzey
Balderson	McCormick	Emmer
Balint	Chu	Escobar
Banks	Ciscomani	Eshoo
Barr	Clark (MA)	Españolat
Barragán	Clarke (NY)	Estes
Bean (FL)	Cleaver	Evans
Beatty	Cline	Ezell
Bentz	Cloud	Fallon
Bera	Clyburn	Feenstra
Bergman	Clyde	Ferguson
Beyer	Cohen	Finstad
Bice	Cole	Fischbach
Bilirakis	Collins	Fitzgerald
Bishop (GA)	Comer	Fitzpatrick
Bishop (NC)	Connolly	Fleischmann
Blumenauer	Correa	Fletcher
Blunt Rochester	Costa	Flood
Boebert	Courtney	Poster
Bonamici	Craig	Foushee
Bost	Crane	Fox
Boyle (PA)	Crawford	Frankel, Lois
Brecheen	Crenshaw	Franklin, Scott
Brown	Crockett	Frost
Brownley	Crow	Fry
Buchanan	Cuellar	Fulcher
Bucshon	Curtis	Gaetz
Budzinski	D'Eposito	Gallagher
Burchett	Daids (KS)	Gallego
Burgess	Davidson	Garamendi
Burlison	Davis (IL)	Garbarino
Calvert	Davis (NC)	Garcia (IL)
Cammack	De La Cruz	Garcia (TX)
Carbajal	Dean (PA)	Garcia, Mike
Cárdenas	DeGette	Garcia, Robert

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

NAYS—13

Biggs	Lee (PA)
Bowman	Massie
Bush	Ocasio-Cortez
Johnson (GA)	Omar
Lee (CA)	Pressley

NOT VOTING—8

Caraveo Issa Payne
Granger Lee (NV) Wilson (FL)
Grijalva Luetkemeyer

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1636

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from one vote today. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 129.

NO TECHNOLOGY FOR TERROR 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. 6603) to apply foreign-direct product rules to Iran, 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. MORAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 19, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 130]

YEAS—406

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

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

NAYS—19

Bowman Casar García (IL)
 Bush Castro (TX) Jayapal

NOT VOTING—6

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1640

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.

NO PAYDAYS FOR HOSTAGE-TAKERS 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. 5826) to require a report on sanctions under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 391, nays 34, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 131]

YEAS—391

Adams Burchett Crockett
 Aderholt Burgess Crow
 Aguilar Burlison Cuellar
 Alford Calvert Curtis
 Allen Cammack D'Esposito
 Allred Carbajal Davids (KS)
 Amo Cardenas Davidson
 Amodei Carey Davis (IL)
 Armstrong Carl Davis (NC)
 Arrington Carson De La Cruz
 Auchincloss Carter (GA)
 Babin Carter (LA)
 Bacon Carter (TX)
 Baird Cartwright
 Balderson Case
 Banks Casten
 Barr Castor (FL)
 Barragán Chavez-DeRemer
 Bean (FL) Cherfilus-McCormick
 Beatty Beatty
 Bentz Ciscomani
 Bera Clark (MA)
 Bergman Clarke (NY)
 Bice Cleaver
 Biggs Cline
 Bilirakis Cloud
 Bishop (GA) Clyburn
 Bishop (NC) Clyde
 Blumenauer Cohen
 Blunt Rochester Cole
 Boebert Collins
 Bonamici Comer
 Bost Connolly
 Boyle (PA) Correa
 Brecheen Costa
 Brown Courtney
 Brownley Craig
 Buchanan Crane
 Bucshon Crawford
 Budzinski Crenshaw

Jeffries Johnson (LA)
 Johnson (SD)
 Jordan
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)
 Kaptur
 Kean (NJ)
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kelly (MS)
 Kelly (PA)
 Khanna
 Kigga (VA)
 Kildee
 Kiley
 Kilmer
 Kim (CA)
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster
 Kustoff
 LaHood
 LaLota
 LaMalfa
 Lamborn
 Landsman
 Langworthy
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Latta
 LaTurner
 Lawler

NAYS—34

Balint
 Beyer
 Bowman
 Bush
 Casar
 Castro (TX)
 Chu
 Escobar
 Frost
 García (IL)
 García, Robert
 Gomez
 Huffman
 Jacobs
 Jayapal

Johnson (GA) McGovern Ramirez
Kamlager-Dove Moore (WI) Schakowsky
Kim (NJ) Ocasio-Cortez Smith (WA)
Lee (CA) Omar Tlaib
Lee (PA) Pocan Waters
Massie Porter
McGarvey Pressley

NOT VOTING—6

Caraveo Grijalva Payne
Granger Luetkemeyer Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1643

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.

SOLIDIFY IRAN SANCTIONS ACT
OF 2023

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3033) to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes, 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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 407, nays 16, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 132]

YEAS—407

Adams Budzinski Crane
Aderholt Burchett Crawford
Aguilar Burgess Crenshaw
Alford Burlison Crockett
Allen Calvert Crow
Allred Cammack Cuellar
Amo Carabajal Curtis
Amodei Cárdenas D'Esposito
Armstrong Carey Davids (KS)
Arrington Carl Davidson
Auchincloss Carson Davis (IL)
Babin Carter (GA) Davis (NC)
Bacon Carter (LA) De La Cruz
Baird Carter (TX) Dean (PA)
Balderson Cartwright DeGette
Balint Case DeLauro
Banks Casten DeBene
Barr Castor (FL) Deluzio
Barragán Castro (TX) DeSaulnier
Bean (FL) Chavez-DeRemer DesJarlais
Beatty Cherfilus- Diaz-Balart
Bentz McCormick Dingell
Bera Chu Doggett
Bergman Ciscomani Donalds
Beyer Clark (MA) Duarte
Bice Clarke (NY) Duncan
Biggs Cleaver Dunn (FL)
Bilirakis Cline Edwards
Bishop (GA) Clout Ellzey
Bishop (NC) Clyburn Emmer
Blunt Rochester Clyde Escobar
Boebert Cohen Eshoo
Bonamici Cole Espallat
Bost Collins Estes
Boyle (PA) Comer Evans
Brecheen Connolly Ezell
Brown Correa Fallon
Brownley Costa Feenstra
Buchanan Courtney Ferguson
Bucshon Craig Finstad

Fischbach Larsen (WA)
Fitzgerald Larson (CT)
Fitzpatrick Latta
Fleischmann LaTurner
Fletcher Lawler
Flood Lee (FL)
Foster Lee (NV)
Foushee Leger Fernandez
Foxy Lesko
Frankel, Lois Letlow
Franklin, Scott Levin
Frost Lieu
Fry Lofgren
Fulcher Lucas
Gaetz Luna
Gallagher Luttrell
Gallego Lynch
Garamendi Mace
Garbarino Magaziner
Garcia (TX) Malliotakis
Garcia, Mike Maloy
Garcia, Robert Mann
Gimenez Manning
Golden (ME) Mast
Goldman (NY) Matsui
Gomez McBath
Gonzales, Tony McCaul
Gonzalez, McClain
Vicente McClellan
Good (VA) McClinstock
Gooden (TX) McCollum
Gosar McCormick
Gottheimer McGarvey
Graves (LA) McGovern
Graves (MO) McHenry
Green (TN) Meeks
Green, Al (TX) Menendez
Greene (GA) Meng
Griffith Meuser
Grothman Mfume
Guest Miller (IL)
Guthrie Miller (OH)
Hageman Miller (WV)
Harder (CA) Miller-Meeks
Harris Mills
Harshbarger Molinaro
Hayes Moolenaar
Hern Mooney
Higgins (LA) Moore (AL)
Hill Moore (UT)
Himes Moore (WI)
Hinson Moran
Horsford Morelle
Houchin Moskowitz
Houlahan Moulton
Hoyer Mrvan
Hoyle (OR) Mullin
Hudson Murphy
Huffman Nadler
Huizenga Napolitano
Hunt Neal
Issa Neguse
Ivey Nehls
Jackson (NC) Newhouse
Jackson (TX) Nickel
Jackson Lee Norcross
Jacobs Norman
James Nunn (IA)
Jeffries Obermole
Johnson (LA) Ogles
Johnson (SD) Owens
Jordan Pallone
Joyce (OH) Palmer
Joyce (PA) Panetta
Kamlager-Dove Pappas
Kaptur Pascrell
Kean (NJ) Pelosi
Keating Peltola
Kelly (IL) Pence
Kelly (MS) Perez
Kelly (PA) Perry
Khanna Peters
Kiggans (VA) Petterson
Kildee Pfluger
Kiley Phillips
Kilmer Pingree
Kim (CA) Pocan
Kim (NJ) Porter
Krishnamoorthi Posey
Kuster Quigley
Kustoff Raskin
LaHood Reschenthaler
LaLota Rodgers (WA)
LaMalfa Rogers (AL)
Lamborn Rogers (KY)
Landsman Rose
Langworthy Rosendale

Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Staubert
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Aguilar
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NAYS—16

Blumenauer Jayapal
Bowman Johnson (GA)
Bush Lee (CA)
Casar Lee (PA)
Garcia (IL) Massie
Jackson (IL) Ocasio-Cortez

NOT VOTING—8

Caraveo Loudermilk Wilson (FL)
Granger Luetkemeyer Zinke
Grijalva Payne

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1647

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois changed his vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Ms. WATERS changed her vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO
EXPEDITIOUSLY DESIGNATE THE
ISLAMIC REVOLUTIONARY
GUARD CORPS AS A TERRORIST
ORGANIZATION UNDER COMMON
POSITION 931, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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. 288) urging the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position 931, and for other purposes, 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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 411, nays 14, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 133]

YEAS—411

Adams Bera Burlison
Aderholt Bergman Calvert
Aguilar Beyer Cammack
Alford Bice Carabajal
Allen Biggs Cárdenas
Allred Bilirakis Carey
Amo Bishop (GA) Carl
Amodei Bishop (NC) Carson
Armstrong Blumenauer Carter (GA)
Arrington Blunt Rochester Carter (LA)
Auchincloss Boebert Carter (TX)
Babin Bonamici Cartwright
Bacon Bost Case
Baird Boyle (PA) Casten
Balderson Brecheen Castor (FL)
Balint Brown Castro (TX)
Banks Brownley Chavez-DeRemer
Barr Buchanan Cherfilus-
Barragán Bucshon McCormick
Bean (FL) Budzinski Chu
Beatty Burchett Ciscomani
Bentz Burgess Clark (MA)

Clarke (NY)	Harris	Mills	Strickland	Trahan	Watson Coleman	Bishop (NC)	Gimenez	McClellan
Cleaver	Harshbarger	Molinaro	Strong	Trone	Weber (TX)	Blumenauer	Golden (ME)	McClintock
Cline	Mooleenaar	Moolesaar	Suozzi	Turner	Webster (FL)	Blunt Rochester	Goldman (NY)	McCollum
Cloud	Hern	Mooney	Swalwell	Underwood	Wenstrup	Boebert	Gonzales, Tony	McCormick
Clyburn	Higgins (LA)	Moore (AL)	Sykes	Valadao	Westerman	Bost	Gonzalez,	McGarvey
Clyde	Hill	Moore (UT)	Takano	Van Drew	Wexton	Boyle (PA)	Vicente	McHenry
Cohen	Himes	Moore (WI)	Tenney	Van Dyne	Wild	Brecheen	Good (VA)	Meeks
Cole	Hinson	Moran	Thanedar	Van Orden	Williams (GA)	Brown	Gooden (TX)	Menendez
Collins	Horsford	Morelle	Thompson (CA)	Vargas	Williams (NY)	Brownley	Gosar	Meng
Comer	Houchin	Moskowitz	Thompson (MS)	Vasquez	Williams (TX)	Buchanan	Gottheimer	Meuser
Connolly	Houlahan	Moulton	Thompson (PA)	Veasey	Wilson (SC)	Bucshon	Graves (LA)	Mfume
Correa	Hoyer	Mrvan	Tiffany	Velázquez	Wittman	Budzinski	Graves (MO)	Miller (IL)
Costa	Hoyle (OR)	Mullin	Timmons	Wagner	Womack	Burchett	Green (TN)	Miller (OH)
Courtney	Hudson	Murphy	Titus	Walberg	Yakym	Burgess	Greene (GA)	Miller (WV)
Craig	Huffman	Nadler	Tokuda	Waltz	Zinke	Burlison	Griffith	Miller-Meeks
Crane	Huizenga	Napolitano	Tonko	Wasserman		Calvert	Grothman	Mills
Crawford	Hunt	Neal	Torres (CA)	Schultz		Cammack	Guest	Molinaro
Crenshaw	Issa	Neguse	Torres (NY)	Waters		Carbajal	Guthrie	Moolenaar
Crockett	Ivey	Nehls				Carey	Hageman	Mooney
Crow	Jackson (IL)	Newhouse				Carl	Harder (CA)	Moore (AL)
Cuellar	Jackson (NC)	Nickel	Bowman	Johnson (GA)	Omar	Carter (GA)	Harris	Moore (UT)
Curtis	Jackson (TX)	Norcross	Bush	Lee (CA)	Pressley	Carter (LA)	Harshbarger	Moran
D'Esposito	Jackson Lee	Norman	Casar	Lee (PA)	Ramirez	Carter (TX)	Hayes	Morelle
Davids (KS)	Jacobs	Nunn (IA)	Garcia (IL)	Massie	Tlaib	Cartwright	Hern	Moskowitz
Davidson	James	Obernolte	Jayapal	Ocasio-Cortez		Case	Higgins (LA)	Moulton
Davis (IL)	Jeffries	Ogles				Casten	Hill	Mrvan
Davis (NC)	Johnson (LA)	Owens				Castor (FL)	Himes	Mullin
De La Cruz	Johnson (SD)	Pallone	Caraveo	Grijalva	Payne	Chavez-DeRemer	Hinson	Murphy
Dean (PA)	Jordan	Palmer	Granger	Luetkemeyer	Wilson (FL)	Cherfilus-	Horsford	Nadler
DeGette	Joyce (OH)	Panetta				McCormick	Houchin	Napolitano
DeLauro	Joyce (PA)	Pappas				Ciscomani	Houlahan	Neal
DelBene	Kamlager-Dove	Pascarell				Clark (MA)	Hoyer	Neguse
Deluzio	Kaptur	Pelosi				Cleaver	Hoyle (OR)	Nehls
DeSaulnier	Kean (NJ)	Peltola				Cline	Hudson	Newhouse
DesJarlais	Keating	Pence				Cloud	Huizenga	Nickel
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (IL)	Perez				Clyburn	Hunt	Norcross
Dingell	Kelly (MS)	Perry				Clyde	Issa	Norman
Doggett	Kelly (PA)	Peters				Cohen	Ivey	Nunn (IA)
Donalds	Khanna	Pettersen				Cole	Jackson (NC)	Obernolte
Duarte	Kiggans (VA)	Pfluger				Collins	Jackson (TX)	Ogles
Duncan	Kildee	Phillips				Comer	Jackson Lee	Owens
Dunn (FL)	Kiley	Pingree				Connolly	James	Pallone
Edwards	Kilmer	Pocan				Correa	Jeffries	Palmer
Ellzey	Kim (CA)	Porter				Costa	Johnson (LA)	Panetta
Emmer	Kim (NJ)	Posey				Courtney	Johnson (SD)	Pappas
Escobar	Krishnamoorthi	Quigley				Craig	Jordan	Pascarell
Eshoo	Kuster	Raskin				Crane	Joyce (OH)	Pelosi
Espallat	Kustoff	Reschenthaler				Crawford	Joyce (PA)	Peltola
Estes	LaHood	Rodgers (WA)				Crenshaw	Kaptur	Pence
Evans	LaLota	Rogers (AL)				Crockett	Kean (NJ)	Perez
Ezell	LaMalfa	Rogers (KY)				Crow	Keating	Perry
Fallon	Lamborn	Rose				Cuellar	Kelly (IL)	Peters
Feenstra	Landsman	Rosendale				Curtis	Kelly (MS)	Pettersen
Ferguson	Langworthy	Ross				D'Esposito	Kelly (PA)	Pfluger
Finstad	Larsen (WA)	Rouzer				Davids (KS)	Khanna	Phillips
Fischbach	Larson (CT)	Roy				Davidson	Kiggans (VA)	Posey
Fitzgerald	Latta	Ruiz				Davis (NC)	Kildee	Quigley
Fitzpatrick	LaTurner	Ruppersberger				De La Cruz	Kiley	Raskin
Fleischmann	Lawler	Rutherford				DeGette	Kilmer	Reschenthaler
Fletcher	Lee (FL)	Ryan				DeLauro	Kim (CA)	Rodgers (WA)
Flood	Lee (NV)	Salazar				DelBene	Kim (NJ)	Rogers (AL)
Foster	Leger Fernandez	Salinas				Deluzio	Krishnamoorthi	Rogers (KY)
Foushee	Lesko	Sánchez				DesJarlais	Kuster	Rose
Fox	Letlow	Sarbanes				Diaz-Balart	Kustoff	Rosendale
Frankel, Lois	Levin	Scalise				Doggett	LaHood	Ross
Franklin, Scott	Lieu	Scanlon				Donalds	LaLota	Rouzer
Frost	Lofgren	Schakowsky				Duarte	LaMalfa	Roy
Fry	Loudermilk	Schiff				Duncan	Lamborn	Ruiz
Fulcher	Lucas	Schneider				Dunn (FL)	Landsman	Ruppersberger
Gaetz	Luna	Scholten				Edwards	Langworthy	Rutherford
Gallagher	Luttrell	Schrier				Ellzey	Larsen (WA)	Ryan
Gallo	Lynch	Schweikert				Emmer	Larson (CT)	Salazar
Garamendi	Mace	Scott (VA)				Eshoo	Latta	Salinas
Garbarino	Magaziner	Scott, Austin				Espallat	LaTurner	Sánchez
Garcia (TX)	Malliotakis	Scott, David				Estes	Lawler	Sarbanes
Garcia, Mike	Maloy	Self				Evans	Lee (FL)	Scalise
Garcia, Robert	Mann	Sessions				Ezell	Lee (NV)	Scanlon
Gimenez	Manning	Sewell				Fallon	Leger Fernandez	Schiff
Golden (ME)	Mast	Sherman				Feenstra	Lesko	Schneider
Goldman (NY)	Matsui	Sherrill				Ferguson	Letlow	Scholten
Gomez	McBath	Simpson				Finstad	Levin	Schrier
Gonzales, Tony	McCaul	Slotkin				Fischbach	Lieu	Schweikert
Gonzalez,	McClain	Smith (MO)				Fitzgerald	Lofgren	Scott (VA)
Vicente	McClellan	Smith (NE)				Fitzpatrick	Loudermilk	Scott, Austin
Good (VA)	McClintock	Smith (NJ)				Fleischmann	Lucas	Scott, David
Gooden (TX)	McCollum	Smith (WA)				Fletcher	Luna	Self
Gosar	McCormick	Smucker				Flood	Luttrell	Sessions
Gottheimer	McGarvey	Sorensen				Foster	Lynch	Sewell
Graves (LA)	McGovern	Soto				Fox	Mace	Sherman
Graves (MO)	McHenry	Spanberger				Frankel, Lois	Magaziner	Sherrill
Green (TN)	Meeks	Spartz				Franklin, Scott	Malliotakis	Simpson
Green, Al (TX)	Menendez	Stansbury				Fry	Maloy	Slotkin
Greene (GA)	Meng	Stanton				Fulcher	Mann	Smith (MO)
Griffith	Meuser	Stauber				Gaetz	Manning	Smith (NE)
Grothman	Mfume	Steel				Gallagher	Mast	Smith (NJ)
Guest	Miller (IL)	Stefanik				Gallo	Matsui	Smith (WA)
Guthrie	Miller (OH)	Steil				Garamendi	McBath	Smucker
Hageman	Miller (WV)	Steube				Garbarino	McCaul	Sorensen
Harder (CA)	Miller-Meeks	Stevens				Garcia, Mike	McClain	Soto

NAYS—14

Johnson (GA)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Massie
Ocasio-Cortez

NOT VOTING—6

Grijalva
Luetkemeyer
Payne
Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1651

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.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE SLOGAN, “FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA, PALESTINE WILL BE FREE” IS ANTISEMITIC AND ITS USE MUST BE CONDEMNED

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. 883) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the slogan, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” is antisemitic and its use must be condemned, 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 South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 44, answered “present” 1, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 134]

YEAS—377

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amo
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)

Spanberger	Thompson (MS)	Walberg
Spartz	Thompson (PA)	Waltz
Stansbury	Tiffany	Wasserman
Stanton	Timmons	Schultz
Stauber	Titus	Weber (TX)
Steel	Tonko	Webster (FL)
Stefanik	Torres (CA)	Wenstrup
Steil	Torres (NY)	Westerman
Steube	Trahan	Wexton
Stevens	Trone	Wild
Strickland	Turner	Williams (GA)
Strong	Valadao	Williams (NY)
Suozzi	Van Drew	Williams (TX)
Swalwell	Van Duyne	Wilson (SC)
Sykes	Van Orden	Wittman
Takano	Vargas	Womack
Tenney	Vasquez	Yakym
Thanedar	Veasey	Zinke
Thompson (CA)	Wagner	

NAYS—44

Balint	Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez
Beyer	Garcia (TX)	Omar
Bonamici	Garcia, Robert	Pingree
Bowman	Green, Al (TX)	Pocan
Bush	Huffman	Porter
Carson	Jackson (IL)	Pressley
Casar	Jacobs	Ramirez
Chu	Jayapal	Schakowsky
Clarke (NY)	Johnson (GA)	Tlaib
Davis (IL)	Kamlager-Dove	Tokuda
DeSaulnier	Lee (CA)	Underwood
Dingell	Lee (PA)	Velázquez
Escobar	Massie	Waters
Foushee	McGovern	Watson Coleman
Frost	Moore (WI)	

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—1

Dean (PA)

NOT VOTING—9

Caraveo	Gomez	Luetkemeyer
Cárdenas	Granger	Payne
Castro (TX)	Grijalva	Wilson (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1656

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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for Roll Call Votes Nos. 124 through 134. Had I been present, I would have voted: "Nay" on Roll Call Vote No. 124, Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 1149; "No" on Roll Call Vote No. 125, H. Res. 1149; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 126, H.R. 6245; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 127, H.R. 6015; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 128, H.R. 5917; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 129, H.R. 4681; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 130, H.R. 6603; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 131, H.R. 5826; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 132, H.R. 3033; "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 133, H. Res. 288; and "Yea" on Roll Call Vote No. 134, H. Res. 883.

IRAN COUNTERTERRORISM ACT OF 2023

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1149, I call up the bill (H.R. 6323) to modify the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BERGMAN). Pursuant to House Resolu-

tion 1149, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services printed in the bill, is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6323

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 "Iran Counterterrorism Act of 2023".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION OF WAIVER AUTHORITIES WITH RESPECT TO SANCTIONS IMPOSED WITH RESPECT TO THE FINANCIAL SECTOR OF IRAN.

(a) FY 2013 NDAA.—Section 1247 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (22 U.S.C. 8806) is amended as follows:

(1) In subsection (f)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "determines that such a waiver" and inserting the following: "determines that—

"(i) the Government of Iran has ceased to provide support for acts of international terrorism; or

"(ii) such a waiver"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "before issuing a waiver pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii)," before "submits".

(2) By adding at the end the following:

"(g) PERIOD FOR REVIEW BY CONGRESS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—During the period of 30 calendar days beginning on the date on which the President submits a report under subsection (f)(1)(B), the appropriate congressional committees should, as appropriate, hold hearings and briefings and otherwise obtain information in order to fully review the report.

"(2) EXCEPTION.—The period for congressional review under paragraph (1) of a report required to be submitted under subsection (f)(1)(B) shall be 60 calendar days if the report is submitted on or after July 10 and on or before September 7 in any calendar year.

"(3) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS DURING INITIAL CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW PERIOD.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the period for congressional review provided for under paragraph (1) of a report submitted under subsection (f)(1)(B) proposing a waiver of the imposition of sanctions under subsection (a), including any additional period for such review as applicable under the exception provided in paragraph (2), the President may not issue the waiver unless a joint resolution of approval with respect to that waiver is enacted in accordance with subsection (h).

"(4) EFFECT OF ENACTMENT OF A JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a joint resolution of disapproval relating to a report submitted under subsection (f)(1)(B) proposing an action described in subsection (f)(1)(A)(ii) is enacted in accordance with subsection (h), the President may not issue the waiver.

"(h) JOINT RESOLUTIONS OF DISAPPROVAL OR APPROVAL DEFINED.—In this subsection:

"(1) JOINT RESOLUTION OF APPROVAL.—The term 'joint resolution of approval' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

"(A) the title of which is as follows: 'A joint resolution approving the President's proposal to issue a waiver relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to Iran.'; and

"(B) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: 'Congress approves of the issuance of a waiver relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 1247(f)(1)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 on _____ relating to _____', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the

second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed waiver.

"(2) JOINT RESOLUTION OF DISAPPROVAL.—The term 'joint resolution of disapproval' means only a joint resolution of either House of Congress—

"(A) the title of which is as follows: 'A joint resolution disapproving the President's proposal to issue a waiver relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to Iran.'; and

"(B) the sole matter after the resolving clause of which is the following: 'Congress disapproves of the issuance of a waiver relating to the application of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran proposed by the President in the report submitted to Congress under section 1247(f)(1)(B) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 on _____ relating to _____', with the first blank space being filled with the appropriate date and the second blank space being filled with a short description of the proposed action.

"(3) INTRODUCTION.—During the period of 30 calendar days provided for under subsection (g)(1), including any additional period as applicable under the exception provided in subsection (g)(2), a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval may be introduced—

"(A) in the House of Representatives, by the majority leader or the minority leader; and

"(B) in the Senate, by the majority leader (or the majority leader's designee) or the minority leader (or the minority leader's designee).

"(4) FLOOR CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—If a committee of the House of Representatives to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval has been referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution.

"(5) CONSIDERATION IN THE SENATE.—

"(A) COMMITTEE REFERRAL.—A joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval introduced in the Senate shall be referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

"(B) REPORTING AND DISCHARGE.—If the committee to which a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval was referred has not reported the joint resolution within 10 calendar days after the date of referral of the joint resolution, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution and the joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

"(C) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—Notwithstanding Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order at any time after the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs reports a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval to the Senate or has been discharged from consideration of such a joint resolution (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of the joint resolution, and all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived. The motion to proceed is not debatable. The motion is not subject to a motion to postpone. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order.

"(D) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval shall be decided without debate.

"(E) CONSIDERATION OF VETO MESSAGES.—Debate in the Senate of any veto message with respect to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, including all debatable motions and appeals in connection with the joint resolution, shall be limited to 10 hours, to be equally divided between, and controlled by, the majority leader and the minority leader or their designees.

"(6) RULES RELATING TO SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

“(A) TREATMENT OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION IN HOUSE.—In the House of Representatives, the following procedures shall apply to a joint resolution of approval or a joint resolution of disapproval received from the Senate (unless the House has already passed a joint resolution relating to the same proposed action):

“(i) The joint resolution shall be referred to the Committee on Financial Services.

“(ii) If a committee to which a joint resolution has been referred has not reported the joint resolution within 2 calendar days after the date of referral, that committee shall be discharged from further consideration of the joint resolution.

“(iii) Beginning on the third legislative day after each committee to which a joint resolution has been referred reports the joint resolution to the House or has been discharged from further consideration thereof, it shall be in order to move to proceed to consider the joint resolution in the House. All points of order against the motion are waived. Such a motion shall not be in order after the House has disposed of a motion to proceed on the joint resolution. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion. The motion shall not be debatable. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

“(iv) The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against the joint resolution and against its consideration are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except 2 hours of debate equally divided and controlled by the sponsor of the joint resolution (or a designee) and an opponent. A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the joint resolution shall not be in order.

“(B) TREATMENT OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION IN SENATE.—

“(i) If, before the passage by the Senate of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, the following procedures shall apply:

“(I) That joint resolution shall not be referred to a committee.

“(II) With respect to that joint resolution—

“(aa) the procedure in the Senate shall be the same as if no joint resolution had been received from the House of Representatives; but

“(bb) the vote on passage shall be on the joint resolution from the House of Representatives.

“(ii) If, following passage of a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval in the Senate, the Senate receives an identical joint resolution from the House of Representatives, that joint resolution shall be placed on the appropriate Senate calendar.

“(iii) If a joint resolution of approval or a joint resolution of disapproval is received from the House, and no companion joint resolution has been introduced in the Senate, the Senate procedures under this subsection shall apply to the House joint resolution.

“(C) APPLICATION TO REVENUE MEASURES.—The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply in the House of Representatives to a joint resolution of approval or joint resolution of disapproval that is a revenue measure.

“(7) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

“(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, and supersedes other rules only to the extent that it is inconsistent with such rules; and

“(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.”.

(b) FY 2012 NDAA.—Section 1245(d)(5) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal

Year 2012 (22 U.S.C. 8513a(d)(5)) is amended as follows:

(1) In subparagraph (A), by striking “determines that such a waiver” and inserting the following: “determines that—

“(i) the Government of Iran has ceased to provide support for acts of international terrorism; or

“(ii) such a waiver”.

(2) In subparagraph (B), by inserting “before issuing a waiver pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii),” before “submits”.

(3) By adding at the end the following:

“The provisions relating to period for review by Congress described in subsections (g) and (h) of section 1247 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (22 U.S.C. 8806) shall apply with respect to a report submitted under subparagraph (B) proposing a waiver of the imposition of sanctions under paragraph (1) in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply with respect to a report submitted under subsection (f)(1)(B) of such section 1247 proposing a waiver of the imposition of sanctions under subsection (a) of such section.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Financial Services or their respective designees.

The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MCHENRY) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, we witnessed Iran's unprecedented attack on our greatest ally and the lone democracy in the Middle East, Israel.

Tehran struck our friends in Israel with a swarm of missiles and drone attacks launched from Iranian soil. Thankfully, most of the attack was intercepted by Israeli defense systems with the support from the mighty U.S. military and other partners in the region and across the world.

This assault was just the latest sign that the ayatollahs seek to destroy Israel from all sides.

In addition to this direct attack, Iran has sought to encircle our Israeli allies through its support of Hamas and Hezbollah.

Hamas' terrorist strike last October on innocent Israeli civilians was a wake-up call for many around the world. It underscores the brutality of the Iranian proxies.

In response to this aggression, my friend and colleague from California (Mrs. KIM) authored the bill we are considering today, H.R. 6323, the Iran Counterterrorism Act. This legislation will provide Congress a stronger role in any future sanctions relief for Iran.

Under current law, the U.S. imposes so-called secondary sanctions against foreign banks that deal with Iran, restricting the ayatollahs' access to hard currency. At the same time, the President enjoys certain waiver authorities that he can invoke for national security purposes.

For example, last September, while Hamas was preparing to wage war against Israel, the Biden administration issued a waiver that allowed for \$6 billion in Iranian funds to be unfrozen.

However, this is not a Democratic or Republican issue we are bringing forward here. Administrations from both parties have used waivers in the past.

Additionally, Congress routinely enacts waiver authorities so the executive branch can use discretion in order to convince bad actors to change their behavior.

The issue when it comes to Iran is the status quo is simply unsustainable. Congresswoman KIM's bill recognizes this.

The regime in Tehran is so hostile, and the threat it poses to Israel and American interests are so high that lawmakers need a greater say when waivers are granted to the ayatollahs' access to the global financial system.

This bill before us ensures U.S. sanctions against Iran can only be waived if Iran has ceased support for international terrorism.

If the administration cannot certify that Iran is no longer financing terrorism, the bill also provides Congress with a chance to review any national security interest waivers of these sanctions.

When H.R. 6323 was passed by the Financial Services Committee, it received bipartisan support because Members are no longer comfortable delegating blanket waiver authorities that benefit Iran.

Tehran's continued aggression, from its efforts to destroy Israel, to its pursuit of nuclear weapons, to its export of drone technologies to Russia, demonstrates that our waiver policies need closer scrutiny.

Congresswoman KIM's legislation draws on a similar congressional review process already in place for Russian sanctions. This review was established under legislation from 2017 that passed both the House and the Senate with near unanimous support.

I am hopeful that our Democratic colleagues will take the threat posed by Iran as seriously as they did Russia when Congress enacted that law.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, Mrs. KIM's bill retains the sanctions exemptions we already have in place for humanitarian assistance to ordinary Iranians. Our challenge is with the regime in Iran, not the Iranian people. Her bill focuses on targeting Tehran's ability to finance terrorism, not on punishing innocent Iranian civilians.

This bill also is about ensuring that waivers benefiting the Iranian Government receive an appropriate vetting in Congress. After the attacks inflicted on

our Israeli allies and friends over the past 7 months, surely, we can all support this commonsense measure.

I thank Mrs. KIM for her work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, at the Rules Committee yesterday, the sponsor of this bill, Mrs. KIM, said that we would need to pass this bill in order to send a strong message to Iran that its unprecedented attack over the weekend was unacceptable.

I agree that the attack was unacceptable. It is wholly unclear how this bill, in any way, sends any such message. The bill would do nothing to deter another act by Iran. Instead, it would make it harder for the President to respond to emergency situations, including humanitarian crises.

Under current law, a President has the authority to waive sanctions only if they determine that such a waiver is vital to the national security of the United States and submits a report to Congress providing justification for the waiver. The authority also limits a President to a waiver period of 180 days, and they must comply with the same requirements in order to renew the waiver.

This is an authority that has been in place for decades and has been used effectively by Republican and Democratic Presidents to protect our national security. It is designed to allow the President to be nimble in response to situations that threaten our national security.

This bill would hamstring this limited waiver authority by prohibiting the President from moving forward with a waiver until a waiting period of up to 70 days have passed.

Let me repeat: It would prohibit the President from moving forward with a waiver until a waiting period of up to 70 days has passed.

During this waiting period, American hostages could be languishing in a foreign prison, victims of a major catastrophe could be suffering, or tensions between American allies and adversaries could be escalating to result in a war.

While any number of major threats to our national security are unfolding, this bill would impose an unreasonable waiting period during which the President would be required to jump through hoops as Congress holds hearings, receives briefings, and requests further information. This is an untenable way to handle emergency situations.

Further, by hamstringing our ability to respond quickly, this bill could very well create a rift between us and our allies abroad who are relying on us to support them in critical moments.

□ 1715

Let's be clear: The current law already provides for transparency on any

waivers by requiring reports to Congress explaining the rationale for any waivers. Congress already has every right to do robust oversight by holding hearings, receiving briefings, and requesting further information to better understand the justification for any waivers. We don't need this bill to allow us to do that.

The difference in this bill is that the President is subjected to a long waiting period, during which untold damage could be inflicted on the United States, our relationships with our allies, and our standing on the international stage.

After decades of a shadow war between Israel and Iran, and months of combat between Israel and Hamas that has resulted in thousands of civilian casualties, this weekend's attack by Iran has brought us even closer to the precipice of an all-out war in the region.

This is not the time to be tying the hands of our President to respond to emergencies, and this is not the time to be risking a rift in our international relationships with allies.

Moreover, limiting our ability to facilitate the funding to provide humanitarian relief for people in need, as this bill would do, is simply shameful. It degrades basic American values supporting the life and dignity of all people.

At the Rules Committee hearing yesterday, the bill's sponsor also claimed that the Biden administration had weakened sanctions on Iran and that this bill was designed to make it harder for the President to do so in the future, but the Biden administration's Iran sanctions program is the most extensive set of comprehensive sanctions against any country.

In fact, the Biden administration has ramped up pressure on Iran since the Trump administration by imposing sanctions on hundreds of additional individuals and entities for activity related to Iran, including the illicit sale of Iranian oil.

The Biden administration also successfully seized a tanker carrying Iranian oil, which was "the first-ever criminal resolution involving a company that violated sanctions by facilitating the illicit sale and transport of Iranian oil," according to the Department of Justice.

In fact, some of the examples that Republicans have cited for sanctions waivers that Biden has implemented were merely renewals of waivers that were initiated under the Trump administration. National security interest waivers, including those that facilitate humanitarian exceptions to sanctions, have long had bipartisan support, including under the Trump administration.

This is just another example of the double standard that Republicans use to fuel their political talking points. They are desperately trying to find a way to blame the Biden administration for Iran's latest attack when there is

simply no real basis to make that connection.

Republicans are also applying a double standard to Ukraine and Israel. They are jumping to support our ally Israel and punish Iran, but they have been holding up badly needed funding for Ukraine, thereby emboldening our shared enemy, Russia.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6323 will do nothing to stop or even deter Iran from attacking Israel again, nor will it end the humanitarian disaster and war in Gaza or help any of our allies under attack by authoritarian regimes. This bill does nothing to help Ukraine or provide Taiwan with any assurance that we have their back. Instead, this bill will have America sitting on its hands while any number of threats to our own national security unfold.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to reject this bill and affirm that America will continue to be a beacon of hope for people around the world.

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

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), a member of the Financial Services Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 6323, the Iran Counterterrorism Act.

Israel is confronting a critical moment as it fights for its right to exist. Iran and its proxies continue to attack our greatest ally in the Middle East and the lone democracy in the region.

As a key financial supporter of Hamas, Iran has sought to indirectly wage war against our Israeli allies. This was demonstrated by Hamas' barbaric attack on October 7.

Now, Iran's hostility has become direct. Last weekend, Iran attacked Israel with drones and missiles launched from Iranian soil. This shows how the ayatollahs are seeking to open up another front as Israel fights for survival.

Iran's aggression underlines the need for greater congressional oversight when the executive branch waives U.S. sanctions on Tehran. That is the focus of H.R. 6323.

Under current law, the United States imposes secondary sanctions against foreign financial institutions that do business with blacklisted Iranians. However, using the law's waiver authority, President Biden eased some of these sanctions last September.

Just as Hamas was preparing its assault, the Biden administration greenlit the transfer of \$6 billion in Iranian funds in exchange for the release of five American hostages. The waiver did nothing to deter Iran from its continued attempts to destroy Israel.

H.R. 6323 does not affect past waivers, but it will help ensure that waiver authority cannot be abused. This bill would require Iran to end its support

for international terrorism before another waiver could be invoked.

If Iran continues to fund terror and the White House seeks a sanctions waiver, this legislation will give the Congress a period to review that action. It will also give Congress an opportunity to reject a misguided waiver. That is common sense.

This bill does not discriminate between Republican and Democratic administrations. Any President who wishes to facilitate Iran's access to the global financial system will have to notify Congress 30 days in advance, so contrary to the ranking member's assertion, this is a reasonable measure that puts on guardrails.

Right now, the President has to notify Congress 15 days before waiving the sanctions. With this bill, we are extending that to 30 days and 60 days if we are in an August recess.

The review period will allow Congress to examine the merits of the waiver and pass a joint resolution of disapproval under expedited procedures, which would prevent the waiver from taking effect. Alternatively, Congress can choose to support a waiver or not to act at all. In both of those cases, the waiver would go forward.

Some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said yesterday that they will not be supporting because they don't trust Congress to act. I will emphasize that if there is inaction from Congress, the President will be able to proceed with that waiver.

Additionally, some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle say that this bill does nothing to counter Iran and its growing aggressiveness. Well, I have to disagree with those of my colleagues who say that. Certain actions by the administration have paved the way for Iran to not fear the consequences of its actions.

H.R. 6323 does not prejudge future waivers. It simply gives Members a say before Tehran can get its hands on any additional funds.

This congressional review process is taken from an existing law targeting Russia, the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, which passed the House in 2017 by a vote of 419-3. We can all agree that Tehran deserves as much scrutiny as Moscow.

I will finish with this. Nothing in H.R. 6323 affects existing sanctions exemptions for food, medicine, and medical devices. These are blanket exemptions that Congress has already built into the sanctions laws that we are discussing today, and nothing in this legislation would change that.

The Financial Services Committee passed this legislation in November in a bipartisan vote of 30-19. I am confident that it will receive support from Members on both sides of the aisle if it is considered on the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, Democrats and Republicans, to take action to confront Iran, stand with our greatest ally, Israel, and support H.R. 6323.

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

Mr. Speaker, if my GOP colleagues want to combat terrorism finance, the way to do that is not through convoluted congressional waiting periods and lengthy proposal processes, tying the President's hands. Rather, I have a solid, bipartisan bill to propose, one which passed our Financial Services Committee markup with a unanimous vote of 50-0. That bill, my bill, is the Stopping Illicit Oil Shipments Act of 2023, H.R. 6365.

The bill would target Iran's oil shipments and the Iranian ghost fleet, which is one of the biggest sources of funds for the terrorist Iranian regime. Iran and Russia both use this tactic to circumvent U.S. and allied sanctions. In fact, it is estimated that 2 million barrels of oil are transported daily on these ghost ships.

If Republicans were serious about countering Iran and Russia, they could have brought this bill to the floor with these other provisions, a bill that passed markup with the same bills considered this week.

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

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

□ 1730

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished ranking member of the full Financial Services Committee for yielding, and I thank the chairman of the full committee as well for giving me the opportunity to raise concerns and to say that we all stand with our ally Israel and the horrors of waking up and being targeted by 300 drones and being absolutely struck by this terrorist attack.

I just came from a meeting with an Iranian-American diaspora organization working for a free democratic Iran who were stunned by Israel being attacked by 300 drones. This bill has consequences which I think are extremely important and worth looking at by our constituents and our community, which is what I wish to do.

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

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, the Iran Counterterrorism Act would require the President to obtain a congressional resolution of approval before waiving certain sanctions on Iran. This would cause us to have greater deliberation with the President.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring concerns but to recognize that this is an important step that we need to digest and discuss in order to make the right decision to safeguard the people in the region but also the free, democracy-wanting people of Iran.

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

In September of this year, the Biden administration negotiated an exchange with Iran for the release of five American citizens detained by Iran. In exchange, the Biden administration agreed to not block the transfer of the Trump-approved \$6 billion in Iranian assets that were the proceeds of Iranian oil purchased by South Korea.

Under the agreement, the funds would be transferred from a restricted account in South Korea to a restricted account in Qatar, where funds would be used exclusively for the purchase of humanitarian goods for Iranian citizens. The transfer did not authorize disbursement of funds, and the sanctioned Government of Iran has not and will not see a penny of that money.

Moreover, Treasury has stated that the U.S. and Qatar have agreed to effectively block the funds for the foreseeable future. Contrary to Republican claims, it is not accurate to tie this \$6 billion to Hamas' attack on October 7 because that attack was being planned for multiple years, likely beginning under the Trump administration.

Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, we received notice that the majority would be moving several Financial Services bills the very next day. This has put Members and staff in the difficult position of assessing and understanding multiple complex bills in a matter of hours in order to cast an informed vote.

The justification for jamming these bills through so quickly is allegedly to respond to Iran's attack on Israel over the weekend. Instead of taking the time to work in a bipartisan manner on bills that would actually increase pressure on Iran, Republicans are politicizing this moment, pointing the finger at the Biden administration, and rushing to pass bills like this one that don't actually provide any real solutions.

In response to Iran's latest attacks, they are just desperately trying to prove that they are doing something instead of taking the time to do something meaningful that actually has a chance to pass the Senate also.

Democrats and Republicans agree that we should be doing everything possible to crack down on Iranian leaders and terrorists. Instead of debating legislation that will accomplish this shared goal, we are here debating legislation that will only make it harder for us to respond quickly to crises.

Put simply, this bill would endanger our own national security and degrade our international standing. For these reasons, I oppose this bill and urge my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to just underscore a few points here. This bill was reported out of committee in November and was publicly available to Members. We reported this bill out

with bipartisan votes coming out of committee. My expectation here on the House floor is we would likewise have a bipartisan vote, number one.

Number two, this is applying the same standard to the Iranian regime that we have applied to the Russian regime, which says if you are going to waive sanctions, we have got to have a say here in Congress. We have to know what you are doing and why.

Now, that was the standard for my Democratic colleagues for a Republican administration, but now my Democratic colleagues don't have that same standard for a Democratic administration, which I think is more partisan than it is in the national interest.

Additionally, it is not just a question of the administration. It is a question of our relationship and our approach to Iran.

Are we going to take Russia more seriously than Iran? I don't think that is in our national interest. I don't think that is in the interest of international stability.

There are a number of things that I raise here that I think are important

parts of the debate. This is a bipartisan approach to waivers which is a good standard whether it is a Democratic administration or a Republican administration, whether or not Republicans or Democrats run the House or the Senate. It says to Iran that we are going to treat them similarly to how we treat the Russian regime.

We have got to stand against the aggression of Tehran and its efforts to destroy Israel, its pursuit of nuclear weapons, and its export of drone technology to Russia. We should stand against that. This week we are making a statement that we do stand against that.

This Congress is making bold statements this week, and I predict we will make more bold statements this week.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1149, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

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

Mr. MCHENRY. 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.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2024, pursuant to Public Law 95–384, are as follows:

(AMENDED) REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO PANAMA, COLOMBIA, AND PERU, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 23 AND FEB. 28, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Hon. Vern Buchanan	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Dina Titus	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Diana DeGette	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Adrian Smith	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Tim Walberg	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Dan Kildee	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Neal Dunn	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Kevin Hern	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Hon. Carlos Gimenez	02/25	02/26	Colombia		450.82		(³)				450.82
Derek Luyten	02/25	02/26	Colombia		438.68		(³)				438.68
Leslie Reagan	02/25	02/26	Colombia		438.68		(³)				438.68
Sean Brady	02/25	02/26	Colombia		438.68		(³)				438.68
Mitchell Moonier	02/25	02/26	Colombia		438.68		(³)				438.68
Courtney Butcher	02/25	02/26	Colombia		438.68		(³)				438.68
Committee total					6,250.78						6,250.78

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
³ Military air transportation.

HON. VERN BUCHANAN, Mar. 11, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO GABON, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, AND ANGOLA, EXPENDED BETWEEN FEB. 17 AND FEB. 27, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Julissa Walsh	2/17	2/27	GBN/DRC/AO		2,148.68		15,463.48				17,612.16
Jake Parker	2/17	2/27	GBN/DRC/AO		2,148.68		15,438.48				17,587.16
Jake Gilluly	2/17	2/27	GBN/DRC/AO		2,148.68		15,438.48				17,587.16
James Cunningham	2/17	2/27	GBN/DRC/AO		2,148.68		15,438.48				17,587.16
Linda Zhang	2/17	2/27	GBN/DRC/AO		2,148.68		16,138.48				18,287.16
Committee total					10,743.40		77,917.40				88,660.80

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. MIKE JOHNSON, Apr. 5, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN, Apr. 8, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON RULES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Kelly Dixon Chambers	2/17	2/21	Kenya		1,272.00		9,278.78				10,550.78
	2/21	2/24	Egypt		994.00						994.00
Committee total					2,266.00		9,278.78				11,544.78

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. TOM COLE, Mar. 18, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRANK D. LUCAS, Apr. 2, 2024.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2024

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
HOUSE COMMITTEES											
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐											

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. RON WYDEN, Apr. 8, 2024.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

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

EC-3798. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Revisions in the WIC Food Packages [FNS-2022-0007] (RIN: 0584-AE82) received April 10, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-3799. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Residential Clothes Washers [EERE-2017-BT-STD-0014] (RIN: 1904-AF58) April 12, 2024, 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-3800. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable

Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program for Appliance Standards: Procedures, Interpretations, and Policies for Consideration in New or Revised Energy Conservation Standards and Test Procedures for Consumer Products and Commercial/Industrial Equipment [EERE-2021-BT-STD-0003] (RIN: 1904-AF13) received April 12, 2024, 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-3801. A letter from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation, and Energy Efficiency, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's final rule — Energy Conservation Program: Clarifying Amendments to the Error Correction Rule [EERE-2020-BT-STD-0015] (RIN: 1904-AE87) received April 12, 2024, 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-3802. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Revisions to the Florida State Implementation Plan Conformity Rule [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0096; FRL-11663-02-R4] received March 28, 2024, 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-3803. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Arizona; Maricopa County Air Quality Department [EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0599; FRL-11591-02-R9] received March 28, 2024, 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-3804. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Revisions; Arizona; Arizona Department of Environmental Quality; Stationary Source Permits [EPA-R09-OAR-2023-0620; FRL-11601-02-R9] received March 28, 2025, 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-3805. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Outer Continental Shelf Air Regulations; Consistency Update for North Carolina [EPA-R04-OAR-2023-0535; FRL-11589-02-R4] received March 28, 2024, 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-3806. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plan; Maryland; Regional Haze State Implementation Plan for the Second Implementation Period [EPA-R03-OAR-2022-0912; FRL-11269-02-R3] received March 28, 2024, 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-3807. A letter from the Deputy Director of Congressional Affairs, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's interim final rule — Implementation of Additional Export Controls: Certain Advanced Computing Items; Supercomputer and Semiconductor End Use; Updates and Corrections; and Export Controls on Semiconductor Manufacturing Items; Corrections and Clarifications [Docket No.: 240321-0084] (RIN: 0694-AI94) received April 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC-3808. A letter from the Agency Representative, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Electronic Submission of Notices of Appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Notices of Election, and Requests for Extension of Time for Seeking Judicial Review [Docket No.: PTO-C-2024-0011] (RIN: 0651-AD78) received April 16, 2024, 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-3809. A letter from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Train Crew Size Safety Requirements [Docket No.: FRA-2021-0032, Notice No.: 5] (RIN: 2130-AC88) received April 9, 2024, 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-3810. A letter from the Senior Attorney, Office of Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement and Compliance, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Regulations Improving and Strengthening the Enforcement of Trade Remedies Through the Administration of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Laws [Docket No.: 240307-0075] (RIN: 0625-AB23) received April 16, 2024, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. RESCENTHALER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1149. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6323) to modify the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4691) to provide for congressional review of actions to termi-

nate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5947) to provide for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6046) to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4639) to amend section 2702 of title 18, United States Code, to prevent law enforcement and intelligence agencies from obtaining subscriber or customer records in exchange for anything of value, to address communications and records in the possession of intermediary internet service providers, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-464). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MFUME (for himself and Mr. ALFORD):

H.R. 8014. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to issue rules for cancelled covered solicitations, to amend the Small Business Act to provide assistance to small business concerns relating to certain cancelled solicitations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. CISCOMANI):

H.R. 8015. A bill to ensure the Department of Homeland Security is appropriately measuring the scope of certain border security matters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. STANTON (for himself and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 8016. A bill to exclude the Arizona Families Tax Rebate from Federal income tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 8017. A bill to provide for the long-term improvement of minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself, Mr. MAGAZINER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 8018. A bill to require the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Commissioner of Social Security to review and simplify the processes, procedures, forms, and communications for family caregivers to assist individuals in establishing eligibility for, enrolling in, and maintaining and utilizing coverage and benefits under the Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and Social Security programs respectively, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. CLOUD, Ms. CROCKETT, and Mr. WEBER of Texas):

H.R. 8019. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of Selena Quintanilla; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 8020. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to publish data on the Unaccompanied Children Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FITZGERALD (for himself, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. GROTHMAN, and Mr. STEIL):

H.R. 8021. A bill to amend Public Law 86-272 to expand the prohibition of State taxation relating to certain solicitation of orders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 8022. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act to establish a deadline for the review of applications for natural gas export and import orders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. BALDERSON):

H.R. 8023. A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to include in the report of the Commission under the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act certain information relating to scams disproportionately impacting seniors during emergencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. GUEST, and Mr. EZELL):

H.R. 8024. A bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize assistance for emergency measures in response to pine beetle outbreaks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. KHANNA (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. GOLDEN of Maine, and Mr. PANETTA):

H.R. 8025. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to clarify roles and responsibilities within the Department of Defense relating to subconcussive and concussive brain injuries and to improve brain health initiatives of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KUSTOFF (for himself and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 8026. A bill to modernize the formulas for allocation of Community Development Block Grant Program grants for entitlement communities to more effectively target such amounts for community development needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. MACE (for herself and Mr. GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 8027. A bill to authorize a civil right of action for individuals affected by video voyeurism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia (for herself, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 8028. A bill to reauthorize the Second Chance Act of 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. ROSENDALE):

H.R. 8029. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on abortions facilitated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. RUIZ, and Mr. VARGAS):

H.R. 8030. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 with respect to the total amount of Federal assistance for projects in States experiencing severe drought and projects in historically disadvantaged communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. RUIZ:

H.R. 8031. A bill to establish the Chuckwalla National Monument and expand Joshua Tree National Park in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SORENSEN (for himself, Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN):

H.R. 8032. A bill to authorize the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. BISHOP of Georgia (for himself, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. RYAN, Mr. ALFORD, and Ms. GRANGER):

H. Con. Res. 104. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of Ralph Puckett, Jr., the last Medal of Honor recipient for acts performed during the Korean conflict; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself and Mr. CLYDE):

H. Res. 1150. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 16, 2024, as “FairTax Day”; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

By Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. MOYLAN, Mr. DELUZZO, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. TURNER, Mr. RYAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. LEE of Nevada, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. CHU, and Ms. JACOBS):

H. Res. 1151. A resolution recognizing the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and expressing support for the designation of April 2024 as the “Month of the Military Child”; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. CARAVEO, Ms. PETERSEN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. BROWN, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. PETERS, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. CARSON, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Ms. PORTER, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Mrs. FOUSHEE):

H. Res. 1152. A resolution commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Columbine High School shooting and honoring the memories of the victims, survivors, and their families; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint

resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. MFUME:

H.R. 8014.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

The single subject of this legislation is: Small Business

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 8015.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One

The single subject of this legislation is: DHS data reporting

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 8016

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I

The single subject of this legislation is: Tax rebates

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 8017.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for the long-term improvement of minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes.

By Mrs. CAMMACK:

H.R. 8018

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:

To require the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the Commissioner of Social Security to review and simplify the processes, procedures, forms, and communications for family caregivers to assist individuals in establishing eligibility for, enrolling in, and maintaining and utilizing coverage and benefits under the Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, and Social Security programs respectively.

By Ms. DE LA CRUZ:

H.R. 8019

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of Selena Quintanilla

By Ms. ESHOO:

H.R. 8020

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:

Requires the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to issue publicly accessible reports each month containing key metrics on the Unaccompanied Children Program.

By Mr. FITZGERALD:

H.R. 8021.

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 bill would define the term “solicitation of orders” as “business activity that facilitates the solicitation of orders even if that activity may also serve some independently valuable business function apart from solicitation.”

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 8022.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has the power “to make all

Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.”

The single subject of this legislation is:

To amend the Natural Gas Act to establish a deadline for the review of applications for natural gas export and import orders, and for other purposes.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 8023

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To require the Federal Trade Commission to include in the report of the Commission under the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act certain information relating to scams disproportionately impacting seniors during emergencies, and for other purposes.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi:

H.R. 8024.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

The single subject of this legislation is:

Agriculture

By Mr. KHANNA:

H.R. 8025.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 of the United States Constitution.

The single subject of this legislation is:

Armed Services

By Mr. KUSTOFF:

H.R. 8026

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause, Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department of Officer thereof.

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation establishes a new entitlement formula to determine Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding allocations.

By Ms. MACE:

H.R. 8027.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize a civil right of action for individuals affected by video voyeurism.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 8028.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Criminal Justice

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 8029.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

This legislation requires the Department of Veterans Affairs to report abortion data to Congress on a quarterly basis.

By Mr. PETERS:

H.R. 8030.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec. 8.

The single subject of this legislation is:
Environment

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 8031.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

The single subject of this legislation is:

To provide for the protection of natural and cultural resources, Tribal collaborative management, sustainable economic development, enhanced recreation, and equitable access on Federal lands in eastern Imperial and Riverside counties, California, and for other purposes.

By Mr. SORENSEN:

H.R. 8032

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

The single subject of this legislation is:

To authorize the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 16: Mr. HOYER, Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. NICKEL, Mr. DELUZIO, and Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 33: Mr. MORELLE and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 205: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 253: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 354: Mrs. FISCHBACH.

H.R. 594: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 595: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 694: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 706: Ms. BALINT.

H.R. 789: Ms. OMAR, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 807: Mrs. RAMIREZ, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 837: Mr. THANEDAR and Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 866: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 883: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Mr. AMO.

H.R. 987: Mr. HOYER, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. MANNING, and Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 1002: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 1073: Mr. LANDSMAN and Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 1097: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BALINT, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. AMODEI, and Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.

H.R. 1277: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1385: Mr. HORSFORD and Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1396: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1582: Mr. ESTES.

H.R. 1632: Mr. DUNN of Florida.

H.R. 1668: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 1767: Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 1770: Mr. HERN.

H.R. 1822: Mr. DESJARLAIS and Mr. MOYLAN.

H.R. 1826: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1831: Mrs. PELTOLA.

H.R. 2407: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mrs. GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.

H.R. 2410: Mr. BEAN of Florida.

H.R. 2584: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 2630: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY.

H.R. 2662: Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 2663: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.

H.R. 2666: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 2700: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.

H.R. 2725: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 2785: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 2845: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2849: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 2955: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 3005: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 3106: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 3139: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 3207: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 3269: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3303: Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 3366: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 3413: Ms. WILSON of Florida.

H.R. 3433: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 3539: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 3591: Mr. LAMALFA.

H.R. 3654: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Ms. SALAZAR.

H.R. 3713: Mr. MEEKS and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 3876: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 3882: Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 3894: Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. NEHLS, and Mr. MOLINARO.

H.R. 4175: Ms. BROWNLEY and Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 4184: Mr. MRVAN, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 4189: Ms. HOULAHAN and Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 4268: Mr. BOWMAN.

H.R. 4303: Mr. BOWMAN.

H.R. 4379: Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 4412: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4413: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4426: Mr. CROW.

H.R. 4571: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 4736: Mrs. CHAVEZ-DEREMER.

H.R. 4978: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 5242: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 5266: Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 5342: Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MANN, and Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 5399: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 5535: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 5545: Mr. LEVIN.

H.R. 5603: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 5778: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 5818: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 5820: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H.R. 5840: Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. LAMALFA, and Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 5970: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 5995: Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 6021: Mr. STEUBE and Mr. CONNOLLY.

H.R. 6116: Mrs. LUNA.

H.R. 6171: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 6416: Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 6425: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 6487: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 6532: Mr. FLOOD.

H.R. 6538: Mrs. RAMIREZ.

H.R. 6683: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 6720: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 6815: Mr. CARBAJAL.

H.R. 6888: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.

H.R. 6926: Mr. MEUSER and Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 6929: Ms. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 6951: Mr. MILLS, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 6960: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mr. THANEDAR.

H.R. 7007: Mr. MULLIN.

H.R. 7109: Mr. HARRIS and Mr. LATURNER.

H.R. 7127: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 7158: Mrs. KIM of California.

H.R. 7165: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 7170: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 7214: Mr. CISCOMANI.

H.R. 7218: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 7227: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. LANDSMAN, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 7329: Ms. BUSH, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. SEWELL, and Mr. DELUZIO.

H.R. 7349: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. TIFFANY, and Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.

H.R. 7401: Mr. MILLS.

H.R. 7428: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 7434: Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 7438: Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 7451: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 7469: Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 7525: Mr. CARBAJAL and Mr. RUIZ.

H.R. 7529: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 7563: Mr. BAIRD.

H.R. 7581: Mr. BILIRAKIS and Mr. CISCOMANI.

H.R. 7596: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 7629: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 7634: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Mr. LIEU.

H.R. 7649: Ms. LEE of Florida and Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 7662: Mr. GARBARINO.

H.R. 7683: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.

H.R. 7688: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 7699: Mr. WALTZ.

H.R. 7710: Mrs. KIM of California and Mr. CASTRO of Texas.

H.R. 7728: Mr. CRANE.

H.R. 7796: Mr. LANDSMAN.

H.R. 7807: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.

H.R. 7866: Mr. FINSTAD, Mr. LAWLER, and Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 7890: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

H.R. 7891: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. ROSE.

H.R. 7905: Mr. MCGARVEY.

H.R. 7906: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 7927: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 7940: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 7945: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 7947: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.

H.R. 7951: Mr. FALLON.

H.R. 7959: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 7962: Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina.

H.R. 7964: Mr. GOOD of Virginia and Mr. BURLISON.

H.R. 7979: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 7980: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. VAN DUYNE, and Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 8001: Mr. LAWLER.

H.R. 8005: Mr. VASQUEZ.

H.R. 8011: Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. GIMENEZ, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.

H.J. Res. 51: Mr. AMO.

H.J. Res. 54: Ms. BROWN.

H.J. Res. 82: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.

H.J. Res. 121: Mr. YAKYM.

H.J. Res. 122: Mr. BABIN, Mr. NORMAN, and Mr. ROSE.

H.J. Res. 125: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.J. Res. 126: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. HUIZENGA.

H.J. Res. 127: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. MANN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. CRENSHAW.

H. Res. 154: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H. Res. 288: Mr. SHERMAN.

H. Res. 882: Ms. BUDZINSKI.

H. Res. 1019: Mr. DAVIDSON.

H. Res. 1029: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. SCHKOWSKY, and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H. Res. 1103: Mr. MASSIE.

H. Res. 1107: Mr. GARBARINO.

H. Res. 1118: Mr. SCHIFF.

H. Res. 1136: Mr. NORCROSS.

H. Res. 1143: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. ALLRED.

H. Res. 1148: Mr. NORCROSS, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. LATTA.



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No. 66

Senate

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Holy God, who inhabits eternity, lead our lawmakers with Your might. Help them to not run ahead of You or ignore Your wisdom. Restore their spirits with trust and hope, and order their steps toward Your desired destination. Lord, keep them calm in the quiet center of their lives so that they may be serene even in life's swirling stresses. Fill them with the peace that comes from keeping their focus on You. Help them to listen to others as attentively as they want others to listen to them.

And, Lord, please bring peace to our troubled world.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 16, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK,

a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

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

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ramona Villagomez Manglona, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years. (Reappointment)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, right now, the world is in desperate need of American leadership. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Iran's attack on Israel, and the Chinese Government's encroachments on the South Pacific threaten world peace, threaten America's prosperity, and threaten the very future of western democracy.

That is why, 2 months ago, the Senate passed a bipartisan national secu-

rity supplemental with aid for Ukraine, for Israel, for the South Pacific, and for humanitarian assistance. We have called on the House of Representatives repeatedly to move our bill because the fastest way—the surest way—for Congress to get desperately needed aid to our allies is for House Republicans to put the supplemental on the floor. It would pass. That was true 2 months ago. It is still true today.

Yesterday evening, Speaker JOHNSON laid out a process for House consideration of the supplemental that would break it up into separate parts. I am reserving judgment on what will come out of the House until we see more about the substance of the proposal and the process by which the proposal will proceed. Hopefully, we will get details of the Speaker's proposal later today.

Again, time is of the essence.

Israel was attacked for the first time in its history directly by Iran. The people of Ukraine are now in all-out desperation. In fact, last week, the head of the U.S. European Command testified before the House Armed Services Committee that Russia's Army is now 15 percent larger than it was at the start of the war, and in a matter of weeks, Russia will outgun Ukraine by 10 to 1—10 to 1. That is not a very good prospect for Ukraine's survival. And anyone who thinks that the war in Ukraine will stay in Ukraine, remember the warning of Japanese Prime Minister Kishida:

Ukraine today may be East Asia tomorrow.

Around the world, civilians caught in the crossfires of war await desperately needed humanitarian assistance.

So the time for delay is over. Democrats have shown repeatedly our willingness to compromise to get important things done; and I will remind everyone of what I said from the beginning of this Congress: The only way to get things done is in a bipartisan way.

Again, we await to see more details of the Speaker's proposal. I urge him to

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



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keep working in a bipartisan way to ensure this vital aid gets to our friends abroad as quickly as possible.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT

Mr. President, now on Senate business, last night, I moved to place the House-passed FISA reauthorization bill on the legislative calendar. The Senate must pass FISA reauthorization by the April 19 deadline, just a few days away. We don't have much time to act.

To keep the process on FISA moving today, I will file cloture on the motion to proceed to the House-passed bill. Democrats and Republicans are going to have to work together to meet the April 19 deadline. If we don't cooperate, FISA will expire. So we must be ready to cooperate.

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

Mr. President, on another matter, this afternoon, we expect the House will deliver the Articles of Impeachment of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. I urge all my colleagues to be in their seats when the articles are presented later today.

Once we receive the articles, the Senate will convene on Wednesday as a Court of Impeachment, and Senators will be sworn in as jurors. Senate President Pro Tempore PATTY MURRAY will preside.

As I have said repeatedly, we want to address this issue as expeditiously as possible. Impeachment should never be used to settle a policy disagreement.

Let me say that again. Impeachment should never be used to settle a policy disagreement.

Talk about awful precedence? This would set an awful precedent for Congress. Every time there is a policy disagreement in the House, they send it over here and tie the Senate in knots to do an impeachment trial? That is absurd. That is an abuse of the process. That is more chaos.

Nevertheless, when the House is ready to send us the articles, the Senate will act.

CHIPS AND SCIENCE ACT

Mr. President, now on chips, yesterday, the Biden administration announced a preliminary deal with Samsung to provide over \$6 billion in funding from Chips and Science to build a new semiconductor manufacturing and research center in Texas. The administration's deal with Samsung supports over \$40 billion of investment that is expected to create over 17,000 new construction jobs and over 4,000 new manufacturing jobs—all made possible by Chips and Science.

Thanks to the investments made in Chips and Science, I am proud to say that the United States is well on its way to our goal of producing 20 percent of the world's leading-edge chips by the end of the decade.

The Chips and Science investment is bringing manufacturing back to America, is shoring up our supply chains to prevent the kinds of chip shortages that raised prices during the pandemic, and is creating good-paying jobs to grow the middle class.

Now, we still have a lot of work to do, but these announcements are proof that the Democratic agenda is delivering real results for the American people and for our economy.

CREDIT CARD FEES

Mr. President, on credit card fees, last month, the Biden administration announced a new \$8 cap on credit card late fees that would help millions of Americans save up to \$10 billion a year.

The Biden administration's push to cut down excess late fees is great news for the people who have been taken advantage of by the big credit card companies for years and years.

But, now, if you can believe it, Republicans are pushing a bill to overturn the Biden administration's rule and let big credit card companies get richer at the expense of hard-working Americans. The Republican bill argues that even allowing big credit card companies to charge Americans absurdly high late fees will "promote financial discipline and responsibility." Whose side are they on? It is hard to believe Republicans are actually trying to increase credit card fees.

Let me say that again so all Americans can hear this. Republicans want to let big credit card companies increase credit card fees in the name of "fiscal discipline and responsibility." Give me a break.

By introducing a bill to block the Biden administration's rule, Republicans are doing the bidding of the big credit card companies and leaving the American people out to dry.

Let me be clear: Democrats will not allow the Republicans' bill to become law.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, this afternoon, the Senate will be called, for just the 19th time in our history, to rule on the impeachment of a senior official of our government. It is a responsibility to be taken seriously. As I said the last time the Senate convened as a Court of Impeachment, it is a power that Congress must not exercise frivolously.

Today, the Senate will hear House managers charge Secretary Mayorkas with serious dereliction of duty—with a systematic refusal to enforce our Nation's immigration laws and with lying to Congress about the extent of the border crisis that unfolded on the Biden administration's watch.

The facts of the crisis are well-known. Since January of 2021, CBP has

recorded more than 7.5 illegal crossings at our southern border, while observers estimate over 1.5 million known "got-aways." And last December saw the highest daily and monthly numbers ever recorded.

In the 2 months since the House impeached Secretary Mayorkas, the border crisis has only continued, with excruciating consequences for innocent Americans.

On February 22, an illegal alien was arrested in Virginia for sexually assaulting a minor. The very next day, another illegal alien from Venezuela was arrested for the murder of Laken Riley, a young college student in Georgia. And the same month, yet another was charged with first- and second-degree murder for the shooting of a 2-year-old in Maryland.

For the Americans living right near the border, things are not improving. In February, one man working in Arizona recounted watching cartel guides lead over 170 people from around the world through one such opening in a matter of hours.

The House managers will make the case for Secretary Mayorkas's role in neglecting and exacerbating that crisis. As befits such a solemn and rare responsibility as convening a Court of Impeachment, I intend to give these charges my full and undivided attention.

Of course, that would require that Senators actually get the opportunity to hold a trial. This is exactly what history and precedent dictate. Never before has the Senate agreed to a motion to table Articles of Impeachment—not for an officer of either party, not once.

Instead, every single time that we have been called upon to render judgment, we have done so. We have convened a trial in accordance with rule XI of the Impeachment Rules agreed to in 1935. We have appointed a trial committee to dig into the facts and make a recommendation.

It would be beneath the Senate's dignity to shrug off our clear responsibility and fail to give the charges we will hear today the thorough consideration they deserve. I will strenuously oppose any effort to table the Articles of Impeachment and avoid looking the Biden administration's border crisis squarely in the face.

NATIONAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL

Mr. President, now on an entirely different matter, 2 months ago, the Senate passed a national security supplemental that reflected the clear links between the challenges we face. That was by design. America's adversaries, from Beijing to Pyongyang and Moscow to Tehran, are actually all working together. They are reinforcing one another's efforts to sap our resolve, shatter our influence, and remake the rules of the road on their own terms. Anyone pretending that we can address these challenges individually, at our

leisure, is only kidding themselves. As I have said before, this isn't a matter of philosophical differences. The truth is plainly evident.

If you want to see the world the way our adversaries do, trace the trade of Chinese cash for sanctioned Iranian energy. Watch the trainloads of North Korean artillery arrive at the frontlines of Putin's onslaught in Ukraine. Follow the flows of Shahed drones to the Russian military. They are the same ones that Iran launched at Israel this past weekend. Or pay attention to the words and actions of America's friends. Listen to the way our Indo-Pacific allies describe the stakes of Ukraine's defense for the prospects of deterrence in their own region. Watch the way they invest their resources both in modernizing their capabilities and in helping Ukraine beat back aggression halfway around the world.

Now, America can choose, as it has nearly done before over the course of our history, to stick our head in the sand, to refuse to invest seriously in our own defense and in the alliances and partnerships that underpin it, to deny that a century of prosperity was purchased by American leadership and vigilance, but to do that now would be to ignore the basic fact that expanding America's defense industrial base and equipping our friends to resist and deter aggression are not competing policies but complementary ones.

Helping Ukraine has accelerated important programs to arm our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific. It has called the attention of Pentagon officials, defense industry leaders, and Members of Congress to glaring gaps in our own capability and production capacity.

The Senate-passed supplemental would further expand the capacity of the arsenal of democracy. Of course, this isn't a one-off responsibility. The supplemental will not magically fix decades of underinvestment, and the administration and Congress will need to commit to taking our military requirements for missile defenses, long-range fires, and other critical military capabilities much more seriously.

But to continue to neglect the task in front of Congress right now would only compound the problem. Hesitation and indecision have prevented Ukraine from taking the fight aggressively to Putin's invaders. And if our friends are digging new defensive fortifications today, it is because they are starving—starving—for the munitions that would have helped them hold the ones they had already built on their frontlines.

Addressing the linked threats to America's national security interests isn't about cooking up "bogus justifications"; it is about dealing with the world as it actually is. Our House colleagues will soon record whether they are prepared to do exactly that.

INFLATION

Mr. President, now on one final matter, last week, cumulative inflation

since President Biden took office hit 19.4 percent. Since January of 2021, gas prices are up 47.8 percent. Car repair costs have increased 6.7 percent. In barely 2 years, car insurance premiums have increased—listen to this—45.8 percent.

Americans know that stable prices and basic safety shouldn't be much to expect from their new leaders. As one woman recently told reporters, "What can you do? You need insurance. You can't have a vehicle or a house without them. So you have to . . . figure out where you can cut other things to make sure you can drive around."

Of course, the soaring cost of insuring a car has a lot to do with the dangers of driving one in blue cities across America where soft-on-crime policies let violent offenders run free. Today, drivers are more likely than ever to become victims of crime, as 2023 saw rates of car theft tick up by 29 percent in 34 cities across the country—more than double since 2019. And 2023 was also the second year in a row that car thefts surpassed 1 million in the United States.

Here in Washington, local residents and Members of Congress alike have fallen victim to an unchecked surge of carjackings. And the city's response? Hand out free tracking devices.

Millions of Americans are waiting eagerly for this fever of incoherent policy to break. They are recalling woke prosecutors, and I suspect they plan to fire many more of their local, State, and national leaders this fall. Bidenomics isn't working, and neither is soft-on-crime radicalism.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

IRAN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this weekend, Iran and its proxies in Syria, Yemen, and Iraq fired a barrage of missiles and drones against Israel. The direct attack was a marked escalation on Iran's part. And it is time for the United States, our allies, and nations that support peace and freedom to make it clear to Iran that we are not going stand idly by while Iran threatens Israel and foments terror in the Middle East.

This weekend's attack was a notable escalation on Iran's part because weapons were fired from Iran and not just by Iran's proxies. Iran has been threatening Israel and undermining peace in the Middle East for decades—Hezbollah, the Houthis, Shia militias in Iraq and Syria, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, and, of course, Hamas.

Hamas gets approximately 90 percent of its military budget from Iran, and there is reason to wonder whether

Hamas would even have had the capability to carry out its October 7 attack without the support it receives from Iran. There is certainly reason to wonder what the Middle East would look like today if Iran hadn't spent decades funding and arming terrorist organizations.

Enough is enough. There have been a lot of redlines drawn for Israel lately. It is past time to draw some for Iran. Unfortunately, the U.S. posture toward Iran under President Biden has too often been one of appeasement. It was President Biden's attempt to reinstate the Obama administration's flawed Iran nuclear deal. Then there was the Biden administration's attempt to unfreeze \$6 billion in Iranian assets as part of a deal to free American prisoners. Thankfully, the administration ultimately refroze those funds in the wake of Hamas's October 7 attack against Israel. But unfreezing them in the first place was a serious mistake.

Just last month, for the second time since the October 7 attack on Israel by Iran-backed Hamas, President Biden renewed a sanctions waiver giving Iran access to \$10 billion from energy sales. And now, this week, President Biden was quick to take options off the table for what U.S. assistance to Israel might look like in the wake of Iran's bold attack. This only suggests to Iran that there are limits to the United States-Israel partnership at the very time we must be making good on our ironclad relationship with Israel, not telling our ally it has to go it alone.

It is alarming when President Biden seems more intent on preventing Israel from responding to Iran's attack than on making it clear to Iran that there can be no more of these attacks and that Iran needs to cease all of its terrorist operations. Unless President Biden wants to continue to see Israel in danger, American troops threatened, and commerce through the Red Sea disrupted, he has to find a much stronger posture when it comes to Iran.

The United States should be making it clear to Iran that the United States will not allow another Iranian attack like the one that occurred this weekend and that we will not tolerate any more aggression from Iran. And it shouldn't be just the United States drawing this redline. As I said, it is time for the United States, our allies, and nations that support peace and freedom to resoundingly reject Iran's malign agenda.

The United States has an important role to coordinate action to back up the G7 statement and to press members of the U.N. Security Council to take a position on Iran's flagrant attack. The United States must also press forward to broker a deal for the normalization of Israel and Saudi relations, the prospect of which normalization many believe motivated the October 7 terrorist attack by Iran-backed Hamas. And, of course, the United States must continue to push for the return of all the hostages in Gaza and help Israel in its

vital mission to dismantle the threat of Hamas.

Mr. President, there may be no easy solution to peace in the Middle East, but standing up to Iranian aggression would be a good start. Iran spends at least \$800 million per year supporting terrorist groups in the Middle East. I ask, again, what would the Middle East look like without the terrorist funding? I suspect it would look more peaceful and prosperous and that our ally Israel and innocent people around the Middle East would be able to sleep more easily at night.

So it is time for President Biden to step up. Continued appeasement and half measures on Iran will only prolong the cycle of violence in the Middle East and increase the risk of large-scale attacks against Israel like the barrage over the weekend. If President Biden steps forward with strength, perhaps the legacy of his Presidency can include something more than an inflation crisis and a national security disaster at our southern border.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Texas.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I would like to speak about the most important law that most Americans have never heard of, and that is section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Last week, the House of Representatives passed legislation to reauthorize this important law before it expires at the end of this week.

FISA, as it is known—the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act—and section 702 in particular, is one of the most important and consequential laws we use to keep our country safe from adversaries overseas.

Congress enacted section 702 in 2008 in response to the threats posed by terrorist groups in the wake of 9/11. It tore down some of the walls that prevented the sharing of information that could be used to keep our country safe, and there is no question that it has been a success.

Information acquired through section 702 has helped to identify threats against U.S. troops and to thwart planned terrorist attacks abroad and here at home. It has enabled the Federal Government to stop components of weapons of mass destruction from reaching foreign actors. It has also helped disrupt our adversaries' efforts to recruit spies on American soil and send their operatives to the United States. It has helped to understand and combat fentanyl trafficking, identify foreign ransomware attacks, like the Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack,

and uncover war crimes and gruesome atrocities in Ukraine.

For virtually every national security threat that America faces, section 702 is an invaluable asset. There is a reason why it is known as the crown jewel of America's intelligence gathering capabilities.

The President is briefed daily, in something called the President's Daily Brief, on these intelligence threats that are collected for the President's briefing, as I said, on a daily basis. A full 60 percent of the information contained in the President's daily classified intelligence brief is derived from section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

Everyone knows that this authority has not been without controversy. In recent years, the public has learned about extremely concerning misuses of this authority that go far beyond what Congress has authorized. But I want to make clear that the targeting of American citizens here in the United States is expressly prohibited under 702, so any targeting of an American citizen is illegal and should be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Just to be clear, this authority grants the intelligence community—by that I mean the CIA, the NSA, the DIA, the FBI—it grants authority to the Department of Justice and our intelligence community to get intelligence on foreigners located outside of the United States—in other words, if it is foreign nationals inside the United States, you cannot use section 702—but more importantly, foreigners outside of the United States who are deemed to be a threat to our national security, agents of a foreign power, for example. It cannot be lawfully used to target U.S. citizens, whether on American soil or elsewhere.

But this is where the issue gets a little bit thorny, and sometimes there is misunderstanding about exactly how this works. So let me go through some of the details. Where this becomes a little more confused is when there is incidental collection of U.S. persons. For example, if you are targeting a foreigner overseas and they are communicating with a U.S. person in the United States, that could be a citizen, that could be a lawful permanent resident. Well, if it is a lawful communication, lawful 702 targeting of the foreign national, and they are talking to a U.S. person, invariably there is going to be information—known as incidental collection—involving the communication with that U.S. person. In other words, both sides of the conversation will be revealed in that lawful targeting of a foreign person overseas.

Here is an example: Let's say the intelligence community is monitoring the communications of a Hamas terrorist in Gaza who is believed to pose a danger to our national security. He is not an American, and he is not on U.S. soil, but he is using U.S.-based communication networks. Let's say in this example that one of the people the

Hamas terrorist is communicating with is an American on U.S. soil. Even though the American is not a target of the data collection, his side of the conversation would be visible because he is the one communicating with this foreign target.

But let me be clear. The intelligence community cannot target anyone they believed to be a U.S. person, nor can they target a foreigner with the pretext of getting American citizens' data. For that, you need a warrant. You need to go to court and show probable cause because that is a constitutional right granted to Americans under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution protects our people from unreasonable searches and seizures by the government, and an unchecked surveillance authority would directly violate that right. That is why we have guardrails. That is why we have protections to minimize the chances of that happening.

I know there has been some confusion. Some of it is from a misunderstanding. Some of it is people, frankly, just misrepresenting exactly what this authority does and does not do. But section 702 does not violate the Fourth Amendment. Every court that has considered the lawfulness of the 702 program has found that it complies with the Fourth Amendment. So when people stand up and say "Well, section 702 allows the government to spy on Americans," that is, frankly, not true. If they say it violates the Fourth Amendment, well, you have at least three courts that have considered the issue and they have said no, it doesn't. So they need to come up with another argument.

To be clear, this is very targeted, very narrow surveillance authority. As a matter of fact, under the reforms passed in the House bill, there are very few circumstances under which the FBI, for example, can exploit or query the 702 information.

So once the information is lawfully collected—targeting a foreign national overseas; that is lawfully collected—it is in a database which can then be queried by the FBI, for example, but there are very limited circumstances where that can happen. They can only search that database if they believe the query or question would return foreign intelligence information or evidence of a crime. The Agency does not have carte blanche authority to probe or go fishing in 702 information.

Unfortunately, there have been some mistakes made by the FBI due to the lack of guardrails and reforms that are in the current bill passed by the House of Representatives. I applaud the House for passing important reforms that will minimize the chances of this inadvertent collection of U.S. persons' information, because it is a violation of the law.

In response to some of these reports of inadvertent collection of U.S. persons' information, in 2021, FBI Director

Chris Wray instituted significant reforms to prevent inadvertent queries and improve compliance. Virtually all of those reforms, which have been enormously successful, have now been incorporated in the statute that the House passed last week.

Here is an example: When FBI personnel conduct a query now, rather than having access to this database of lawfully collected 702 information, they are required to opt-in to include that information. They have to affirmatively choose to search that database. Previously, that was not the case. Section 702 data was included in every search by default, and most of the time, it was completely unnecessary.

Multiple reviews have shown that these reforms have made a dramatic difference for the better. Since 2021, since these reforms have been put in place, the total number of U.S. person queries have decreased by 98 percent. That is a dramatic improvement. It is not 100 percent. It is not perfect. We still have work to do. But a 98-percent improvement strikes me as pretty dramatic. On top of that, DOJ conducted a review last year and found that 98 percent of the FBI's 702 queries were fully compliant with these requirements.

This has been reviewed by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which is three members of the Federal judiciary appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States.

These reforms implemented by the FBI voluntarily in 2021 and now included in the House reform bill are working, and that is why it is so important that we should codify those changes. We need to make clear that these heightened standards are not simply Agency policy but the law, and that is exactly what the House FISA bill does. It turns the FBI's 702 reforms into law to ensure that the Agency's 702 query policies cannot be neglected or loosened in the future. Once they become the law of the land, even if the FBI were to change its policy, it would be inconsistent with that law and be illegal.

The House bill also extends this authority for a period of 2 years, so our intelligence community can continue to identify threats to our national security and prevent them from materializing.

When we talked about 702 several years ago, FBI Director Chris Wray said, "The fact that we have not suffered another 9/11-scale attack is not just luck." He noted that it is a product of diligence, teamwork, information sharing, dot-connecting, and much of that dot-connecting is made possible by 702.

So I appreciate Speaker JOHNSON in the Republican-led House for taking action on this bill before this critical authority expires at the end of the week, and I look forward to voting for it in the U.S. Senate.

I yield the floor.

Mr. CORNYN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

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

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

NOMINATION OF RAMONA VILLAGOMEZ MANGLONA

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Ramona Villagomez Manglona to the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

Judge Manglona was born in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands—CNMI. She received a B.A. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1990 and a J.D. from the University of New Mexico School of Law in 1996. Following her graduation from law school, she clerked for Judge Virginia Sablan-Onerheim and Judge Alexandro C. Casto, both on the CNMI Superior Court. Judge Manglona then began her legal career as assistant attorney general in the criminal division for the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. She served in the criminal division for 3 years before moving to the civil division in 2001. In 2002, she was appointed to serve as the attorney general for the CNMI. Judge Manglona was appointed to a 6-year term as an associate judge on the Superior Court for the CNMI in 2003 and was elected to serve a second term in 2009.

In 2011, Judge Manglona was nominated by President Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve a 10-year term as the chief judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands. As the sole active Federal district judge in the Northern Mariana Islands, she performs the work of a chief judge, a magistrate judge, and a bankruptcy judge. In her entire judicial career, Judge Manglona has presided over 185 cases that have gone to verdict, 35 of which were bench and jury trials she presided over as a Federal district court judge.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Judge Manglona as "well qualified," and she was unanimously voted out of the Judiciary Committee by a vote of 21–0.

Judge Manglona is a highly experienced jurist who will continue to serve with distinction in her second term as a judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands.

I am proud to support her nomination.

VOTE ON MANGLONA NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Manglona nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER).

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 127 Ex.]

YEAS—96

Baldwin	Gillibrand	Padilla
Barrasso	Graham	Paul
Bennet	Grassley	Peters
Blackburn	Hagerty	Reed
Blumenthal	Hassan	Ricketts
Booker	Hawley	Risch
Boozman	Heinrich	Romney
Braun	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Britt	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeven	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Sanders
Butler	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schmitt
Capito	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Carper	King	Scott (SC)
Casey	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cassidy	Lankford	Smith
Collins	Lee	Stabenow
Coons	Lujan	Tester
Cornyn	Lummis	Thune
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tillis
Cotton	Markey	Tuberville
Cramer	McConnell	Van Hollen
Crapo	Menendez	Vance
Cruz	Merkley	Warner
Daines	Moran	Warnock
Duckworth	Mullin	Warren
Durbin	Murkowski	Welch
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murray	Wyden
Fischer	Ossoff	Young

NAYS—2

Marshall Sullivan

NOT VOTING—2

Sinema Wicker

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The majority leader.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. BUDD. 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) is necessarily absent.

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 128 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Bennet	Booker	Butler
Blumenthal	Brown	Cantwell

Cardin	Kaine	Romney
Carper	Kelly	Rosen
Casey	King	Rounds
Collins	Klobuchar	Rubio
Coons	Lankford	Schatz
Cortez Masto	Lujan	Schumer
Duckworth	Manchin	Shaheen
Durbin	Menendez	Smith
Fetterman	Murkowski	Stabenow
Gillibrand	Murphy	Van Hollen
Graham	Murray	Warner
Hassan	Ossoff	Warnock
Heinrich	Padilla	Welch
Hickenlooper	Peters	Whitehouse
Hirono	Reed	

NAYS—49

Baldwin	Grassley	Risch
Barrasso	Hagerty	Sanders
Blackburn	Hawley	Schmitt
Boozman	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Britt	Johnson	Sullivan
Budd	Kennedy	Tester
Capito	Lee	Thune
Cassidy	Lummis	Tillis
Cornyn	Markley	Tuberville
Cotton	Marshall	Vance
Cramer	McConnell	Warren
Crapo	Merkley	Wicker
Cruz	Moran	Wyden
Daines	Mullin	Young
Ernst	Paul	
Fischer	Ricketts	

NOT VOTING—1

Sinema

The motion was agreed to.

REFORMING INTELLIGENCE AND SECURING AMERICA ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 365, H.R. 7888.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 365, H.R. 7888, a bill to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 365, H.R. 7888, a bill to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Charles E. Schumer, Mark Kelly, Tammy Duckworth, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Jack Reed, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse, Mazie Hirono, Benjamin L. Cardin, Angus S. King, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Michael F. Bennet, Mark R. Warner, Richard Blumenthal, Gary C. Peters, Jeanne Shaheen.

RECESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess until 2:10 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 1:52 p.m., recessed until 2:10 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the President pro tempore.

REFORMING INTELLIGENCE AND SECURING AMERICA ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—CONTINUED

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE—APPOINTING AND AUTHORIZING MANAGERS FOR THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL OF ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will receive a message from the House of Representatives.

A message from the House of Representatives by Mr. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives, announced that the House of Representatives had passed a resolution (H. Res. 995) appointing and authorizing impeachment managers for the impeachment trial of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The message will be received, and the Senate takes notice of the action by the House.

EXHIBITION OF ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST ALEJANDRO NICHOLAS MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

At 2:38 p.m., the managers on the part of the House of Representatives of the impeachment of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, appeared below the bar of the Senate, and the Sergeant at Arms, Karen Gibson, announced their presence, as follows:

Madam President and Members of the Senate, I announce the presence of managers on the part of the House of Representatives to conduct proceedings on behalf of the House concerning the impeachment of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The managers on the part of the House will be received and escorted to the well of the Senate.

The managers were thereupon escorted by the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, Karen Gibson, to the well of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Sergeant at Arms will make the proclamation.

The Sergeant at Arms, Karen Gibson, made the proclamation, as follows:

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye! All persons are commanded to keep silent, on pain of imprisonment, while the House of Representatives

is exhibiting to the Senate of the United States articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The managers on the part of the House will proceed.

Mr. Manager GREEN of Tennessee. Madam President, the managers on the part of the House of Representatives are present and ready to present the Articles of Impeachment, which have been preferred by the House of Representatives against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

The House adopted the following resolution, which, with permission of the Senate, I will read, H. Res. 995:

Resolved, That Mr. Green of Tennessee, Mr. McCaul, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Higgins of Louisiana, Mr. Cline, Mr. Guest, Mr. Garbarino, Ms. Greene of Georgia, Mr. Pfluger, Ms. Hageman, and Ms. Lee of Florida, are appointed managers to conduct the impeachment trial against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, that a message be sent to the Senate to inform the Senate of these appointments, and that the managers so appointed may, in connection with the preparation and the conduct of the trial, exhibit the articles of impeachment to the Senate and take all other actions necessary, which may include the following:

(1) Employing legal, clerical, and other necessary assistants and incurring such other expenses as may be necessary, to be paid from amounts available to the Committee on Homeland Security under applicable expense resolutions or from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

(2) Sending for persons and papers, and filing with the Secretary of the Senate, on the part of the House of Representatives, any pleadings, in conjunction with or subsequent to, the exhibition of the articles of impeachment that the managers consider necessary.

Mr. Manager GREEN of Tennessee. With permission of the Senate, I will now read the Articles of Impeachment, H. Res. 863:

Resolved, That Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security of the United States of America, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security of the United States of America, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE I: WILLFUL AND SYSTEMIC REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives "shall have

the sole Power of Impeachment” and that civil Officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Homeland Security, “shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors”. In his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, to bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and to well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, has willfully and systemically refused to comply with Federal immigration laws, in that:

Throughout his tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has repeatedly violated laws enacted by Congress regarding immigration and border security. In large part because of his unlawful conduct, millions of aliens have illegally entered the United States on an annual basis with many unlawfully remaining in the United States. His refusal to obey the law is not only an offense against the separation of powers in the Constitution of the United States, it also threatens our national security and has had a dire impact on communities across the country. Despite clear evidence that his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law has significantly contributed to unprecedented levels of illegal entrants, the increased control of the Southwest border by drug cartels, and the imposition of enormous costs on States and localities affected by the influx of aliens, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has continued in his refusal to comply with the law, and thereby acted to the grave detriment of the interests of the United States.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 235(b)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, requiring that all applicants for admission who are “not clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to be admitted . . . shall be detained for a [removal] proceeding . . .”. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 235(b)(1)(B)(ii) of such Act, requiring that an alien who is placed into expedited removal proceedings and determined to have a credible fear of persecution “shall be detained for further consideration of the application for asylum”. Instead of complying with

this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention set forth in section 235(b)(1)(B)(iii)(IV) of such Act, requiring that an alien who is placed into expedited removal proceedings and determined not to have a credible fear of persecution “shall be detained . . . until removed”. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(4) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 236(c) of such Act, requiring that a criminal alien who is inadmissible or deportable on certain criminal and terrorism-related grounds “shall [be] take[n] into custody” when the alien is released from law enforcement custody. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas issued “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws”, which instructs Department of Homeland Security (hereinafter referred to as “DHS”) officials that the “fact an individual is a removable noncitizen . . . should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them” and that DHS “personnel should not rely on the fact of conviction . . . alone”, even with respect to aliens subject to mandatory arrest and detention pursuant to section 236(c) of such Act, to take them into custody. In *Texas v. United States*, 40 F.4th 205 (2022), the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit concluded that these guidelines had “every indication of being ‘a general policy that is so extreme as to amount to an abdication of . . . statutory responsibilities’” and that its “replacement of Congress’s statutory mandates with concerns of equity and race is extralegal . . . [and] plainly outside the bounds of the power conferred by the INA”.

(5) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 241(a)(2) of such Act, requiring that an alien ordered removed “shall [be] detain[ed]” during “the removal period”. Instead of complying with this mandate, Alejandro N. Mayorkas issued “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws”, which instructs DHS officials that the “fact an individual is a removable noncitizen . . . should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them” and that DHS “personnel should not rely on the fact

of conviction . . . alone”, even with respect to aliens subject to mandatory detention and removal pursuant to section 241(a) of such Act.

(6) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully exceeded his parole authority set forth in section 212(d)(5)(A) of such Act that permits parole to be granted “only on a case-by-case basis”, temporarily, and “for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit”, in that:

(A) Alejandro N. Mayorkas paroled aliens *en masse* in order to release them from mandatory detention, despite the fact that, as the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit concluded in *Texas v. Biden*, 20 F.4th 928 (2021), “parol[ing] every alien [DHS] cannot detain is the opposite of the ‘case-by-case basis’ determinations required by law” and “DHS’s pretended power to parole aliens while ignoring the limitations Congress imposed on the parole power [is] not *nonenforcement*; it’s *misenforcement*, suspension of the INA, or both”.

(B) Alejandro N. Mayorkas created, re-opened, or expanded a series of categorical parole programs never authorized by Congress for foreign nationals outside of the United States, including for certain Central American minors, Ukrainians, Venezuelans, Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, Colombians, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and Hondurans, which enabled hundreds of thousands of inadmissible aliens to enter the United States in violation of the laws enacted by Congress.

(7) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully exceeded his release authority set forth in section 236(a) of such Act that permits, in certain circumstances, the release of aliens arrested on an administrative warrant, in that Alejandro N. Mayorkas released aliens arrested without a warrant despite their being subject to a separate applicable mandatory detention requirement set forth in section 235(b)(2) of such Act. Alejandro N. Mayorkas released such aliens by retroactively issuing administrative warrants in an attempt to circumvent section 235(b)(2) of such Act. In *Florida v. United States*, No. 3:21-cv-1066-TKW-ZCB (N.D. Fla. Mar. 8, 2023), the United States District Court of the Northern District of Florida noted that “[t]his sleight of hand—using an ‘arrest’ warrant as a de facto ‘release’ warrant—is administrative sophistry at its worst”. In addition, the court concluded that “what makes DHS’s application of [236(a)] in this manner unlawful . . . is that [235(b)(2)], not [236(a)], governs the detention of applicants for admission whom DHS places in . . . removal proceedings after inspection”.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law has had calamitous consequences for the Nation and the people of the United States, including:

(1) During fiscal years 2017 through 2020, an average of about 590,000 aliens each fiscal year were encountered as inadmissible aliens at ports of entry on the Southwest border or apprehended

between ports of entry. Thereafter, during Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure in office, that number skyrocketed to over 1,400,000 in fiscal year 2021, over 2,300,000 in fiscal year 2022, and over 2,400,000 in fiscal year 2023. Similarly, during fiscal years 2017 through 2020, an average of 130,000 persons who were not turned back or apprehended after making an illegal entry were observed along the border each fiscal year. During Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure in office, that number more than trebled to 400,000 in fiscal year 2021, 600,000 in fiscal year 2022, and 750,000 in fiscal year 2023.

(2) American communities both along the Southwest border and across the United States have been devastated by the dramatic growth in illegal entries, the number of aliens unlawfully present, and substantial rise in the number of aliens unlawfully granted parole, creating a fiscal and humanitarian crisis and dramatically degrading the quality of life of the residents of those communities. For instance, since 2022, more than 150,000 migrants have gone through New York City's shelter intake system. Indeed, the Mayor of New York City has said that "we are past our breaking point" and that "[t]his issue will destroy New York City". In fiscal year 2023, New York City spent \$1,450,000,000 addressing Alejandro N. Mayorkas's migrant crisis, and city officials fear it will spend another \$12,000,000,000 over the following three fiscal years, causing painful budget cuts to important city services.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas's unlawful mass release of apprehended aliens and unlawful mass grant of categorical parole to aliens have enticed an increasing number of aliens to make the dangerous journey to our Southwest border. Consequently, according to the United Nations's International Organization for Migration, the number of migrants intending to illegally cross our border who have perished along the way, either en route to the United States or at the border, almost doubled during the tenure of Alejandro N. Mayorkas as Secretary of Homeland Security, from an average of about 700 a year during the fiscal years 2017 through 2020, to an average of about 1,300 a year during the fiscal years 2021 through 2023.

(4) Alien smuggling organizations have gained tremendous wealth during Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, with their estimated revenues rising from about \$500,000,000 in 2018 to approximately \$13,000,000,000 in 2022.

(5) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the immigration court backlog has more than doubled from about 1,300,000 cases to over 3,000,000 cases. The exploding backlog is destroying the courts' ability to administer justice and provide appropriate relief in a timeframe that does not run into years or even decades. As Alejandro N.

Mayorkas acknowledged, "those who have a valid claim to asylum . . . often wait years for a . . . decision; likewise, noncitizens who will ultimately be found ineligible for asylum or other protection—which occurs in the majority of cases—often have spent many years in the United States prior to being ordered removed". He noted that of aliens placed in expedited removal proceedings and found to have a credible fear of persecution, and thus referred to immigration judges for removal proceedings, "significantly fewer than 20 percent . . . were ultimately granted asylum" and only "28 percent of cases decided on their merits are grants of relief". Alejandro N. Mayorkas also admitted that "the fact that migrants can wait in the United States for years before being issued a final order denying relief, and that many such individuals are never actually removed, likely incentivizes migrants to make the journey north".

(6) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, approximately 450,000 unaccompanied alien children have been encountered at the Southwest border, and the vast majority have been released into the United States. As a result, there has been a dramatic upsurge in migrant children being employed in dangerous and exploitative jobs in the United States.

(7) Alejandro N. Mayorkas's failure to enforce the law, drawing millions of illegal aliens to the Southwest border, has led to the reassignment of U.S. Border Patrol agents from protecting the border from illicit drug trafficking to processing illegal aliens for release. As a result, during Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the flow of fentanyl across the border and other dangerous drugs, both at and between ports of entry, has increased dramatically. U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized approximately 4,800 pounds of fentanyl in fiscal year 2020, approximately 11,200 pounds in fiscal year 2021, approximately 14,700 pounds in fiscal year 2022, and approximately 27,000 pounds in fiscal year 2023. Over 70,000 Americans died from fentanyl poisoning in 2022, and fentanyl is now the number one killer of Americans between the ages of 18 and 45.

(8) Alejandro N. Mayorkas has degraded public safety by leaving wide swaths of the border effectively unpatrolled as U.S. Border Patrol agents are diverted from guarding the border to processing for unlawful release the heightening waves of apprehended aliens (many who now seek out agents for the purpose of surrendering with the now reasonable expectation of being released and granted work authorization), and Federal Air Marshals are diverted from protecting the flying public to assist in such processing.

(9) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas's tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the U.S. Border Patrol has encountered an increasing number of

aliens on the terrorist watch list. In fiscal years 2017 through 2020 combined, 11 noncitizens on the terrorist watchlist were caught attempting to cross the Southwest border between ports of entry. That number increased to 15 in fiscal year 2021, 98 in fiscal year 2022, 169 in fiscal year 2023, and 49 so far in fiscal year 2024.

Additionally, in *United States v. Texas*, 599 U.S. 670 (2023), the United States Supreme Court heard a case involving Alejandro N. Mayorkas's refusal to comply with certain Federal immigration laws that are at issue in this impeachment. The Supreme Court held that States have no standing to seek judicial relief to compel Alejandro N. Mayorkas to comply with certain legal requirements contained in the Immigration and Nationality Act. However, the Supreme Court held that "even though the federal courts lack Article III jurisdiction over this suit, other forums remain open for examining the Executive Branch's enforcement policies. For example, Congress possesses an array of tools to analyze and influence those policies [and] those are political checks for the political process". One such critical tool for Congress to influence the Executive Branch to comply with the immigration laws of the United States is impeachment. The dissenting Justice noted, "The Court holds Texas lacks standing to challenge a federal policy that inflicts substantial harm on the State and its residents by releasing illegal aliens with criminal convictions for serious crimes. In order to reach this conclusion, the Court . . . holds that the only limit on the power of a President to disobey a law like the important provision at issue is Congress' power to employ the weapons of interbranch warfare . . .". As the dissenting Justice explained, "Congress may wield what the Solicitor General described as 'political . . . tools'—which presumably means such things as . . . impeachment and removal". Indeed, during oral argument, the Justice who authored the majority opinion stated to the Solicitor General, "I think your position is, instead of judicial review, Congress has to resort to shutting down the government or impeachment or dramatic steps . . .". Here, in light of the inability of injured parties to seek judicial relief to remedy the refusal of Alejandro N. Mayorkas to comply with Federal immigration laws, impeachment is Congress's only viable option.

In all of this, Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully and systemically refused to comply with the immigration laws, failed to control the border to the detriment of national security, compromised public safety, and violated the rule of law and separation of powers in the Constitution, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore Alejandro N. Mayorkas, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national and

border security, the safety of the United States people, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

ARTICLE II: BREACH OF PUBLIC TRUST

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives “shall have the sole Power of Impeachment” and that civil Officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Homeland Security, “shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors”. In his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, in violation of his oath to well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, has breached the public trust, in that:

Alejandro N. Mayorkas has knowingly made false statements, and knowingly obstructed lawful oversight of the Department of Homeland Security (hereinafter referred to as “DHS”), principally to obfuscate the results of his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements to Congress that the border is “secure”, that the border is “no less secure than it was previously”, that the border is “closed”, and that DHS has “operational control” of the border (as that term is defined in the Secure Fence Act of 2006).

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements to Congress regarding the scope and adequacy of the vetting of the thousands of Afghans who were airlifted to the United States and then granted parole following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan after President Biden’s precipitous withdrawal of United States forces.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements that apprehended aliens with no legal basis to remain in the United States were being quickly removed.

(4) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements supporting the false narrative that U.S. Border Patrol agents maliciously whipped illegal aliens.

(5) Alejandro N. Mayorkas failed to comply with multiple subpoenas issued by congressional committees.

(6) Alejandro N. Mayorkas delayed or denied access of DHS Office of Inspector General (hereinafter referred to as “OIG”) to DHS records and information, hampering OIG’s ability to effectively perform its vital investigations, audits, inspections, and other reviews of agency programs and operations to satisfy the OIG’s obligations under section 402(b) of title 5, United States Code, in part, to Congress.

Additionally, in his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has breached the public trust by his willful refusal to fulfill his statutory “duty to control and guard the boundaries and borders of the United States against the illegal entry of aliens” as set forth in section 103(a)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Alejandro N. Mayorkas inherited what his first Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol called, “arguably the most effective border security in our nation’s history”. Alejandro N. Mayorkas, however, proceeded to abandon effective border security initiatives without engaging in adequate alternative efforts that would enable DHS to maintain control of the border and guard against illegal entry, and despite clear evidence of the devastating consequences of his actions, he failed to take action to fulfill his statutory duty to control the border. According to his first Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol, Alejandro N. Mayorkas “summarily rejected” the “multiple options to reduce the illegal entries . . . through proven programs and consequences” provided by civil service staff at DHS. Despite clear evidence of the devastating consequences of his actions, he failed to take action to fulfill his statutory duty to control the border, in that, among other things:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated the Migrant Protection Protocols (hereinafter referred to as “MPP”). In *Texas v. Biden*, 20 F.4th 928 (2021), the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit explained that “[t]he district court . . . pointed to evidence that ‘the termination of MPP has contributed to the current border surge’ . . . (citing DHS’s own previous determinations that MPP had curbed the rate of illegal entries)”. The district court had also “pointed out that the number of ‘enforcement encounters’—that is, instances where immigration officials encounter immigrants attempting to cross the southern border without documentation—had ‘skyrocketed’ since MPP’s termination”.

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated contracts for border wall construction.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated asylum cooperative agreements that would have equitably shared the burden of complying with international asylum accords.

In all of this, Alejandro N. Mayorkas breached the public trust by knowingly making false statements to Congress and the American people and avoiding lawful oversight in order to obscure the devastating consequences of his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law and carry out his statutory duties. He has also breached the public trust by willfully refusing to carry out his statutory duty to control the border and guard against illegal entry, notwithstanding the calamitous consequences of his abdication of that duty.

Wherefore Alejandro N. Mayorkas, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national and border security, the safety of the American people, and to the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

Mr. President, that completes the exhibition of the Articles of Impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

The managers request the Senate take order for the trial, and the managers now request leave to withdraw.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. That would be “Madam President.”

Thank you, Mr. GREEN.

The Senate will duly notify the House of Representatives when it is ready to proceed.

You may proceed to depart.

The managers were thereupon escorted by the Sergeant at Arms of the Senate, Karen Gibson, from the well of the Senate.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

PROGRAM

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, for the information of all Senators, under impeachment rules, Senators will be sworn in as jurors tomorrow at 1 p.m.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

REFORMING INTELLIGENCE AND SECURING AMERICA ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

NATIONAL SECURITY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, in light of the unprecedented attacks by Iranian forces on Israel over the weekend and on the 64th day since the Senate passed a bipartisan national security supplemental bill, I come to the floor to once again call on the House to pass critical funding for Ukraine, for Israel, for the Indo-Pacific, and, importantly, for our own national security needs here at home.

Over the past 6 months, I have worked with Senators from both sides of the aisle to urge the passage of supplemental funding to support our national security, and I am beyond disappointed that Speaker Johnson and

House Republicans have delayed much needed critical aid, especially given the Senate bill that passed here with 70 bipartisan votes. I believe and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle believe that that would pass the House if only the Speaker would bring the bill to the floor. Now, we hear this week that House Republicans may be nearing a vote on this aid, and while I am encouraged by that, it is way past time for us to help the courageous Ukrainians who are fighting, literally, for the life of their country.

As chair of the European Subcommittee of the Foreign Relations Committee, like so many in this Chamber, I have met with President Zelenskyy, traveled to Ukraine, and met with the women and men who are on the frontlines of this war. I know the dire state of affairs right now against Russia. We have heard from our Nation's top four-star generals and every single combatant commander. They have stressed the importance of what happens in Ukraine to operations elsewhere around the world.

Fortunately, Ukrainians remain fearless in the face of the brutality and aggression from Russia, but what the United States and our allies must do at this critical juncture is provide the military and economic support to help Ukraine win and define victory on its own terms. We must act now to ensure Ukraine's continued survival. We have heard testimony that, right now, for every shell that is being fired by the Ukrainians, five are being fired by Russia; and if we wait another month or more, it will be 10 for every shell that Ukrainians are firing.

Ensuring Ukraine's survival is not just about Ukraine; it is about pushing back on Vladimir Putin's campaign to return to the days of Soviet occupation and aggression. We have seen this movie before with Vladimir Putin. In 2008, he invaded Georgia. In 2014, he illegally annexed Crimea and parts of the Donbas in Ukraine. Then, of course, 2 years ago, he launched his full-scale, unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. If he wins—if the West fails to support Ukraine—we know that Vladimir Putin is not going to stop.

We have heard from the leaders of the Baltic nations of Poland, of other states in Eastern Europe, their fears for what happens if Vladimir Putin is successful in Ukraine.

Instead of letting Putin rewrite the rules of the road, we should put an end to his thinking that he can do as he pleases without consequences.

Delays by the House of Representatives to pass this supplemental have enabled Putin's delusional agenda. We have already heard from the Republican chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, MIKE TURNER, and Chairman MIKE MCCAUL from the House Foreign Affairs Committee, who have already said that a third of the Republican caucus is listing and spouting Russian disinformation.

This isn't just about Ukraine; American aid and support deters other bad

actors from initiating conflict in other parts of the world.

Six months of inaction by Congress has enabled our adversaries. We saw it as recently as this weekend, when Iranian forces fired off hundreds of drones and rockets toward Israel. Now there is the potential for a broader war in the Middle East that could imperil more innocent lives and make the world more dangerous.

It is more important than ever that we take action in Congress because these episodes—Ukraine, the attack in Israel, what is happening in the Indo-Pacific—they don't happen in silos. Our adversaries are connected. They are sharing weapons and reveling in our inability to act. Iran is currently supplying more than 70 percent of Russia's drone capabilities. A top Chinese official was just in North Korea for the highest level talks in years. The Secretary General of NATO branded this partnership as a "dangerous authoritarian alliance," and he is right. This group of dictators, autocrats, and adversaries threatens democracy. It is a threat that is very much like what we saw in the lead-up to World War II.

If we don't pass this supplemental, our adversaries, like Iran, will expand their own campaigns of aggression. If you are concerned about what China is doing, if you are concerned about what Iran is doing, the best way to deal a blow to these authoritarians is to support the Ukrainians in their effort to defeat Putin.

We have a chance to take a stand for freedom and democracy, if only our House colleagues would finally pass the national security supplemental.

I just got back from the Indo-Pacific with a congressional delegation that included six Members of the Senate and one Member of the House. It was bipartisan and bicameral. What we heard in the nations that we visited in the Indo-Pacific was that they understand the connection between what is going on in Ukraine and what is happening with China, with great power competition, with the aggression in the Indo-Pacific and the South China Sea, and against Taiwan.

If the House would pass the national security supplemental, we could degrade Russia, we could degrade the Iranian military capabilities, and we could do it without costing American lives. We could boost our economy through our defense industrial base.

Support for Ukraine and our allies isn't a blank check. It is not charity. The United States is providing Ukraine with critical equipment to defend itself and its territory. This equipment is pulled from U.S. stocks, which also means that it is putting people to work back at home.

Despite misinformation from too many House Republicans, a majority of the funding in the bill the Senate sent over more than 60 days ago is spent in the United States. It would be spent to replenish our own military stocks so that we can continue to meet our mili-

tary requirements. It would shore up our military readiness and ensure that the U.S. industrial base can keep up with demand.

A destabilized Europe as a result of Ukraine losing this war would be a disaster for the U.S. economy. In my home State of New Hampshire alone, we export about \$3 billion each year to Europe, which is our largest trading partner.

Putin poses a serious threat to our security and a peaceful, prosperous future. Our allies know this, and that is why, by the end of this year, 18 NATO countries will meet the 2-percent defense spending goal set by the alliance. This historic investment in our collective security shows that the United States is not shouldering this burden alone.

We can depend on our allies, and they must be able to depend on us. Let's remind ourselves that our NATO allies stood by our side after September 11. Right now, leaders from around the world are looking for the United States to step up and pass this bill. What message does it send to our allies if we ignore their pleas for support to save lives and ensure our collective security? What message does it send to our grandchildren if we tell them that we are willing to gamble sending them to fight in another war in Europe? There is one thing we know—that Putin is not going to stop in Ukraine.

America doesn't back down when it is called upon to defend freedom—at least we never have. Ukraine is now on the frontlines of the fight for democracy and freedom. We have the resources to act here. We have the ability to act. Now it is time for everyone in the House to find the courage to act because failure is not an option.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, last week, we saw terrible flooding in parts of Louisiana. Here, as the charts will show—water shouldn't be up to the bottom of a vehicle. Here you see people getting on a bus, wearing waders. So people's lives were disrupted, just like with any serious flood. Now families are turning to FEMA, the National Flood Insurance Program, to help lift them out of the hole that last week's storms have left them in.

Moments like these are why people buy insurance. But what about after we have recovered and the Sun shines once more? There is increasing concern among Americans that they will not be able to afford their flood insurance for when the next storm hits.

A house is the biggest purchase most people make in their lifetime. Unless

you are among the wealthiest, you are taking out a mortgage to make that purchase. After you have bought your home, imagine if FEMA changes the rules and your flood insurance now costs more than that mortgage? No American should have to pay more in flood insurance than their mortgage, but that is the story I am hearing frequently from people in Louisiana.

There is a cost-of-living crisis being fueled by the inflation created by this administration. Inflation is costing Louisiana families \$884 more a month compared to 2021. Everywhere they turn, they are frustrated with the fact that they are paying more and getting less.

When I speak to folks back home, they are not only worried about how to put food on their table but also how to pay for gas. They are worried about how they are going to be able to afford to stay in their homes and about how they can afford a good education for their children.

I would like to do something about some small part of it. Congress has the power to do something about it, and that is to make flood insurance affordable.

The National Flood Insurance Program was created as a safety net for the most vulnerable Americans. It covers 4.7 million American homes, but those millions of homes are at risk of losing their protection because of skyrocketing premiums caused by FEMA's new risk assessment system, Risk Rating 2.0.

Let's briefly talk about the history of NFIP Risk Rating 2.0 and how we got here. FEMA introduced Risk Rating 2.0 in October of 2021. It was slated to take effect in 2022 for new policies and in 2023 for existing policyholders.

Since then, Americans who rely on flood insurance have been held in a state of uncertainty. Before they were hit with that first bill, many families didn't know if their premiums would jump up; if they did, how much; and when the rate hikes would end.

FEMA told us that 77 percent of policyholders would see a premium hike but refused to publicly disclose how the Agency calculates individual policy rates. So now FEMA is sending Americans a bill and won't tell them how they came up with the price. If you were the American getting that bill, you would be incredibly frustrated. You wouldn't accept it if your mechanic stuck you with a crazy bill but didn't tell you what was wrong with the car. Why should we just accept from a government Agency that same kind of model? Theoretically, the government Agency is here to serve us.

Louisiana is one of the States getting hit the hardest. NFIP premiums in Louisiana are expected to go up by 234 percent, with some ZIP Codes seeing as much as an 1,100-percent increase—that is 1,100 percent. In real terms, some ZIP Codes will see an increase from around \$600 to more than \$8,000 annually. Couple that with the homeowner's

insurance crisis. Couple that with inflation across the country. Couple that with the cost to heat your home. Couple that with the cost to go to the grocery store. It is clear why Americans feel they cannot keep their heads above water.

Insurance, just like everything else, has become less affordable. When folks can't afford flood insurance, they begin to drop that coverage, and the pool of policyholders shrink. The amount of risk is then placed on a smaller number of policyholders, which increases their premiums, which makes them drop their policies, and then we enter what is called an actuarial death spiral.

FEMA itself forecasted that over 20 percent of policyholders will leave the program because of higher premiums within the next 10 years. We are setting the program up for collapse and leaving Americans and American taxpayers holding the bucket.

Some groups will be hit even harder than others. FEMA won't tell us how they came up with the numbers of what they expect Americans to pay, but we do know they do not factor in income or the ability to pay. There is no discount or consideration for an elderly couple who is retired and living on a fixed income, bought their home in 1957, never had it flooded, and now their insurance premiums are rising. This is a real human condition.

Congress has the power to address it, and we need to step up now. If my colleagues and our friends in the House of Representatives wish to honor the people we serve, let's start with the 4.7 million policyholders being—I don't know if the word is "mistreated"—mis-handled by the National Flood Insurance Program, certainly poorly served.

I urge my colleagues to read our NFIP Reauthorization and Reform Act. Come talk to us about it. It is something which is bipartisan, which is reasonable and sensible, and which will actually address this need. Our goal is to make the National Flood Insurance Program more affordable for the homeowner, more accountable to the taxpayer, and more sustainable for society. Our bill does that, but we can only do so by working together.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, with me today is one of my colleagues from my office, Mr. Matt Turner.

I want to talk about the woolly mammoth in the room: impeachment. I want my colleagues to just put aside for a second the legal aspect of this. Let's stop thinking for a second about how many lawyers can dance on the

head of a pin, and let's just think for a moment what is about to happen over the next 2 days.

A few moments ago, the managers from the U.S. House of Representatives came over—every Member of the Senate was here and seated—and read their Articles of Impeachment, their charges, about Secretary Mayorkas. The U.S. House of Representatives—did you notice I said that? Representatives of the U.S. House of Representatives came over to us.

As I said the other day, we are not talking about some snow bro who likes chicken McNuggets and weed and has an opinion. We are not talking about some game boy who is living in his parents' basement and has an opinion—though both of them are entitled to their opinion because this is America.

We are talking about the U.S. House of Representatives. For months, they investigated the open, bleeding wound that is the southern border and why it is open and why it is bleeding. And after investigating it—not for days, not for weeks—for months, the U.S. House of Representatives voted two articles, two charges, in an impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas.

And those are serious charges. They are as serious as four heart attacks and a stroke. The first one is willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law—not negligence—willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law. The second charge is breach of the public trust—breach of the public trust. Serious, serious charges.

Now, this doesn't happen every day or every week or every month or even every year around here. Our country is almost 250 years old. This has only happened 22 times. Twenty-two times has the U.S. House of Representatives impeached a public official. And every single time—check it. Go Google it. Every single time—you can write this down, take it home to mama. Every single time, except when the public official has quit, the U.S. Senate has done its job, through thick and thin, whether the Democrats were in the majority or the Republicans were in the majority. It didn't matter who the President was. We did our job because we respect the institution of the Constitution; we respect the three branches of government; we respect the U.S. House of Representatives. We respect them enough to do our job. We held a trial every single time, except when the public official quit.

Now, in the next 2 days, you are going to hear one of my colleagues—the majority leader—say we don't need to hold a trial. He is going to say the evidence is insufficient, that it is not worth our time. I want you to think for a moment. Just ask yourself this question: How does he know the evidence isn't sufficient? How does he know? He hasn't heard the evidence.

What you are about to see, folks—it breaks my heart to say this. Over the next 2 days, what you are going to see is not about the evidence. It is not

about the law. It is not about the process. It is not about what should be 250 years of precedent in history. It is about raw, gut politics—raw, gut politics.

Some of my colleagues in this body do not want us to talk about the border in an election year, and we all know that. You know that. I know that. Everybody watching knows that. The American people know that. They may be poorer under President Biden, but they are not stupid. They can see that. And that is not right. It is vacuous. It is fraudulent. Regardless of what you think or you may think you think without having heard the evidence, the U.S. Senate should do its job. We should hold a trial.

Now, my Democratic friends have the votes. They can do pretty much what they want to. When you have got the votes, you know, you can—what is the old expression? You can make a koala bear eat hot peppers and like it if you have the votes. They have the majority, and I believe in the rule of law, and the rules are the rules. But sometimes—sometimes the majority just means a lot of the fools are on the same side. That is why we have a Bill of Rights in our Constitution: to protect our rights that the majority can't take away.

And I want to say this as respectfully as I can because I understand politics. I have been in this business for a while. The Presiding Officer has too. I have seen the dark side of it too. I have seen the good side, but I have seen the dark side. And what I am seeing right now is the dark side. I am seeing the dark side.

This is a political decision, and it is an insult to the Senate. And it is one more step of the U.S. Senate rotting from within, where we don't do our job for political reasons. So I am asking my Democratic colleagues—I say this gently, with as much respect as I can muster: Pretty please, pretty please, pretty please with sugar on top, let's do our job. Just because you have the votes, don't dismiss these impeachment proceedings summarily, like it is spam in your inbox. The U.S. Senate needs to do its job.

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

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

HEALTHY KIDS ACT

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, tens of millions of kids in America are anxious, depressed, angry, lonely, sedentary, sometimes insecure, and sometimes suicidal. And just about everybody—whether they are parents, teachers, mental health professionals, or even the kids themselves—points the finger at the same culprit: social media.

We do not need more data to tell us what is so painfully obvious in schools and homes across the country. Social media platforms, with their wildly powerful, covert, and addictive algorithms are driving our kids deeper and deeper into a sea of despair that they can't find their way out of. Kids are being unwittingly sucked into rabbit holes that leave them in a constant state of panic and outrage—ashamed of their own bodies, lacking meaningful friendships and connections.

The idea that a young kid—a kid—can feel so unhappy and so unfulfilled at the tender age of 8 or 9—so much so that they seriously contemplate self-harm—is appalling. And it is a uniquely modern crisis created over the past decades by profit-chasing tech companies for whom nothing and no one is off-limits, not even very young kids. The math for them is very simple: Attention means money. And the best way to hold people's attention is to make them upset and keep them upset.

You talk to any parent—whether they are raising a toddler or a teenager, whether they are a voter or non-voter, a Democrat or a Republican—they are worried and they are frustrated about all the ways that social media is harming kids, but they don't know what to do about it or if they can do anything at all. Some might work two jobs and not have the time to monitor what their kids are up to online. Others might lack the technical literacy to operate parental controls and set limits on screen time.

All they really want is for their young kids to be off social media altogether, because there is no good reason that a 9-year-old should be spending hours every day scrolling through TikTok that has been programmed with no concern for whether the content is age-appropriate or not. There is no First Amendment right for an 11-year-old to be on Instagram while algorithm targets them with content glorifying starvation and fueling insecurities.

By the company's own admission, social media was never meant to be used by young kids. Yet any parent, or anyone who knows a parent, knows that young kids are on these platforms anyway. And the only way that it will stop is if the Federal law finally mandates that companies keep young kids off of their services.

Over the past year, my team and I have worked extensively with a broad range of advocates and stakeholders, as well as the Senate Commerce Committee leadership, to update my bill to protect kids on social media. Our updated bill, called the Healthy Kids Act, would do two simple things: It would prevent kids under 13 from being on social media at all; and it would ban algorithmic targeting on these platforms for kids under 17.

Delaying the onset of social media use is a straightforward and common-sense way to protect our youngest kids from the very worst of the internet's

ills. Let them have a normal childhood in the real world—play a sport, learn an instrument, read a book, go to the park, walk around with friends. And once kids are on social media at 13 or 14 or whenever, they need protection, particularly from the algorithmic targeting.

Just last year alone, social media companies made \$11 billion from ads targeted at kids under 18 in the United States—\$11 billion. So it is no wonder that they have no appetite to change their business model without a Federal law. It is working great for them—just not for the millions of young kids who are sad and lonely and angry because of it. Kids need help, and they need protection. And because the companies have shown time and time again that they will not step up, Congress must.

I am glad that we are seeing renewed momentum and urgency right now with a number of different proposals on this issue in the U.S. Senate. All of them, my bill included, share the same goal of keeping our kids healthy. But at the heart of this effort is an essential question of when our kids ought to be allowed to be on social media. At what age is it appropriate to use? If we are going to protect these kids online and act as a counterweight to the rich and powerful tech companies, answering that question and establishing an age minimum is essential. And that is what the Healthy Kids Act does.

It is our job here in the Senate to consider any number of difficult challenges facing the country and the world and to debate what to do about them. What is more fundamental to the role of the Federal Government than to protect the most vulnerable Americans, especially our children?

If you think what is happening to kids online is unclear, look at the data. The percentage of high school students surveyed who experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness in the past year is 36 percent to 57 percent females; 21 percent to 29 percent males in 10 years—in 10 years.

It might be the phones. It might be the phones. You can consult the data. You can ask the Surgeon General of the United States. You can ask all of the people who have studied this. And they know it is early use of social media where—look, we all use social media, and our adult brains are not powerful enough to overcome the negative impacts. You are 13, you are 9, you are 7, you are going to be overpowered by these algorithms. We have to protect these kids.

And if you don't believe the data, talk to any parent—Democrat, Republican, parent of a 2-year-old, parent of a 12-year-old—everybody wants this tool in their toolkit. And the idea that we should pass a Federal law mandating that all the social media companies have to do is have a little thing in settings where you can turn the dials on all the different aspects of your social media account is ignorant. It is ignorant. The idea that all we really

need to do is precipitate a conversation between a parent and child about social media use—no. What parents need is to be able to say: I am sorry. That is illegal. I am sorry. You may not use these social media platforms.

I think it gets really tricky and really complicated once a kid is 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. I understand that. And we narrowed the bill to be more precise because there is no First Amendment right, there is no public policy upside for a 9-year-old to be on TikTok. Nobody can make that argument with a straight face.

And so as we consider our options going forward on tech policy—but specifically protecting children online—the threshold question is, At what age is it appropriate for a child to use social media? If I had my druthers, I would have set it at 16, honestly. But, certainly, we can all agree that there is no advantage to a child's life, a prepubescent child's life—a 9-year-old, a 4-year-old, an 11-year-old—being on social media.

I am confident we will get this done. I am confident that if this ever received a Senate floor vote, that it would be a resounding bipartisan majority. And I am confident that the American people support us in this.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator from Tennessee.

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, we gathered just a couple of hours ago to receive the impeachment articles on Alejandro Mayorkas, who is the Secretary of Homeland Security. How interesting that, as we look at going through this impeachment, we have Senator SCHUMER, who is the majority leader, who has decided he wants to change his tune when it comes to dealing with impeachment.

Now, in 2019, right before the Democrats started in on President Trump and an impeachment trial for President Trump, Leader SCHUMER stood right here in this Chamber, and he said:

We have a responsibility to let all the facts come out.

We [have] to remember our constitutional duty to act as judges and jurors in a potential trial.

Now, those were his comments at that point in time. He was all for an impeachment trial, and it is our constitutional duty. You can look at article I, section 2 and section 3. Section 2 lays out the responsibility of the House in impeachment. Section 3 pertains to the Senate and how we are to proceed with a trial of impeachment.

But, as I said, Leader SCHUMER has decided that he wants to change his

tune, and all of a sudden, he is not wanting this even though we actually have a public officeholder who deserves to stand for an impeachment trial, and that is Secretary Mayorkas. Now that the shoe is on the other foot, if you will, and now that it is about a Democrat, Leader SCHUMER wants to change the rules and say no. He is even willing to take unprecedented actions that this Chamber has never taken when it comes to the issue of impeachment.

I believe this should incense every single American. I know it incenses the people of Tennessee because what we have learned in the last 3 years about Secretary Mayorkas—even though his title is “Secretary of Homeland Security,” he does not believe in securing the homeland, and he has refused to fulfill his duty of securing the homeland.

I know that Secretary Mayorkas is doing the bidding of Joe Biden and the Biden administration. He is just doing what they tell him he has to do. That in and of itself tells you a lot about what this administration thinks about the security and sovereignty of this country. Here is why: On the Biden-Mayorkas watch, you have more than 9.4 million illegal aliens coming into this country. That is in less than 3 years—9.4 million.

We know that there are between 1.7 and 2.5 million “got-aways.” Some of those “got-aways” are included in that 9.4 million number, and others are not because they didn't see them as they were coming through and couldn't get to them. They found things they left on the roadside or in the woods, in the brush, later on.

Out of this 10 million or so who have illegally come into the country—by the way, just to help everyone have the right context, that number of 10 million is greater than the population of 38 of our States—38. That is how many people are coming in who are illegally entering the country.

Out of this number, you have thousands who are from countries of interest. That would be places like Pakistan, Uzbekistan, Iraq, Iran. And look at China. Look at what is happening there. You also have 300 known terrorists. As we heard in the impeachment articles today, under President Trump, you had no more than a dozen total over 4 years who were coming into the country. What do you have under Joe Biden? You have over 300 suspected terrorists. Even last week, we had an issue where DOJ and DHS and FBI and the other Agencies were admitting they had lost track of a terrorist from Afghanistan, and he was free-roaming the country for a year.

In addition to the terrorists and the people from countries of interest, fentanyl is coming across our borders. It is being smuggled in by the cartels. Fentanyl is the leading cause of death of Americans age 18 to 45. Fentanyl is a drug that—China has the precursor chemicals, and they are manufacturing this in labs that they have set up with,

oh, by the way, the cartels in Mexico, and the cartels are the distribution hub for fentanyl. I talk to parents regularly who have a child who has lost a life or become addicted because of fentanyl.

In addition to all the fentanyl, you have the human trafficking. What is really so sad to me when you look at human trafficking—and for the cartels, human trafficking is a business. It has grown from a business that was \$500 million a year in this country in 2018, and today it is a \$13 billion-a-year business.

If you don't think the cartels are big business, if you don't think they are global entities, look at this. Globally, human trafficking is a \$150 billion-a-year business. Where do these people want to come? Right here. They want to come into our country.

On top of this, there are more than 400,000 migrant children. Many of them have been recycled and abused by the cartels. Yes, indeed, the cartels are so into this human trafficking now that they have devised a scheme. It is child abuse. They take a little child. They write their name and the phone number to contact on that child's back. They put that child with a cartel member they are trying to get into the country. They pose as a family for the purpose of claiming asylum. Once the cartel member is across the border, what does he do? He lets the child go—lets the child go—and the child is sent back to Mexico.

So we add to all of these issues with the terrorists, with the people from countries of interest, with the drugs, with the human trafficking, with the sex trafficking, you look at what is happening to these children. Tens of thousands of these 400,000 children have been forced into really horrific, exploitative situations, including child labor and sex trafficking.

Across the country, you have dangerous, illegal alien criminals—they are called criminal aliens—who should never have been able to come into this country in the first place. They have harmed and they have murdered innocent Americans.

So all of these reasons as to why we should move forward with this impeachment, and on top of it you add that Secretary Mayorkas has repeatedly lied to Congress about our border being secure. He likes to say he has done everything to prevent this, but we know he has done everything to allow it and to allow the flow to continue.

Last year, DHS, his Agency, deported less than 5 percent of all migrant encounters at the border. In 2022, only 10 percent of all criminal illegal aliens in the United States were arrested.

While a border wall would do so much to help end the border crisis, Secretary Mayorkas stated:

From day one, this Administration has made clear that a border wall is not the answer.

His words. From day one, they have made clear that a border wall is not the answer. Well, let me tell you something: Walls work. Throughout history,

walls have worked. The evidence is overwhelming.

Secretary Mayorkas has refused to uphold his constitutional duty of securing the homeland, and the American people are suffering the consequences.

Five years ago, Leader SCHUMER was all too happy to lead a partisan, baseless impeachment trial against President Trump. Yet, today, when faced with a Secretary who is unfit for office, Leader SCHUMER is trying to prevent a Senate trial and dismiss the House's Articles of Impeachment.

(Mr. WYDEN assumed the Chair.)

Never before has the Senate dismissed impeachment charges without holding a trial.

When I talk to Tennesseans, they talk about their frustration with Washington, DC, and their frustration with two tiers of justice. It seems there is a tier for the Democrats and the elites and illegals and another for Republicans and President Trump and people who are conservative.

It is important that Secretary Mayorkas be held to account. For 3 years, he has done President Biden's bidding by opening the border to millions of illegal aliens. If this Chamber upholds its constitutional duty to hold a trial, I will vote to convict Secretary Mayorkas and remove him from office.

While the Biden administration is working to make illegal immigration legal, border States such as Texas are stepping up to do what this administration will not do, and that is to secure the border.

Over recess, I spent time in El Paso, TX, to see firsthand how Governor Abbott and authorities in the Lone Star State are working to keep communities safe. Now, it is a part of the efforts in Texas to deter illegal immigration, and Texas is taking this seriously to make certain that they secure property there along the Rio Grande.

What they have done is to place buoys in the river, shipping containers on the embankment, razor wire behind that, and fences behind that. They did this along the Rio Grande there in El Paso to prevent illegal aliens from coming in through El Paso.

Texas has bolstered its barriers, and what you are seeing now is that the illegal aliens are traveling farther to the west. They are going to New Mexico. They are going to Arizona. They are going to California. Why? Because they are looking for somewhere easier that they can get into the country illegally.

(Mr. WELCH assumed the Chair.)

Bear in mind, the coyotes, they are working hard for all of these groups and for the cartels, and nobody enters without paying a coyote.

Now, when you look at what Texas is doing, taking this into their own hands—and you have got the State, you have got local counties—they are spending billions at the State level and millions in these counties. And as a result, illegal immigration in Texas dropped by 54 percent between Decem-

ber and January. And in the Del Rio Sector, which includes Eagle Pass, illegal entries fell by 76 percent.

This shows you border walls work. The Border Patrol has been telling us for decades: We need a barrier; we need better technology where we cannot have a barrier; and we need more officers and agents. So while the Biden administration pretends otherwise, knowing that walls work should not be a surprise. Border walls from ancient Athens to the Great Wall of China, they protected cities. They protected nations for thousands of years. Border barriers are used on nearly every continent on Earth to protect countries from illegal entry, from drug smuggling, and from terrorism.

But instead of supporting Texas and its successful efforts to deter illegal immigration, this administration and this Secretary of Homeland Security, they think it is a good thing to go sue Texas and try to make them remove their border barriers. While Texas has accomplished a lot in securing their border, protecting families, and saving American lives, President Biden's attack on our border security has placed a tremendous burden on our border States and communities. Indeed, every town has turned into a border town, every State a border State all across this country because of what is happening with the drug trafficking, with human trafficking, with sex trafficking, with crime in communities.

While I was in Eagle Pass, I sat down with some ranchers and farmers who have had their property destroyed, stolen, broken into by illegal aliens crossing into our country from Mexico. In one instance, two migrants broke into a rancher's home while his 16-year-old daughter was studying at home alone.

Texas law enforcement also warned about the ways cartels are using new technology to aid their smuggling operations, including by using Chinese-owned TikTok to recruit Americans into their human trafficking rings. At the same time, cartels are flying drones into the United States to scope out the location of border agents and redirect their smuggling routes.

More than anything else, authorities in Texas told me that they need more border wall construction, better technology, and more agents.

So if Secretary Mayorkas and President Biden refuse to help them, Congress has to step in. That is why I introduced legislation called the CONTAINER Act, which would empower border States such as Texas to place temporary barriers on Federal land to protect their communities.

No State or locality should face lawsuits from the Federal Government for trying to secure our border and to protect the sovereignty of the United States of America.

I also introduced the CLEAR Act, which would reaffirm the authority of State and local governments to enforce Federal immigration laws by apprehending, detaining, and then transfer-

ring illegal aliens to Federal custody. Among its important measures, this legislation would require the Department of Homeland Security to provide grants to State and local governments to help them enforce immigration law and construct detention facilities. It would also require DHS to take illegal aliens into custody within 48 hours after receiving a request from a State or locality and provide the Justice Department with essential information about illegal aliens who have overstayed their period of stay in this country.

After my visit to Eagle Pass, I know these pieces of legislation would do so much to support our border security along these border States, and I am hopeful that this President and his Department of Homeland Security will have a change of heart and will move forward with securing our southern border, just as this Chamber should move forward with an impeachment trial on Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

FISA

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise in strong opposition to this FISA bill. And, to begin, there is a central question before the U.S. Senate, and that is: Who should be forced to help their government spy?

The legislation coming from the other body gives the government unchecked authority to order Americans to spy on behalf of their government. This was slipped in, Mr. President, in the last minutes in the House of Representatives' bill, and this is the first time this language has ever been considered here in the U.S. Senate.

Under current law—section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act—the government can order the phone companies and email and internet service providers to hand over communications. This bill expands that existing power dramatically. It says: The government can force cooperation from "any other service provider who has access to equipment that is being or may be used to transmit or store wire or electronic communications."

Now, the language I just read to the Senate means that, if you have access to any communications, the government can force you to help it spy. That means anybody with access to a server, a wire, a cable box, a WiFi router, a phone, or a computer.

So think for a moment about the millions of Americans who work in buildings and offices in which communications are stored or passed through. After all, every office building in America has data cables running through it.

These people are not just the engineers who install, maintain, and repair our communications infrastructure. There are countless others who could be forced to help the government spy, including those who clean offices and guard buildings. If this provision is enacted, the government could deputize

any of these people against their will and force them, in effect, to become what amounts to an agent for Big Brother—for example, by forcing an employee to insert a USB thumb drive into a server at an office they clean or guard at night.

This can all happen without any oversight whatsoever. The FISA Court won't know about it. The Congress won't know about it. Americans who are handed these directives will be forbidden from talking about it. Unless they can afford high-priced lawyers with security clearances who know their way around the FISA Court, they will have no recourse at all.

Now, importantly, Mr. President—and you and I have talked about this—supporters of this provision will say that this doesn't change the fact that section 702 only targets foreigners overseas. But if the government thinks that those targets are communicating with people in the United States, they can go right to the source: the WiFi, the phone lines, the servers, the transmitters that store those communications.

If the government has an interest in those foreign targets, well, the Americans whose communications get collected are just plain out of luck.

Supporters of this provision will also say this was necessary because of a FISA Court opinion. I disagree. That opinion didn't gut section 702. This provision is not necessary, and there certainly is no justification for this vast expansion of surveillance authorities.

Supporters also claim that the provision has a narrow purpose and that the government doesn't intend to start tapping into everybody's phone line or WiFi, but that is not how this provision is written. It is not reflected in the actual legislation.

And I would say, respectfully, that anybody who votes to give the government vast powers under the premise that intelligence Agencies won't actually use them is being pretty darn naive.

Supporters also point to a handful of exceptions that were tacked onto this provision, excluding things like hotels and coffee shops. Anybody who reads the text will see that these provisions clearly are not designed to work. Even the coffee shop exception is meaningless because it wouldn't cover a company that maintains the coffee shop's WiFi. And the fact that there are a couple of random exceptions further proves my point.

This provision is going to force a huge range of companies and individuals to spy for their government.

Supporters have even argued that the bill had to be broadly written because what the government actually wants to do is secret. That is some "Alice in Wonderland" logic.

First, the American people deserve to know when the government can spy on them and when it can't. If you clearly can't explain to American voters why you need new powers, then you shouldn't have them.

And the distinguished Presiding officer of the Senate from Vermont, he has asked questions about this as well.

Second, it doesn't matter what the government might be secretly intending to do with these authorities at the moment. There is a statutory authority that will be in place for years, during which time the government may very well decide to dramatically expand its surveillance activities.

Now, some of my colleagues say they aren't worried about President Biden abusing these authorities. Well, last time I looked, the law applies to Presidents, regardless of their political power—excuse me—regardless of their position. In that case, how about President Trump? Imagine these authorities in his hands. If you are worried about having a President who lives to target vulnerable Americans, to pit Americans against each other, to find every conceivable way to punish perceived enemies, you ought to find this bill terrifying.

The bill expands 702 authorities in other ways. For example, it includes a dramatic increase in the use of 702 in vetting travelers to the United States. It requires that the Attorney General enable searches on all travelers, tens of millions of people who come to the United States annually. This is a dragnet search of every work colleague, neighbor, and classmate who is here on a visa; every grandparent visiting for a wedding or a funeral.

So what I have done in the last 10 or 12 minutes is point out that these are just some of the ways in which this bill expands warrantless surveillance authorities. On top of all of that, it fails to reform section 702 in any meaningful way.

I will start with the warrantless searches of Americans' communications swept up in section 702 collection. These searches have gone after American protesters, political campaign donors, even people who simply reported crimes to the FBI. The abuses have been extensive and well documented.

Now, supporters of this bill are going to argue: Well, the FBI has taken care of things. They have cleaned up their act.

But even after the FBI made changes to its internal policies, abuses continued, including searches for a U.S. Senator, State senator, and a State judge who had complained to the FBI about police abuses.

But the broader concern is that, without checks and balances, there is nothing preventing a rapid increase of abuses after reauthorization.

Supporters of this bill will say that it codified the FBI's internal changes. But what I would say is: Without real checks and balances written into the law, what good are these changes?

Reformers have put forward extremely modest, commonsense solutions. Warrants would not be required for all U.S. person searches. Reform proposals allow the government to see whether an American is commu-

nicating with foreign agents. A warrant is required only when the government wants to read the content of these communications—a situation that arises less than 2 percent of the time. Our provision also allows for emergency searches and has exceptions for imminent threats of death or injury, preexisting law enforcement or FISA warrants, consent, and access to malware in cyber attacks.

This modest reform should be debated and voted on in the Senate.

There are other commonsense reforms to section 702 that also are not in this bill. For example, it doesn't protect Americans against reverse targeting, and it doesn't prohibit the collection of domestic communications.

Finally, the bill should have been an opportunity to pass meaningful protections for Americans' privacy from abusive government subpoenas targeted at the most vulnerable groups in our society, including women, religious and racial minorities, and LGBTQ people.

Mr. President, 15 States have now banned abortion, with more on the way. When States enforce bans on reproductive health access, they will use everything from location data generated by connected cars and the smartphone in the patient's pocket to the Google search that the patient used to find the reproductive health facility or online telemedicine service. All of that can be obtained without a court order.

Congress needs to safeguard Americans' privacy, not give the President new surveillance powers. Congress has the time to draft comprehensive privacy and cybersecurity legislation, including a 702 reauthorization. My own view is that Chairman DURBIN's SAFE Act and my bipartisan, bicameral Government Surveillance Reform Act are both bills that have support across the aisle, across the Capitol, and they are ready for consideration.

I am going to close with this: This Chamber has the time to do the right thing. Senators do not need to rubberstamp a disastrous surveillance bill just because the Senate is, once again, considering it at the last possible moment. Once again—you can set your clock by it—the Senate considers FISA at the last possible moment.

The FISA Court recently renewed the court's annual 702 certifications, which authorize surveillance until April 2025. Let me repeat that. The FISA Court recently renewed the court's annual 702 certifications, which authorize surveillance until April 2025. That means there is no need for Congress to offer up a rush job. But under no circumstances should the U.S. Senate be cowed by those who say Senators have no choice except to sign off on whatever piece of paper the executive branch requests.

Reformers on both sides of the aisle here in the Senate have been ready and willing since last fall to have this debate; yet the status quo crowd wouldn't pick up the phone until the last possible minute to ensure that this body

wouldn't have time for anything but a last-second vote on what I believe is a dangerous bill. The only way this body is going to have a real debate about reforming government surveillance is by rejecting the House bill and standing up for the Senate's independence and Americans' constitutional rights.

As I have said on this floor before—and I think I will do it—throughout my time in public service, Ben Franklin got it right: Americans don't have to sacrifice liberty for security. The reality is, security and liberty aren't to be mutually exclusive. We can have both. The Congress has a duty to deliver a FISA law that does both, and I urge my colleagues to pursue exactly that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from North Carolina.

TRIBUTE TO DEBRA JARRETT

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, I come here today to commemorate the retirement of one of my longest serving staff in my time in the Senate, Debra Jarrett.

She has been my administrative director for the last 9 years. She has worked in the Senate for 29 years. I was looking it up on the internet earlier today. To give you an idea of how long ago 29 years was, that was the year that ladies were getting "Rachel" haircuts because "Friends" was one of the most popular shows on. Jennifer Aniston was rocking the "Rachel" haircut. Boyz II Men was topping the charts. It was a long time ago. Debra really quickly demonstrated that this was probably the right place for her to start her career; and, today, we are looking at her turning another chapter.

My staff put together some comments that I am being loosely advised by. They said it was a bittersweet moment. Well, I personally think it is bitter. I am sure it is sweet for Debra, the person who is going to be retiring. I think it is probably a violation of the rules to point back here where Debra is sitting, so I am not going to do that. But if it wasn't a violation of the rules, I would point there. That is Debra, sitting here behind me on my wing, which she has been several times before.

When you come to the Senate, the amazing thing about coming to the U.S. Senate—I came in 2015—is they say, you know, "Congratulations." They swear you in. They give you an allocation of money to run your operations. North Carolina has got about—almost 11 million people, so that dictates how much money you have to set up a State operation and a DC operation, but that is it. Your personnel practices, who you hire, how you provision computers—basically the whole running of the business operation; there is not some special department there—that is something you have to do. So one thing you learn very quickly is to find a highly competent person to do that, and I was blessed to have the opportunity to bring Debra in.

I said she has been in my office for 9 years, and she has been in the Senate for 29 years. I should start by saying she was born and raised in St. Joe, IN, population 460. Then she started to work for Dan Coats, the Senator from Indiana, as his legislative aide back in 1995. Then, in 1999, she joined Senator Judd Gregg as a special assistant. She was promoted to office administrator a year later, and she worked for Senator Gregg for 12 years. Then, when Senator Gregg retired, New Hampshire adopted her; and Kelly Ayotte, who was also a Senator from New Hampshire, brought her in as the director of administration. She did that for 4 years and then finally came to work for me.

Debra is somebody—and I do mean this. Even as a U.S. Senator, there are some people who scare me, and Debra is one of them because she is so on point for everything that we do whether it is the efficiency of our office or our fiscal conservative policy. We spend just enough, and we do return some of our office proceeds to the Treasury every year. We don't spend all of the money that we are allocated. Debra oversees all of that, but she oversees so much more.

You will hear—and I don't know. This may be common in other offices, but everybody in my State operation, about half my staff—about 30 of the 60 staff that I have working full-time are down in North Carolina—are as likely to have an endearing comment to make about Debra as people who see her every day up here in DC. And I mean everything. I mean, it could be telling staff, including my chief of staff, to understand our retirement system and how you can get the Federal match; getting these young people to think about their futures at such a young age; making sure that they go through open enrollment and get their health plan options renewed. With all the sorts of running of the office, Debra is on top of all of that.

But I think what makes her really interesting or makes it even more interesting is how she is, on any given day, likely to come up to me or my chief of staff or my legislative director and say: You need to check in on—fill in the blanks. You know, this person has just come in. They look like they are trying to get used to working in a Senate office—getting them settled down. She is watching every single aspect of this office and the health and hygiene of all the staff.

She has decided to retire after being vested for—almost 2 years now? You are not supposed to talk to me, but thank you for that—for almost 3 years now.

So 3 years—I got her to break a rule of the Senate floor, which is probably the coolest thing I could have possibly done if you know how rules-oriented Debra is. But she has been working with us, having the option to leave. She has just continued to work, and thank goodness, because we have gotten so much more out of Debra over

the last 3 years and, certainly, over the last 9 years that she has been in my office.

I have staff up in the Gallery. I don't think I am supposed to recognize them either, but they are here as a testament to how special and how important she is to our Senate office.

Now, Debra is going to retire, but she is young, and I expect that she is going to go off and do other things. One thing I hope she does, if she decides to go back to Indiana, is to make sure that she is still a part of the TILLIS family.

And I thank you for your service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. President, on February 2, 2021, DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas took an oath that all of us in the Chamber have taken, an oath that many of us have taken who have served in the military—an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. Yet here we are, 3 years later, with the worst border crisis our Nation has ever seen.

I rise today because we find ourselves at a critical moment in our Nation's history—a moment when the integrity of this very Chamber and its leadership is being tested, a time when we will see if our colleagues across the aisle are willing to do the right thing and hold Alejandro Mayorkas accountable for his dereliction of duty that has left our country a shell of what she once was.

Now with over 11 million border crossings, including 2 million unvetted "got-aways" now living here on U.S. soil—and amongst those are an unknown number of terrorists, violent gang members and drug cartels—Mayorkas has broken his oath, resulting in this dangerous and deadly invasion of our country. All you have to do is read your hometown news, and you are going to find a person in your community who has died from fentanyl or who has been physically abused or murdered by one of these unvetted illegal aliens.

From the moment Secretary Mayorkas took office, he has skirted the Constitution and broken the law as outlined in the Secure Fence Act of 2006, which clearly states he must maintain "operational control" and "prevent unlawful entries into the United States."

In the past 3 years alone, we have had nearly 2 million known "got-aways" successfully evade capture and enter our country—a number that includes hundreds of violent gang members and terrorists. To put that into perspective, the scale of this issue, today, over 800 "got-aways" illegally crossed into this country; yesterday, over 800 unvetted "got-aways" escaped into our country; and, tomorrow, 800 more unvetted aliens will end up here on U.S. soil, living in communities around the country. Maybe that is why law enforcement officers recently told me back home that we cannot arrest ourselves out of this crisis; that they are

so overwhelmed by crime now related to these illegal crossings that we cannot arrest ourselves out of this predicament.

Secretary Mayorkas has given free rein to drug cartels to smuggle in illegal aliens and deadly drugs like fentanyl, resulting in the deaths of 300 Americans every day, with a total of over 250,000 fentanyl-related poisoning murders—deaths—occurring under his watch. That is three times more than the number of brave soldiers we lost in the Vietnam war—three times more.

The Secretary has turned a blind eye to the exploitation of our borders by terrorists, Chinese nationals, and other high-risk individuals, causing the largest influx of terrorist border crossings in our Nation's history.

And let us not forget the abuse and weaponization of parole and asylum. Secretary Mayorkas has illegally admitted nearly 800,000 aliens per year—800,000—under this parole compared to just 5,000 per year under President Obama or President Trump—800,000 versus 5,000 a year.

There is no question that the situation at our borders is dire and that the responsibility of this historic crisis lies squarely at the feet of those who have failed to address it.

Instead of fulfilling his obligation to the American people, Secretary Mayorkas has unraveled our national security, unleashed our border into chaos, and launched an unmitigated disaster and culture of lawlessness that has left Lady Liberty vulnerable to exploitation. His actions—or lack thereof—have endangered the safety of every American, and there must be consequences.

Congress must step in and do the job that President Biden refuses to do and fire Secretary Mayorkas. Enough is enough. Americans deserve better.

We are here today because we take our oath seriously. With the House managers delivering the Articles of Impeachment to the Senate Chamber today, I hope our colleagues across the aisle, who also took an oath to protect and defend our great Nation, will do the right thing. Let's bring this to a trial, let's debate his record, and for the sake of America's safety and security, let's impeach Alejandro Mayorkas.

Taking this decisive action will send a clear message to this administration: They will be held accountable for orchestrating this deadly invasion.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, earlier today, we heard a very convincing case laid out by the House managers of why the Senate should fill its constitutional duty and proceed to a trial on the impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas.

If we were to hold that trial—and we should do so—this chart that I have been developing since I became chairman of Homeland Security in 2015

would basically be the irrefutable DNA evidence of the crime.

What I have tried to lay out in this chart is the cause and effect of an ongoing set of illegal immigration crises faced by the last three administrations. What I would like to do briefly here on the Senate floor is to go through that history dating back to 2012 and show the impact of certain actions, certain court decisions, certainly the lack of faithfully executing the law in this administration that has now resulted in an invasion of our country.

Let's go back to 2012. That is where this chart begins. Even before that, I had developed a chart just showing on an annual basis the number of unaccompanied children coming into this country. It averaged for many years somewhere between 2-, 3-, 4,000 a year.

Then, in June of 2012, President Obama issued his what I would consider lawless, unlawful deferred action on childhood arrivals. That is what has sparked all the succeeding illegal immigration crises, is that unlawful order, which, by the way, was a complete misuse of prosecutorial discretion, which is supposed to be meted out or administered on a case-by-case basis. For the first time, President Obama and his administration granted prosecutorial discretion to hundreds of thousands of people, and the world took note.

What happened over the intervening years is that people realized America's law has changed. We have reports. When people come to this country illegally, they would get their notice to appear before an immigration court. Well, that was used by human traffickers down in Central America. They called that their "permiso"—their permission slip—to come to this country.

A couple of years after that unlawful order—deferred action on childhood arrivals—President Obama faced his border crisis. He actually called it a humanitarian crisis when, in May and June of 2014, they averaged about 2,200 encounters per day—2,200. That seems like the good old days. That is that little bump in comparison to President Biden's crisis at the border.

President Obama actually took action. He started detaining family units with children who came across the border, and it worked. He brought down the number of people crossing into our country illegally because there was a consequence to it.

Unfortunately, in February of 2015, pro-immigration groups—pro-illegal immigration groups—took the Obama administration to court under the Flores settlement, which was basically—back in the 1990s, there was a court case with a young immigrant girl named Flores, and the result of that settlement said that DHS could not hold an unaccompanied child for more than 20 days—again, an unaccompanied child.

The Obama administration interpreted that as, well, we can certainly hold a child when they are detained

with their family. Again, these pro-illegal immigration groups took the Obama administration to court, took Secretary Jeh Johnson to court, and they reinterpreted the Flores settlement and said: No, you can't detain a child even if they are accompanied by their parents.

So the Obama administration faced a real decision: Should we detain the parents and release the child into HHS custody? They chose not to do that except in some situations where they felt that wasn't a real family unit and those parents may be a danger to that child. You can see the result of that. Basically, catch-and-release is what that resulted in. You can see the numbers started increasing prior to President Trump taking office.

If you remember, President Trump, during his election, made the open border—that catch-and-release—a huge issue in the campaign. When he got elected, again the world noticed. They felt there was going to be a real crack-down on illegal immigration, and they stopped coming. There was a huge reduction from the end of the Obama administration to when President Trump first took office.

Unfortunately, the law didn't change. That Flores reinterpretation stood. So President Trump was faced with trying to figure out how he could utilize what laws existed, what authority he had, with no help from Congress, to address this situation. He wasn't able to address it immediately. As a result, you can see the increase of not only single adults but family units exploiting that provision, and unaccompanied children, to the point where, in May of 2019, he hit his high point: almost 5,000 people per day.

You will notice that President Trump did something about it. He enacted the migrant protection program. He instituted safe third country agreements with countries in Central America. He had to threaten the President of Mexico with tariffs so the President of Mexico would cooperate with us in securing our border.

Over the next 12 months, President Trump by and large secured the border, to hit a low point in April of 2020, when a little more than 500 people per day were trying to come into this country illegally.

President Trump also had, starting in March of 2020, during the pandemic—remember, all of this reduction in illegal immigration occurred before the pandemic, but once the pandemic was in full swing in March and April of 2020, President Trump used his authority under title 42 and used that health emergency to start deporting people coming into this country illegally.

So you see the purple bar is the people expelled using title 42 authority.

Even though the number of single adults was rising—by the way, the reason it was rising is that during the Presidential debate of 2020, every Democrat Presidential candidate said they were going to end deportations and

offer free healthcare. That is a signal. The world listens to what elected officials or potential elected officials say, and they believe them. They also believe their eyes when, once people start coming in here, they are either detained and expelled or they are not detained.

Anyway, so people started coming into this country again, assuming that President Biden was going to win the election and the border would be opened up. Of course, that is exactly what happened, because once President Biden took office, he used the exact same Executive authority that President Trump used.

Let me just quickly cover that. Even after the Flores reinterpretation, the Supreme Court, in a ruling in 2018, said that existing law—even though it was weakened by that reinterpreted Flores decision or settlement—that the current law exudes deference to the executive branch. President Trump used that deference. President Trump used that Executive authority and pretty well closed the border.

President Biden came into office and, with literally hundreds of Executive actions, completely reversed President Trump's successful border security measures using that exact same Presidential authority, all that deference.

The point that is important to understand is that President Biden wanted an open border. He caused this crisis. He could end it if he wanted to. He still has the authority. Republicans in the Senate would be happy to strengthen that authority, to overturn this Flores reinterpretation.

By the way, Secretary Jeh Johnson opposed that reinterpretation. He didn't like that Court decision.

We would have been happy to strengthen President Biden's authority, but he doesn't really need us to to secure the border. That is the point.

Again, here is the DNA, the irrefutable DNA evidence of the crime. This didn't have to happen. President Biden didn't have to reverse President Trump's successful border security Executive orders, but he reversed them, and he opened up the border. The result now is that probably more than 6 million people have come into this country illegally and stayed. That is a number greater than the population of 31 States. That is the order of magnitude of the problem.

The impact of this open border policy is devastating. It is a catastrophe. Not only does this open border policy facilitate the multibillion-dollar business model of some of the most evil people on the planet—the human traffickers, the sex traffickers, the drug traffickers—how many hundreds of thousands of Americans have died of fentanyl overdoses?

President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas said that they are reversing all of Trump's border security provisions because they said it was inhumane. There is nothing humane about facilitating human and sex and drug trafficking.

Of course, the migrants come into this country—it is true, Venezuela is emptying their jails, their mental institutions. There are some bad people, there are some criminals coming into this country. Of course, we see evidence with these migrant crimes, horrific crimes—people who no longer are alive because of President Biden's open border policy, because of Secretary Mayorkas executing President Biden's open border policy.

I am not a lawyer, and I am not a prosecutor, but I believe it is a crime to aid and abet other crimes, so from my standpoint, I think the House managers ought to be allowed to make their case. Again, they laid out very compelling—very compelling—Articles of Impeachment today. It is a pretty simple case. It probably won't take that long for them to make their case, to present it for the Senate. Why won't Majority Leader SCHUMER allow the House managers to make their case? Why won't he allow the Senate to fulfill its constitutional duty to try impeachments?

Listen, impeachments are not that regular. The least we can do is fulfill that constitutional duty and listen to the evidence and allow the House managers to make their case. I think their case is overwhelmingly convincing.

The repercussions of President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas's open border policy will be felt by Americans for years, if not decades, to come.

About the only thing Congress can do when a President or a member of the executive branch is not faithfully executing the laws, when they are completely derelict in their duty, when their dereliction of duty or the lack of faithfully executing the law is resulting in the deaths of Americans—again, the open border policy is resulting in the deaths of American citizens. It is resulting in young women being forced into the sex trafficking trade. It is resulting in higher levels of fentanyl overdoses. That evidence needs to be heard. That case needs to be made. The Senate should hold a trial.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

ISRAEL

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I will get to the issue of Secretary Mayorkas's impeachment in a moment, but I would first like to speak to Iran's attack on Israel this weekend.

We all saw what happened on Saturday evening. Israel is once again under attack—this time, under direct attack from Iran—and the United States must clearly and strongly stand with our great ally and fully support its right and obligation to defend itself by any means necessary.

I was just in Israel, a few weeks ago, to meet with Prime Minister Netanyahu and see the terror and devastation that Iran-backed Hamas terrorists unleashed on the Jewish State on October 7, firsthand. More than 1,200 were murdered, and hundreds are still

being held hostage by Hamas just for being Jewish. Americans are among the hostages and those murdered that day.

The horrors of that attack are difficult to describe and can never ever happen again. Today, I continue to pray for the safety of the Israeli people and call on every Republican and every Democrat to stand unequivocally with Israel as it fights for its very existence against evil terrorism.

Again and again, Democrats have blocked the passage of aid for Israel. Democrats have blocked Israel aid four times in the U.S. Senate.

The House has passed a good bill that is ready for Senate passage right now. I urge Majority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER to immediately put the House-passed Israel aid bill on the floor, as well as my Stop Taxpayer Funding of Hamas Act, tonight. Nothing before the Senate is more important, and I will do everything in my power to make sure that vote happens as soon as possible.

Let us all remember who the enemy is here and has always been: the evil and terror-supporting regime in Iran.

Since its first days, the Biden administration has emboldened Iran with appeasement, freeing billions upon billions of dollars to fuel Iran's support of terrorism and turning its back on Israel.

Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East and one of America's strongest allies, but it took President Biden months to meet or speak with Prime Minister Netanyahu after he took office. And, unfortunately, the world took notice.

Since October 7, President Biden and Democrats in Washington have continued to undermine Israel's fight against Iran-backed Hamas terrorists, further isolating our ally in its greatest time of need.

And here is where what has happened in Israel ties into the impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas that we are dealing with here at home this week.

MAYORKAS IMPEACHMENT

America and the freedom-loving nations of the world are less safe and secure because of President Biden's weakness and appeasement of evil regimes and the terror each support. That is a fact that the FBI Director confirmed when I questioned him in the Homeland Security Committee, last year.

And the terrifying truth is that, while President Biden's weakness has emboldened our enemies, Secretary Mayorkas has shown that he will do absolutely nothing to stop evil people from invading our country through our southern border and launching attacks on the U.S. homeland.

This isn't some hypothetical nightmare. The possibility of an attack by terrorists on U.S. soil is something that the FBI and U.S. intelligence community are terrified about.

The threats are all up. We know terrorists are coming into America because of the wide-open southern border.

That is a fact. America is a more dangerous place because Mayorkas and Biden have allowed criminals, drugs, terrorists, and other dangerous people into our communities.

There are real consequences to this failure to secure the border, and each victim has a name. Real Americans with families are being killed. Real American families are being torn apart by vicious crimes and deadly drugs because we have a wide-open border. Innocent Americans like Laken Riley are paying the ultimate price for Mayorkas's failures.

Ten million people have illegally crossed, and 6 million have been allowed to stay and had the red carpet rolled out for them, courtesy of the American taxpayers. There have been sexual assaults and murders committed by illegal aliens all across this country—even in my home State of Florida, where a young man was recently killed. The man charged with his death is an illegal alien.

Now, because of these failures, the Republican majority in the House has voted to impeach Mayorkas for violating his oath of office. They took their time. They got the evidence. They made the decision to impeach. Whether anyone in this Chamber believes it was right or wrong, that happened, and we should now hold a trial to let Mayorkas make his case. That is our constitutional duty.

But unlike what happened in 2019, when Democrats alone voted to impeach the President and Republicans controlled the Senate, Majority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER is going to deny Secretary Mayorkas the ability to defend himself in a trial. He will not have the ability to defend himself in a trial.

It seems to me that the majority leader doesn't want to let Mayorkas defend himself in a trial for one of two reasons. The majority leader is either acting out of pure political interests to protect his incumbent Members who don't want to talk about Mayorkas's record and the wide-open border he has created and all the crime, drugs, and illegal immigration it is allowing; or the majority leader is just terrified of a trial exposing Mayorkas's failure to a degree that acquittal would be extremely painful for the Democrats to explain to the American people.

Here is what I don't understand. Democrats voted against a bill to stop illegal aliens from getting on a commercial flight with no verifiable ID. You have to; they don't. Democrats voted against deporting illegal aliens who hurt police. And Democrats voted against the Laken Riley Act, which simply requires ICE to take illegal aliens who commit crimes into custody before tragedies strike.

So it seems to me that Democrats have no problem voting to keep this border crisis going and blocking every attempt the Republicans make to stop the crime and secure the border. But when it comes to Secretary Mayorkas, they shut everything down and don't let him speak.

Secretary Mayorkas is a former prosecutor. Surely, he knows how to handle himself and defend his actions. He must believe that he has a case to present to the American people on why he should not be found guilty, but he is not going to get that chance. And Senate Democrats are setting a dangerous precedent and destroying the rules and traditions of the Senate to keep Mayorkas silent.

I have one question: Is Mayorkas being silenced because Democrats are terrified of his record and unable to defend him or because they don't trust him? Whatever the answer might be, I urge my Democratic colleagues to get over the discomfort that it is causing them and do what is right for the safety of American families.

The events of this weekend have shown, once again, that the world is a much more dangerous place under President Biden's failed leadership. If Democrats put politics over the safety of American families and the security of our great Nation, I fear the consequences will be devastating beyond our worst fears.

I want everybody to stop for one moment—just stop and think about their families; think about their mom or their dad or their sister or brother or their wife; think about their children or their grandchildren or their nieces and nephews. Since Biden took office, people like that, just like your family that you love and cherish—people like that—here is what has happened to them: Some have died in drug overdoses. Some have been raped. Some have been murdered. Some have been sold into slavery, basically.

It is devastating. I don't know how anybody could sit there and not care about people just like their mom, their dad, their brother, their sister, their spouse, their children, their grandchildren, or their nieces and nephews. But that is exactly what is going on here when we do not have the opportunity to hold Mayorkas accountable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, the House managers have officially delivered the letters of impeachment for Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas to the Senate. Now is the time for every Senator to go on record.

Do you think Mayorkas has done a good job at the border? Has Mayorkas fulfilled the oath he swore before this body to protect and to defend our country against all threats, foreign and domestic? Is our border secure?

The answer is simple. Mayorkas has intentionally failed to do his job.

Now, Senator SCHUMER and the globalist Democrats have the opportunity to conduct a full and a fair trial before the entire Senate and the public. Unfortunately, that is not how this is going to play out. Democrats are going to try to table the Articles of Impeachment, which has never been done in the

history of the Senate. They are going to attempt to sweep the border crisis that President Biden has created under the rug.

Every single House Democrat voted to save Mayorkas's job. They endorsed our wide-open borders that have allowed terrorists, drug traffickers, and murderers into our country. The Democrats are lying to themselves and risking the lives of every American. Senator SCHUMER and the Democrats can't say they want to fix our border while voting to save Mayorkas's job.

Mayorkas has been derelict in his duty to secure the border in the 3 years he has been on the job. Our border is the least secure it has ever been. In fact, it is almost nonexistent. Our Border Patrol agents are so overwhelmed and receive such little support from the Biden administration to enforce our laws that they have been forced to release millions of illegal immigrants into the United States. And those who are released on parole, they are even given work permits.

The Biden administration is more concerned with taking care of illegal aliens than they are about protecting American citizens. We might as well start mailing every criminal, drug trafficker, and terrorist an open invitation to cross our borders.

I have spoken numerous times on this floor to highlight stories of Americans who have died at the hands of illegal aliens. Their tragic deaths are a direct result of Secretary Mayorkas's inaction. Mayorkas and Joe Biden have blood on their hands.

The most important responsibility of any sovereign nation is the safety of its citizens. Yet what did the Department of Homeland Security announce just last week? They plan on sending another \$300 million to communities receiving illegal aliens from this border crisis.

The top priority of this administration is to let as many people in as quickly as possible, regardless of how many American lives are lost in the process.

The number of people crossing into the United States who are on the Terrorist Watchlist is unprecedented. Just last week, it was reported that an Afghan on the FBI Terrorist Watchlist has been in the United States for almost a year. He is a member of a U.S.-designated terrorist group responsible for the deaths of at least nine American soldiers and civilians in Afghanistan. ICE arrested him in San Antonio just this past February. Unfortunately, this known terrorist has been released on bond. He is now roaming our neighborhoods.

You know, it just isn't terrorists we have to worry about. Fentanyl is flowing freely across our borders, and it is killing hundreds of thousands of Americans—not thousands but hundreds of thousands. Law enforcement officers in my State of Alabama tell me, time and again, how their officers must wear heavy equipment and carry Narcan

spray to protect themselves from the fentanyl that is pouring into our communities. And, by the way, most will tell you they never heard of fentanyl until this administration came into power.

Despite the critical need to secure our borders and discourage illegal immigration, Mayorkas has been traveling the world—yes, this Mayorkas, traveling the world—lecturing other countries about their national security, while his refusal to enforce U.S. laws has exposed his own country to an invasion. It is embarrassing.

In February, he traveled to Austria to speak with Chinese officials about counter-narcotic efforts. Did he discuss with them the flood of Chinese illegal immigrants coming to the United States through the southwest border? Since October of last year, 22,000 Chinese nationals have been arrested by Border Patrol agents at the southwest border and released into our country. Most of these individuals are single adult males of military age.

Yet, the media tries to act like all these people crossing the border are innocent women and children. Now, some of them are, but most are not.

This invasion is more than a border crisis; it is a national crisis. Yet I seriously doubt Mayorkas even brought up that point in his meeting with the Chinese officials.

In February, he was in Germany for the Munich Security Conference. The Munich Security Conference is the largest international security meeting in the world. Mayorkas was there giving speeches on strengthening global security and partnerships. Meanwhile, the border he is responsible for is wide open, and thousands of people are dying. Give me a break. Our allies must be laughing at us—absolutely laughing.

The Secretary's priority should be here in our country, securing our borders, protecting our citizens. President Biden has made the United States a joke around the world.

Under this administration, nearly 10 million people have invaded our country. Every State is now a border State—every State. This is not a gray area.

Secretary Mayorkas has intentionally failed to do his job. He has personally lied to me to my face three times in the last 3 years—a U.S. Senator. Just tell me the truth. He can't say the truth. He can't tell you the truth.

To my Democratic colleagues, have you read the heartbreaking stories of innocent Americans who have been murdered by illegal aliens? Are you concerned? Are you concerned about the safety of your spouses, your kids, your nieces and nephews? Does it worry you that hundreds of terrorists are flooding our country? Does that bother you at all? Do you know somebody who has died of fentanyl which was trafficked into our country by cartels?

This isn't about politics, folks. Our national security and our country's fu-

ture are at stake. Americans deserve to know the truth about how Secretary Mayorkas has intentionally failed to secure the border.

I will be voting to hold Mayorkas accountable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, we have a job to do. That job is not optional. It is assigned to us by the United States Constitution—a document to which we have all sworn an oath under article I, section 3, clause 6. The Senate has the power and, I would add here, the duty to try all impeachments—not just some impeachments, not just those impeachments with which the majority party feels really happy about looking into, but all impeachments. It is the way it has always been in U.S. history.

When the House sends over Articles of Impeachment, if we have jurisdiction, which we clearly, plainly do here, it is our job to conduct a trial. What do I mean by that? Well, it is really a simple concept. In Articles of Impeachment, an accusation is made. Our job is to just decide whether that accusation is meritorious or not, whether the thing that has been accused is legitimate, whether the person who has been accused did the thing that was wrong—committed the high crime or misdemeanors spoken of in the Constitution.

We have a job to do, and it is a job that the Senate has always done when we have jurisdiction following the adoption of Articles of Impeachment.

Now, let's remember, this is a historic day. This hasn't happened very often. It is only the 22nd time in American history in which Articles of Impeachment have been adopted by the House. In this circumstance where we clearly, plainly have jurisdiction, there is no valid basis for us to do anything other than to decide whether the accusations are legitimate. We have to do that. We don't have the luxury of simply standing back and saying: Ah, we don't want to handle it.

Now, I know, I know, the Senate has found ways of shirking its responsibility over and over and over again in all of the operations of the Senate's work. Sometimes—most of the time, we sit as a legislative body, where we consider legislation. We pass law or decline to do so. Other times, we sit in an executive capacity, where we review Presidential nominations to consider them, whether we should confirm them, and also consider treaties. That is in an executive capacity. We also sometimes sit as a Court of Impeachment.

Now, in other areas, the Senate has found ways of shirking its responsibilities. We have handed off a whole lot of the lawmaking power to unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats in the executive branch. In our executive capacity, we have whittled down the number of executive branch nominees who are subject to Senate confirmation, even as

the total volume of those individuals has increased. Now it seems we are determined yet again to whittle down our responsibilities in the one area where we have an affirmative duty, an affirmative obligation, an affirmative command within the Constitution requiring us to make a decision.

In the immortal words of Rush, in one of my favorite Rush songs of all time, called "Freewill," if you choose not to decide, you still have made a choice. Yet that is what Senate Democrats are planning to ask us to do within 24 hours—ask us to not decide, ask us to take these accusations in these Articles of Impeachment duly passed by a majority of the House of Representatives, the body in the Congress that has the sole power to impeach—it is not just 218-plus random people who decided to make the accusations against Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, who heads the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. No. It is those particular 218-plus people in the House of Representatives who have that power.

You see, there is a reason why the impeachment power belongs exclusively to the House of Representatives. The House of Representatives is within the legislative branch—the branch of the Federal Government most accountable to the people at the most regular intervals. Within the Congress, within the legislative branch, they are the body most accountable to the people at the most regular intervals. That is why they call it the People's House. They are the only ones entrusted with this power.

A majority of them, of that 435-Member body, has concluded that Alejandro Mayorkas must be impeached. Now, they didn't do it for light and transient reasons. They didn't do it because of a policy disagreement. No. A majority of the House of Representatives has chosen to impeach Secretary Mayorkas for the reason that he has affirmatively defied the commands of Federal law—the laws in particular that he is charged with administering.

They have identified at least seven or eight different provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act, including section 235(b)(2)(A) and 235(b)(1)(B)(ii) and 236(c) and 236(a) and 212(d)(5)(A), just to mention a few of them.

These Articles of Impeachment outline a myriad of instances in which Secretary Mayorkas has been commanded decisively, unambiguously to detain illegal immigrants pending one action or another, pending one determination or another as to their eligibility either for immigration parole or for asylum or for something else. He is required to detain them, and he didn't detain them.

These are just a few examples of the many things that he has done in direct contravention to a direct command by the law. And it is not just that he didn't do the things that he was commanded to do; it is that he did the exact opposite of those things. He was commanded, for example, not to exercise his immigration parole authority

under 212(d)(5)(A). He is not allowed to do that categorically. He is allowed to do that only for discrete, individualized, particularized circumstances in which there is a profound, pronounced humanitarian or public need. Yet he issued all these categorical parole orders, creating categorical immigration parole programs allowing for literally hundreds of thousands of people a year to be brought into this country lawlessly, without documentation, without just cause to be brought into the United States. He made illegal immigrants legal by violating the affirmative command of the law.

It is not yet clear exactly what form the arguments presented by the Democrats tomorrow will take, but we do know this: Whether they call it a motion to dismiss or a motion to table, they want to not decide something that has to be decided, by order of the Constitution, by the Senate.

These accusations are real. They make a difference. They make a difference to the American people. These crimes—or I should say high crimes and misdemeanors—of which Secretary Mayorkas has been accused are not victimless crimes—far from it. These are offenses that have resulted in millions—on the low end, it is maybe 7 or 8 million; on the high end, it is more like 12, 13, or 14 million—of people who have come into this country unlawfully since January 20, 2021. The administration of Joe Biden has willfully, intentionally brought people into this country who aren't supposed to be here, who aren't allowed to be here. And it is not just the addition of those sheer numbers of people; it is the fact that among those people are many thousands of military-age Chinese males, many millions of military-age males from other countries, including hundreds of suspected terrorists, including thousands who come from countries that we pay close attention to because we know those countries are full of a lot of people who are bent on acts of lawlessness, violence, and terrorism against the United States of America.

This, of course, is just the beginning. This says nothing about the countless neighborhoods and schools and communities and jobs and lives that have been lost or violated or rendered unsafe or all of the above as a result of those who have been brought in not just with the acquiescence of but at the invitation of and with the assistance of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the very man whose job it is to protect us from those very things and who has very specific orders that he follows—orders that have been put into law by the Congress of the United States.

He is breaking the law over and over and over again specifically to allow for illegal immigration. So the Democrats are expected to come along tomorrow and say: Yeah, but we don't want to have to decide this. We don't want to have to decide it because, well, it is an election year, President Biden is on the ballot, and this is already an area

where he is not doing well. And we have other Members of this body, including, you know, a certain Senator from Montana, for example, or maybe a certain Senator from Ohio, for example, or a Senator from Pennsylvania, among others, who are going to be up for reelection.

Sure, they would rather not have to address this. I understand why they would rather be doing something else, anything else, other than this. They would rather reorganize their sock drawer. Some of them would probably much rather have a root canal or another painful procedure without anesthesia than focus on this. But, alas, the Constitution is agnostic as to your sock-reorganization days. The Constitution doesn't care how often you go to the dentist and whether you get a root canal with or without anesthesia. But, you know, the Constitution does care about one thing in particular and very relevant here today, and that is that the Senate is to try all impeachments.

This is an impeachment. We have to try it, particularly in the absence of the case being rendered moot by a vacancy in office or death or otherwise—circumstances that are noticeably absent here. We have the duty to do this.

What happens when we don't? What happens if they get their way and they choose either to table or to dismiss or use some other fancy word to try to avoid doing their job? What happens? Well, more deaths occur—deaths like the tragic passing of Laken Riley, who was taken from us just a few weeks ago as a result of Secretary Mayorkas's lawless conduct along the border. But for his lawless conduct and his cavalier treatment of the law—in fact, his defiant refusal to abide by the law and, in fact, his dogged determination to break the law—Laken Riley would have still been alive. Countless others who have undergone horrific events within their families—murders, rapes, sexual assaults, robberies, drunk driving—all kinds of horrific trauma that the American people have endured. Some of that is going to happen from people who live here already. We shouldn't add to that by bringing in others who shouldn't be here to begin with. This is exactly the kind of thing that our immigration laws are designed to protect against.

As one who spent 2 years living and working along our southern border—living and working among and with the poorest of the poor, including many immigrants themselves, recent immigrants, in many cases—I can tell you, there is no group of people who has more cause to fear uncontrolled waves of illegal immigration than recent immigrants themselves, including, and especially, the poor who live on or near a border. It is their jobs, it is their families, it is their schools, it is their neighborhoods, it is their homes that are most directly put in jeopardy every single time we fail or, in the case of Secretary Mayorkas, we adamantly

refuse to obey and enforce the law and we do everything that we can to undermine it as he has done.

There is no set of arguments I can imagine—I look forward to hearing what arguments might be had tomorrow, might be presented tomorrow—that could be presented with any kind of a straight face that could say we need not address the merits of this accusation—because there are none.

Perhaps, they will argue that this is an accusation amounting to mere maladministration—he didn't do a good job. That is not at all what we have here. Even if that is what we have here, that still wouldn't mean that they didn't have to try the case and come up with an answer as to whether or not he did what they said he did.

But the impeachment power goes back some, you know, two and a half centuries to the dawn of the Republic. Nearly two and a half centuries ago, when we became a country, we relied heavily on the legal systems—a tradition, in some cases—of the terminology used in England. And during the early years of the Republic, we had individuals who were familiar with our Constitution who were also familiar, having practiced in the law at the time of the Revolution and some cases before then—they knew the meaning of these words.

Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story is one of those individuals who lived, practiced, and wrote at and after the time of the American Revolution, during the early decades of our young Republic. And he explained that, among other things, an impeachment could be found, high crime and misdemeanor could be committed where, for instance, a lord admiral who was found to have neglected the safeguard of the sea. It is, perhaps, the most directly analogous comparison he makes to the Secretary of Homeland Security, that would be, you know, best described perhaps as a dereliction of duty, a failure to do one's job. If that—a lord admiral neglecting the safeguard of the sea—if that was a high crime and misdemeanor, it follows for sure—it is even more certain—that the Secretary of Homeland Security, having defied more than a half dozen direct commands of Federal law and done the exact opposite of those things, has also committed a high crime and misdemeanor.

Now, maybe some in this body disagree. Maybe some in this body believe that the facts are different than they have been alleged here. Well, that is what a trial is for. That is why we don't just take the word of the House of Representatives for it. We do our job over here. We have to review the accusation, and we have to review it against the backdrop of what arguments and evidence they present to us.

We will be sworn in tomorrow at 1 p.m. to be finders of fact and to be judges of law relevant to the impeachment accusation. If we decide not to decide, we still have made a choice. We

shouldn't do that here. Doing that here would be a dereliction of duty. Doing that here would be profoundly disrespectful to the hundreds of millions of Americans who elected us and, especially, to the families of those—like the family of Laken Riley and countless others—whose lives have been permanently and tragically disrupted by the lawlessness exhibited by Secretary Mayorkas.

We must do our job. We must hold a trial. That trial must culminate in a finding of guilt or innocence. The Constitution and our commitment to it requires nothing less.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The Senator from Ohio.

TRIBUTE TO D. TAYLOR

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise early this evening to recognize D. Taylor, a fierce labor advocate, a key partner in our fight for workers in this country, a friend who retired from his role as President of UNITE HERE earlier this month. Everything D. has done—and I have watched him closely; I have worked closely with him. Everything D. has done over the course of his career comes back to the dignity of work, the idea that hard work should pay off for everyone, whether you punch a clock, whether you swipe a badge, whether you work in an office, whether you work for tips, whether you are raising children, or whether you are caring for an aging parent.

The dignity of work has guided D. Taylor through his whole career as he fought to unionize industries that have long been overlooked with workers who have long been underpaid and ignored.

For the past 12 years, D. served as President of UNITE HERE, a union that represents workers across the hospitality industry. Its members work in airports, in food service, in hotels. They make textiles; they serve on Amtrak trains; they cross the Nation.

It is not a coincidence we have seen momentum in the labor movement while D. has been at the helm of UNITE HERE. So often, where we have seen unprecedented union growth, D. and his members have been on the frontlines organizing, invigorating, calling for change. This generation—this youngest generation now—is quantifiably, certainly, the most pro-labor generation of our lifetimes.

Under D., UNITE HERE has become one of the fastest growing trade unions in the country. Despite a pandemic that devastated workers in hospitality, D. has actually expanded UNITE HERE. He focused on southern States and right-to-work States—much harder States to organize than the Presiding Officer's State of Maine or mine in Ohio—not that it is easy in those States with Federal law but even harder in those southern States.

Workers, traditionally, haven't had a seat at the table. During his time as president, D. oversaw the union's organizing of 140,000 service and hospitality workers in over 1,000 workplaces across

the country. Because of D. and UNITE HERE, these workers now have a union card. That means higher pay; it means better benefits; it means safer workplaces; and it means something that many don't think about: It means more control over your schedule.

I remember being in Nevada at the Culinary Workers Union Local 226, which D. built into a powerhouse. That union is an inspiration for workers everywhere. They had a massive banner on the wall that said "One job should be enough"; that workers should not have to have two and three jobs to support their families.

"One job should be enough."

I remember—this wasn't directly about D., but I will never forget this discussion I had in Cincinnati. I was at an AFL-CIO dinner. There were a number of people—probably 300 people there. And there was one table where there were four or five middle-aged women. I sat down—they had an empty seat and said: Join us. And I sat down at the table and said: Tell me your story.

They said: We just organized custodial workers. We had our first contract—1,200 custodial workers negotiating with the downtown business owners in Cincinnati. They said: We signed our first contract.

I said: What does that mean to you?

A woman said: I am 51 years old. It is the first time I have a paid one-week vacation.

Those are the workers so often that D. Taylor organizes—workers who are generally low-paid, workers sometimes without healthcare, workers often without vacations, workers that have no say over their schedule. Those are the people that D. worked with. D. always said: One job should be enough. That is what he fought for.

He first got involved as a college student while working in a local restaurant. He joined the union. He eventually became the shop steward for that local. After graduation, he moved to Nevada to work on a UNITE HERE strike. He quietly moved up through the ranks, eventually leading the union in a 7-year—the famous 7-year Frontier Casino strike, one of the longest successful strikes in labor history. D. became a key player in negotiations with some of the largest casinos on the strip.

He became an institution at UNITE HERE. As a head of the Culinary Union, he built a coalition of service workers. He showed the country there is no reason a service job can't be a good job where you are respected, make good wages, and build a career.

As Gaming Division Director, he led casino workers across the country to victory, organizing new members and leading new strikes. He went on to be the general vice president of UNITE HERE before being elected as union president.

All along the way, he became known for that constant refrain: "One job should be enough." Let me say that

one more time: One job should be enough. For everybody in this institution, that is kind of the way it is. But for far too many low-paid workers, they have to work a second job or third job to pay the rent, to support their kids, to just get along every day.

He has fought to make that rally cry a reality by transforming standards for work in hospitality and services. It has meant securing higher pay. It has meant fighting for contracts with affordable, quality healthcare that workers have access to and can navigate their way through. It has meant standing up to layoffs. It has meant helping tens of thousands of workers get their jobs. Because of D., workers across the country are in better jobs with better pay and better benefits.

I have had the privilege of working with D. on many issues, including fighting for the Senate's dining workers. Believe it or not, the people who served us in this institution were making very suboptimal wages—some, barely enough. One man I met when I was involved in this actually lived and worked here all day and lived and worked at a homeless shelter all night. Imagine that.

One job should be enough.

They served the Senate during a pandemic, during a violent insurrection. Every day, they fed Senators and staff and tourists from Ohio and Maine and all over the country. Yet fewer than one in five of them, at that time, could afford the health insurance plan that was offered to them.

Together, we fought to make sure the new contract honors the dignity of work with the pay and the benefits and the respect that Senate dining workers deserve and have earned—that all workers deserve and have earned. It wouldn't have happened without D., without UNITE HERE, without the Senate dining workers who used their voices and their collective power to secure a better contract. That is just one example.

In every role, at every opportunity, D. has fought to turn jobs that traditionally have come with low pay and minimal benefits into careers where people can build a life and see a future—simply the dignity of work, where their work has dignity. For that, we are grateful for D.'s tenacity, for his advocacy. And for his leadership, we are grateful.

In retirement, D., of course, will keep fighting for workers as chair of UNITE HERE Health, and he will support the union and gaming industry. He will never fully retire.

I look forward to working with his successor, Gwen Mills, the current secretary treasurer of UNITE HERE, the first-ever woman president in this union's history to be elected to an international union; the first-ever woman in this union's history to ever be elected international union president in a union that has a huge number of women, as you know.

If you love this country, you fight for the people who make it work. That is

exactly what D. has done his whole life. It is what UNITE HERE has done. It is what I will continue to work with my colleagues to do in this body.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

ISRAEL

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, it has been just 6 months and a week since October 7. The whole world was shaken as a flood, as they actually called it, an Al-Aqsa flood of Hamas terrorists came through the wall separating Gaza and Israel in multiple places, and over the next several hours, they murdered 1,200 Israelis. They took 253 hostage, including 133 who are still hostage still today—6 months and a week.

Last week—now, I guess, 9 days ago—I was in Israel. I spent time with Israelis to meet with multiple different leaders and get a chance just to be able to talk to different folks in different parts of the country to see what is going on, on the ground.

This is a painful moment for the entire world but definitely a painful moment for Israel and for the entire region. We think back just 7 months ago and all the conversation was normalization between Saudi Arabia and Israel. And then a group of Hamas terrorists stepped in and killed as many people as they possibly could in an effort to also kill that normalization that is happening around the entire region, to do whatever they could to be able to drive a wedge, and so that peace could not continue to advance in the region.

What has happened since then has been painful for the entire world to watch, but it has been really painful for the people in that region more than anyone else.

I traveled to the far southern tip of Israel, along the border with Egypt, to be able to meet with some of the folks who are in that area, to be able to talk about the relationship between Egypt and Israel and what is happening day to day. I traveled to the kibbutzes that literally are right on the border with Gaza that are now vacant and empty and devastated.

I can't even begin to explain to this body, unless you have seen it before, the pain of walking through a large kibbutz where there were hundreds of people who lived just a few months ago and now to see every building shot up with bullet holes, burned, destroyed, and think at 6:38 that morning, during a Jewish holiday, on that Saturday morning, October 7, many people were still asleep when a group of Hamas terrorists came into their homes and murdered many in that village and took many hostages from that kibbutz.

We could literally walk by the doors, and the person who was walking with us could say: That family died, that family is a hostage, that family died, and go door-to-door as we walked around to be able to see it.

The person who was walking us through could even walk us through

his own home, which was obliterated, and his son's home right there who died, and then he could point to Gaza and say: My other son is over there in Gaza right now.

At the same time, flowers were blooming and the grounds were beautiful and you realize the irony of this moment. Hostages being held in Gaza, families who are struggling every single day trying to make sense of this craziness and trying to figure out why a peaceful kibbutz, living their lives, farming, manufacturing, was overrun by a group of terrorists.

Right up the road we stopped by the Nova festival site, which is an absolutely beautiful location for outdoor concerts, for venues, for gathering, and has been for years. The trees and the setting, it is just beautiful. But the day that we were there, there were echoing noises of artillery that was being fired off literally within hundreds of yards of us as we were meeting with some of the folks who survived the Nova festival.

One person in particular whom we got a chance to be able to chat with and to be able to pick her brain about the "what happens next" was in one of the bomb shelters because there was a launch of missiles coming at them, but then those bomb shelters became places where literally they were sitting ducks for the terrorists as they came in with gunfire.

We traveled all the way to the north, had the opportunity to be able to visit with some of the mayors who are right along the border with Syria and with Lebanon, where whole towns are evacuated, whole towns where people can't survive the onslaught of artillery coming at them constantly.

We lose track of the fact that there are about a quarter million Israelis right now who are internally displaced as well, who live along the border with Gaza or live along the border with Lebanon or Syria. Those folks have also had to flee because while the world in the last several days has talked about 330 drone strikes, missile strikes, ballistics and cruise missiles that have come from Iran directly, for some reason, the world has lost track of the fact, not about the 330 bombs and missiles that have come at Israel in the last week, but the 12,000 rockets that have been fired at Israel since October 7—12,000.

Mr. President, 9,100 of those rockets have come in from Gaza launching at civilians in Israel; 3,100 of those rockets have been launched from Lebanon, from Hezbollah, into the north of Israel; and 35 rockets have been fired from Syria at Israel.

And I asked people: How many rockets would be fired at your house before you would respond in a way to be able to make it stop? Israel has had 12,000 fired at them since October 7. The United States has never ever put up with that without responding in a forceful way to say we are going to make it stop.

There has been a lot of conversation about Rafah, so I had a lot of conversa-

tions with Israeli leadership to be able to talk to them about the plan and what they are going to do.

You see there are Hamas brigades. Now, when we think about terrorism, often it is just random terrorists who are gathering. But Hamas actually has a military structure with brigades that they have actually put together of fighting brigades. Most of those brigades have been broken up. The remaining brigades of Hamas terrorists are all living underground at Rafah.

And while we need to do everything we can—and I had great conversations with Israelis about everything that they are doing to protect civilians and protect civilian lives that have nothing to do with this onslaught of terrorism, they are also keenly aware that the people who are living underground in Rafah are making public statements on social media that as soon as this war is over, they are coming again to do another October 7. And the Israelis are being very, very clear: We are not going to allow that to happen. We are not going to allow our Israeli citizens to be slaughtered in their beds early on a Saturday morning again.

So they are doing everything they can to be able to prepare for that moment, to be able to stop the group of terrorists who are living underground. It is interesting to me when I think about the Hamas terrorist organization. In the United States, our military trains and prepares itself to get between violence and civilians. Hamas does the opposite. Hamas actually trains and equips to put civilians between its military and violence.

They put the civilians on the top layer while the safe shelters underground are occupied by the terrorist armies. It is stunning to me just the mental difference between the two and how jarring that that really is.

Interesting conversations I had with some of the Israeli leadership, as well, just to be able to chat with them, to say: You can't eliminate Hamas by trying to be able to attack them over and over again to be able to eliminate all people who think like Hamas and who are actually a part of Hamas.

And their response was interesting to me. Their response was that we fully understand we are not going to obliterate everyone who is in Hamas. We want to stop the threat that is coming at us, but we understand that there will be members of Hamas in the future who will still think that way. And their response to me was there are still Nazis in the world right now. There are still people who claim to be a Nazi or a neo-Nazi right now, but the difference is, they don't run Germany. And their first goal was that we want to end Hamas's rule, a terrorist organization having the capacity to run the entity right next door to us.

We understand that there will still be people who think like that, but we want to show them there is a better way. And we still want to be able to have peace with our neighbors.

You see, this connection between Hezbollah and Syria and Hamas is Iran's plan and has been for a long time to build what they are calling a ring of fire around Israel. It was their way of protecting themselves—for the Iranian regime—that if they made it so violent around Israel, Israel would never actually attack Iran. That was their plan.

What is interesting was Israel has been working to be able to build a ring of ice around Iran. That is the Abraham Accords. As Iran is trying to make the region more violent, Israel is trying to make the region more peaceful. It is stark when it is side by side, isn't it? Israel is working to build relationships and has with UAE and with Bahrain.

They have had longstanding relationships with Jordan and with Egypt. They are working in their relationship with Saudi Arabia as they have even added Morocco into the Abraham Accords.

They are building a ring of ice into the region to bring the temperature down in a violent, hostile area, and for the folks who are in Hamas, they hate the thought of that because they don't want normalization; they want violence and control. And as they scream, "from the river to the sea," they mean the death of every Israeli, and, quite frankly, every Jew worldwide. And they have been clear about that.

Now, what do we need to do as Americans? I think we need to be attentive in several areas. One is, Russia has formed an alliance with Iran. Many of the weapon systems that are being shot right now at Ukrainians are actually Iranian weapon systems, and we should not ignore that. This alliance between Russia and Iran continues to grow. In just the past several years, Russia has dramatically increased its number of military bases in Syria.

They have now gone over 100 there, and there are 103 bases now in Syria that are Russian active bases. We should pay attention to that.

For Iran, we have seen clearly what they are doing, how they continue to attack. Again, there is this focus on 330 drones, cruise missiles, and ballistic missiles that were fired at Israel just this past week. What people may not be tracking is what continues to happen from Lebanon, with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah continuing to attack Israel.

Just in the past 24 hours, Hezbollah has attacked northern Israeli communities and cities six times in the last 24 hours. But, of course, no media is covering that. But if you are in one of the communities that is now vacant in northern Israel—and that they fled and they are living in hotels or with relatives or fled to some other location from northern Israel—they are keenly aware of what continues to happen there.

We have got to deal with the continued threat and awakening from Russia, but we have got to also think seriously about what is happening with the re-

gime in Iran. We, as a nation, have tried to pacify Iran. We tried to isolate them diplomatically.

Now, I don't call for a military attack on Iran. No one wants violence and war. We are not interested in our sons and daughters being involved in another conflict. But to think that Iran is going to suddenly be peaceful, when their regime is intent on trying to destroy Israel at the time, should awaken all of us to the reality of where Iran really is.

It was also good to be able to see, when 330 projectiles were coming at Israel this week, that the Americans stood by their side. They shot down a lot of those. The Israelis obviously shot down the majority of them. But the British also were engaged in shooting those down. We had French that were engaged. But also the Jordanians were engaged. The Saudis were engaged. The region is pushing back on a violent Iran that is intent on making the region worse and more unstable, not better.

Iran has used the vacuum of what has happened in Syria to move in their radicalism across Syria, and they continue to make it a more and more toxic place in Syria and in Iraq.

We, as the United States, should turn up our sanctions even more. We, as the United States, should isolate Iran even more. We, as the United States, should use every leverage that we have to isolate not only their economy but to be able to be focused in on that regime, because, quite frankly, that regime is oppressing its own people.

Our problem, as a nation, is not the Iranian people. They are living under the oppression of the Iranian regime as well. It is the regime that is there. And while some Members of this body have called for a change in leadership in Israel, I would call for a change in leadership in Iran, because that is really the problem in the region.

And we should find ways to be able to apply as much pressure as we can on that regime and to be able to message to the people of Iran, as often as we possibly can: We see you in the oppression that you live under every single day, and we wish better for you—for well-educated young men and women who live under the oppressive thumb of that leadership.

Something else we can do as the United States is to stop allowing our soil to be the place where the Iranian regime can spew their hatred. This Thursday, the Iranian Foreign Minister is flying to the United States to be able to speak to a group of people at the U.N., and our administration has given him a visa.

I have called on Secretary Blinken to say, literally: This is one of the Iranian leaders who is a leading voice in the IRGC, who is a leading voice in the attack, in the preparation for October 7, who is a leading voice of hatred toward the United States and the West and our ally Israel. We should not extend a visa while Iran is attacking actively from

their soil and from all of their proxies. We should not extend a visa to the Iranian Foreign Minister to come stand on our soil, in our country, and spew his hatred. If he wants to do that internationally, he can.

Now, I understand the U.N. is a body and a place where we have allowed voices from all over the world to come speak. But do you know what? There was a moment when President Obama denied a visa to Iranian leaders because of where they were. There was a moment when President Trump also denied some visas to some of the Iranian leaders because of what they were actively doing.

This is a moment when President Biden and Secretary Blinken should tell the Iranian Foreign Minister: Not this week, not right now, not at all.

When you are attacking our friends, we should not loan them bits of our soil to do it from our territory. We should make it clear that the Iranian leadership that oppresses its own people and attacks our allies—and, by the way, uses their proxies to murder Americans who are also serving in the region—we should make it very clear: We will not allow that on our soil.

I made it clear when I was in Israel that the people of the United States see the people of Israel. We understand what they are living under. And, as a nation that has faced terrorism in our Nation, we understand the emotion that they have at this point, and we understand their tenacity.

We, as the United States, should be very clear: We have an ally, and it is Israel. We are going to walk with her. We are going to help Israel in every way that we can because she has been attacked and is in the middle of the war.

And when you walk through the streets of Tel Aviv or Jerusalem, you feel it. Just like when you are walking through the streets along the border with Gaza and Lebanon and Syria, you feel it. They are ready for peace. And Israel is actively building a ring of ice in the region to bring down the temperature of the region to push back directly on Iran's ring of fire.

We, as a Nation, should be clear on which one we support—those who are bringing peace or those who are bringing violence and hatred? We should make that continually clear and continue to be able to act on it diplomatically and, when we need to, to protect our allies in every way we can, like we did this week with Israel.

Let's pray for the peace of Jerusalem, but let's also stand by her.

With that, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. LANKFORD. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. WARNOCK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 645 and S. Res. 646.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. WARNOCK. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. WARNOCK. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

ISRAEL

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, as most everybody knows, Iran recently launched several hundred drones and missiles at Israel. Fortunately, there were no fatalities. This attack was Iran's response to an Israeli airstrike on their consulate in Damascus, Syria, on April 1—an attack which killed seven Iranian officials. I applaud President Biden for doing what he can to make sure that this conflict does not get out of hand, does not escalate, and does not create what would be a disastrous regional war.

But while we pay attention to this developing Israeli-Iran crisis, I hope very much that we will not lose sight of the unprecedented humanitarian disaster now taking place in Gaza. We must not lose sight of that disaster.

As I am sure all Americans know, the war in Gaza began on October 7, when Hamas, a terrorist organization, invaded Israel, killed some 1,200 innocent men, women, and children, and took over 230 people into captivity, many of whom are still being held.

It has always been my view that Israel had a right to defend itself, respond to this attack, and to go after Hamas. It is also my view that Israel does not have the right to go to war against the entire Palestinian people, which is exactly what the Netanyahu government is doing.

Let us take a deep breath and understand that what is happening right now in Gaza is horrendous, it is inhumane, and it is in gross violation of American and international law. It is driven by extreme, rightwing Israeli Government officials and a government which is increasingly dominated by religious fundamentalists. That is who is driving this humanitarian disaster in Gaza.

What should be most troubling to the American people is that we as Americans are complicit because it is U.S. taxpayer dollars that have helped create this unprecedented humanitarian disaster.

Let me briefly describe what is going on in Gaza because it is so easy, in a world full of problems—the media focuses on this, focuses on that. Congress focuses on this and that. It is so easy to turn away from the tragedy in Gaza, but we must not do that.

There are about 2.2 million people living in Gaza—2.2 million—mostly poor and struggling people. Before the war—before the war—Gaza was a very poor and desperate area. Let us not forget the important fact that before the war, some 70 percent of young people in Gaza were unemployed. That was before the war.

Since this war began, over 33,000 Palestinians have been killed and 77,000 wounded. Unbelievably, 5 percent—5 percent—of the residents of Gaza have been either killed or wounded in a 6-month period—5 percent of their entire population. Two-thirds of those who have been killed or wounded are women and children.

Since the war began, 1.7 million people—over 75 percent of the population of Gaza—have been driven from their homes. Let me repeat it. Three-quarters of the population have been driven out of their homes. These people—poor, and many of them are children—do not know whether they will ever return; pushed out, not knowing where they are going to go, where they are going to sleep—three-quarters of the people of Gaza.

Over 60 percent—60 percent—of the housing units in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed. This housing destruction is unprecedented in the modern history of the world—60 percent of housing units damaged or destroyed.

But it is not just housing. Israel has systematically destroyed the healthcare system in Gaza. Gaza had 36 hospitals before the war. Now just 11 are partially operational despite the tens of thousands of injuries and hundreds of thousands of ill people. Persistent attacks on healthcare facilities have killed more than 1,200 workers.

I have spoken with several American doctors who have returned from missions to Gaza. They tell of operating for hours on end in crowded hospitals with little electricity or clean water or medical supplies. They have had to perform surgeries—including on children—with no anesthesia. They have to try to sterilize and reuse medical gauze. Thousands of women have had to give birth in these inhumane and dangerous conditions, and healthcare workers report a major increase in miscarriages. It is a healthcare nightmare.

But it is not just housing and the healthcare system that are being destroyed by the Netanyahu government; it is the physical civilian infrastructure in Gaza as well. More than half of the water and sanitation systems have

been put out of commission. Only one of three water pipelines is operating. Clean drinking water is severely limited. Sewage, raw sewage, is running through the streets of Gaza, spreading disease. As we speak tonight, there is virtually no electricity in Gaza.

But it is not just housing and healthcare and infrastructure that are being destroyed. There are 12 universities in Gaza—12 universities. Unbelievably, each and every one of them has been either damaged or destroyed—universities. In addition, primary and secondary schools have also been completely disrupted. Over 600,000 children have no access to education.

As horrible as all of this is, there is something happening now that is even worse, and that is what these photographs speak to. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian children face starvation. The people of Gaza are struggling to survive from day to day, foraging for leaves, eating animal feed, or splitting the occasional aid packages amongst their family. Even in Rafah, where aid is consistently distributed, people are desperately short of basic supplies, including food and water. In the north, the situation is far more desperate. At least 28 children have died of malnutrition and dehydration already—28 children—but the real toll is likely much, much higher.

Without food and clean water, with sanitation systems destroyed, and with little healthcare available, hundreds of thousands of people in Gaza are at severe risk of dehydration, infection, and easily preventable diseases.

Let me repeat once again. As we speak, hundreds of thousands of children are at risk of terrible deaths.

Let us be very clear. The conditions that the people in Gaza are experiencing today are the direct result of Israel's arbitrary restrictions on the aid getting into Gaza. This is not a matter of debate; it is an obvious reality that numerous—numerous—humanitarian organizations have repeatedly confirmed.

Israeli leaders themselves admit it. At the start of this war, the Israeli Defense Minister declared a total siege, saying:

We are fighting human animals, and we are acting accordingly. . . . There will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is closed.

In January, Prime Minister Netanyahu said openly that Israel is only allowing in the absolute minimum amount of aid necessary.

Tragically, the Israeli Government has lived up to those words. For months, thousands of trucks carrying lifesaving supplies have sat just miles away from starving children, prevented from reaching their destination by unreasonable Israeli restrictions and a military campaign conducted with little regard for civilian life. Trucks with food a few miles away from children who are starving—Israel is stopping those trucks.

The world saw evidence of that several weeks ago when seven aid workers

with World Central Kitchen were killed in an Israeli airstrike. But such attacks have been frequent, and Israel has killed more than 200 humanitarian aid workers in 6 months—not just the World Central Kitchen; 200 humanitarian aid workers since this war began.

Israel's blockade of humanitarian aid pushed the United States and the international community to extreme measures, including airdropping supplies and the construction of a port, in order to get food to starving people. That was our appropriate response.

Blocking desperately needed U.S. humanitarian aid is obscene, and it is unacceptable. It is also a violation of American law. The Foreign Assistance Act is extremely clear: No U.S. assistance may be provided to any country that "prohibits or otherwise restricts, directly or indirectly, the transport or delivery of United States humanitarian assistance." That is precisely what Israel is doing, and Israel is clearly in violation of the law.

Following a tense, as I understand it, call between President Biden and Prime Minister Netanyahu 2 weeks ago, Israel committed to a number of steps to improve humanitarian conditions and aid access. These commitments include opening additional border crossings, increasing the number of trucks cleared for entry into Gaza, improving aid distribution within Gaza, and reopening some bakeries and a water pipeline to supply northern Gaza.

Two weeks later, where are we? Well, there has been a slight improvement in the volume of aid getting into Gaza. Since the beginning of April, an average of 181 aid trucks have crossed into Gaza per day. This is marginally higher than was the case over the last several months but far fewer than the 500 trucks per day that went into Gaza before the war and before the devastation of civilian life there.

Unbelievably, Israel continues to block many aid convoys from reaching those areas in Gaza that are most desperate. This morning, I spoke with a humanitarian aid worker who was in Gaza just last week, and he reported to me that humanitarian organizations continue—continue—to face arbitrary Israeli restrictions.

Since the U.N. warned of imminent famine in early February, more than 40 percent of all food missions have been denied. Children are starving. More than 40 percent of food missions have been denied. Last week again, the U.N. reported that 40 percent of aid convoys to north Gaza were denied access.

Israel's violations of international law are not limited to Gaza. They are also breaking the law in the West Bank. Over the weekend, in response to the tragic death of an Israeli teenager, large groups of armed Israeli settlers rampaged through 17 Palestinian villages over 3 days. These vigilantes shot dozens of people, killing four, and burned numerous homes. Videos taken

by human rights groups show Israeli soldiers watching attacks unfold and doing nothing to stop them. To the best of my knowledge, no arrests have been announced as a result of these attacks.

While this was a particularly violent weekend, this is a daily occurrence for Palestinians in the occupied West Bank. Israeli soldiers and settlers have now killed more than 460 Palestinians in the West Bank since October 7, including more than 100 children. That is the West Bank.

What Israel is doing today in Gaza and the West Bank is a defining moment for Americans because we are deeply complicit in everything that is happening. This is not some far-off situation that we have nothing to do with. We are directly complicit. Now, the U.S. military is not dropping 2,000-pound bombs on civilian apartment buildings. That is not what the U.S. military is doing. But we are supplying those bombs to the Israeli Air Force. The United States is not blocking the borders and preventing food, water, and medical supplies from getting to desperate people. That is not what we are doing. But we have supplied billions of dollars to the Netanyahu government, which is doing just that. The United States is not annexing occupied Palestinian land, but it is providing political protection for the Israeli Government as it does so.

Despite the massive financial and military support the United States has provided to Israel for many years, the rightwing, extremist government of Netanyahu has ignored increasingly urgent calls from the United States to end the humanitarian disaster in Gaza, to stop settlement expansion in the West Bank, and to lay out initial steps toward a two-state solution.

Members of Congress may not know it. We live in a somewhat different world. But the American people have had enough. The American people are increasingly fed up with Netanyahu's war against Palestinians, and they do not want to see their taxpayer dollars spent to support the slaughter of innocent civilians and the starvation of children. That is not BERNIE SANDERS speaking. That is what the American people are saying. A recent Gallup poll showed that just 36 percent of Americans approve of Israel's military action, with 55 percent disapproving. A Quinnipiac poll showed that U.S. voters oppose sending more military aid to Israel by 52 percent to 39 percent. An earlier YouGov poll also showed that 52 percent of Americans said that the United States should halt weapons shipments to Israel until it stops its attacks in Gaza.

That is what the American people are saying. And maybe, just maybe, the Congress might want to listen to the American people rather than powerful special interests.

The New York Times is what I would describe as a pillar of the establishment. This is not a fringe organization.

This is the establishment. And the New York Times, just this Sunday, had an editorial entitled "Military Aid to Israel Cannot Be Unconditional." I would like to read a few paragraphs and then ask unanimous consent that the whole editorial be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the New York Times, Apr. 13, 2024]

MILITARY AID TO ISRAEL CANNOT BE UNCONDITIONAL

(By the Editorial Board)

The suffering of civilians in Gaza—tens of thousands dead, many of them children; hundreds of thousands homeless, many at risk of starvation—has become more than a growing number of Americans can abide. And yet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel and his ultranationalist allies in government have defied American calls for more restraint and humanitarian help.

The United States commitment to Israel—including \$3.8 billion a year in military aid, the largest outlay of American foreign aid to any one country in the world—is a reflection of the exceptionally close and enduring relationship between the two countries. A bond of trust, however, must prevail between donors and recipients of lethal arms from the United States, which supplies arms according to formal conditions that reflect American values and the obligations of international law.

Mr. Netanyahu and the hard-liners in his government have broken that bond, and until it is restored, America cannot continue, as it has, to supply Israel with the arms it has been using in its war against Hamas.

The question is not whether Israel has the right to defend itself against an enemy sworn to its destruction. It does. The Hamas attack of Oct. 7 was an atrocity no nation could leave unanswered, and by hiding behind civilian fronts, Hamas violates international law and bears a major share of responsibility for the suffering inflicted on the people in whose name it purports to act. In the immediate aftermath of that attack, President Biden rushed to demonstrate America's full sympathy and support in Israel's agony. That was the right thing to do.

It is also not a question whether the United States should continue to help Israel defend itself. America's commitments to Israel's defense are long term, substantial, mutually beneficial and essential. No president or Congress should deny the only state on earth with a Jewish majority the means to ensure its survival. Nor should Americans ever lose sight of the threat that Hamas, a terrorist organization, poses to the security of the region and to any hope of peace between Palestinians and Israelis.

But that does not mean the president should allow Mr. Netanyahu to keep playing his cynical double games. The Israeli leader is fighting for his political survival against growing anger from his electorate. He knows that, should he leave office, he will risk going on trial for serious charges of corruption. He has, until recently, resisted diplomatic efforts for a cease-fire that might have led to a release of hostages still in the custody of Hamas. He has used American armaments to go after Hamas but has been deaf to repeated demands from Mr. Biden and his national security team to do more to protect civilians in Gaza from being harmed by those armaments. Even worse, Mr. Netanyahu has turned defiance of America's leadership into a political tool, indulging and encouraging

the hard-liners in his cabinet, who pledge to reoccupy Gaza and reject any notion of a Palestinian state—exactly the opposite of U.S. policy.

Thanks in part to the bombs and other heavy weapons supplied by the United States, the Israel military now faces little armed resistance in most of Gaza. But Mr. Netanyahu has ignored his obligations to provide food and medicine to the civilian population in the territory that Israel now controls. In fact, Israel has made it difficult for anyone else to provide humanitarian aid to Gaza. The United States has had to take extraordinary steps, including airdrops and building a pier, to overcome Israeli obstacles to providing humanitarian aid. Last week's attack on a World Central Kitchen convoy in Gaza, which killed seven aid workers and which Israel acknowledged was a mistake, underscores the enormous danger facing the international aid agencies that are stepping in to help.

This cannot continue.

Israel recently announce a pullback of troops from southern Gaza. But this is neither a formal cease-fire nor end to the war, and it is incumbent on the Biden administration to persevere in its efforts to help end the fighting, free the hostages and protect Palestinian civilians.

A growing number of senators, led by Chris Van Hollen, Democrat of Maryland, have been urging Mr. Biden to consider pausing military transfers to Israel, which the executive branch can do without congressional approval. They were right to push for this action.

Last week, Representative Nancy Pelosi was among 40 House Democrats to sign a letter to the president and the secretary of state urging them to ensure that military assistance to Israel is in compliance with U.S. and international law. The mechanism to do that is already in place. In February, Mr. Biden signed a national security memorandum (NSM-20) that directed the secretary of state to obtain "credible and reliable" written assurances from recipients of American weapons that those weapons would be used in accordance with international law and that recipients would not impede the delivery of American assistance. Failure to fulfill those measures could lead to suspension of further arms transfers.

NSM-20 did not break ground. Many of its requirements are already law under the Foreign Assistance Act and other measures, and they apply to armaments supplied to other countries, including Ukraine. NSM-20 specifically excludes air defense systems and others used for strictly defensive purposes, but that still leaves many offensive weapons whose delivery the United States could pause. But NSM-20 is notable. It affirms the president's authority to use military aid as a lever in ensuring the nation's weapons are used responsibly.

The administration has tried many forms of pressure and admonition, including public statements, reported expressions of frustration and U.N. Security Council resolutions. None of them, so far, have proved effective with Mr. Netanyahu. Military aid is the one lever Mr. Biden has been reluctant to use, but it is a significant one he has at his disposal—perhaps the last one—to persuade Israel to open the way for urgent assistance to Gaza.

Pausing the flow of weapons to Israel would not be an easy step for Mr. Biden to take; his devotion and commitment to the Jewish state go back decades. But the war in Gaza has taken an enormous toll in human lives, with a cease-fire still out of reach and many hostages still held captive. The eroding international support for its military campaign has made Israel more insecure.

Confronted with that suffering, the United States cannot remain beholden to an Israeli leader fixated on his own survival and the approval of the zealots he harbors.

The United States has had Israel's back, diplomatically and militarily, through decades of wars and crises. Alliances are not one-way relationships, and most Israelis, including Israel's senior military commanders, are aware of that. Yet Mr. Netanyahu has turned his back on America and its entreaties, creating a crisis in U.S.-Israeli relations when Israel's security, and the stability of the entire region, is at stake.

Mr. SANDERS. This is what the New York Times says:

The administration—

Biden administration—

has tried many forms of pressure and admonition, including public statements, reported expressions of frustration and U.N. Security Council resolutions. None of them, so far, have proved effective with Mr. Netanyahu. Military aid is the one lever Mr. Biden has been reluctant to use, but it is a significant one he has at his disposal—perhaps the last one—to persuade Israel to open the way for urgent assistance to Gaza.

Pausing the flow of weapons to Israel would not be an easy step for Mr. Biden to take; his devotion and commitment to the Jewish state go back decades. But the war in Gaza has taken an enormous toll in human lives, with a cease-fire still out of reach and many hostages still held captive. The eroding international support for its military campaign has made Israel more insecure. Confronted with that suffering, the United States cannot remain beholden to an Israeli leader fixated on his own survival and the approval of the zealots he harbors.

New York Times, last Sunday.

Mr. President, the United States has offered Israel unconditional financial support for a very, very long time. In recent years, that has amounted to \$3.8 billion a year, with numerous additional forms of support. Right now, against my vote, Congress is considering another \$14 billion in military aid for Israel, \$10 billion of which is completely unrestricted military funding.

That unconditional support for the Israeli military must end. Instead of begging Netanyahu's extremist government to protect innocent lives and obey U.S. and international law, our new position must be simple and straightforward: Not another nickel for the Netanyahu government if their present policies continue.

The United States must use all of its leverage to secure an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and across the region and demand that the massive amount of humanitarian assistance that is needed to prevent famine and widespread humanitarian suffering is able to flow into Gaza.

Mr. President, history will judge what we do right now. History will judge whether we stand with starving children, whether we uphold America's professed values, or whether we continue to blindly finance the Netanyahu war machine.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATIONS

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

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

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Washington, DC.

Hon. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 24-04, concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Iraq for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$140 million. We will issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale upon delivery of this letter to your office.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. HURSCH,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 24-04

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

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Iraq.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$0.
Other \$140 million.
Total \$140 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) and training in support of its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft fleet.

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): None.

Non-MDE: Included is advising, technical, and proficiency training for Iraqi maintainers and aircrews; CLS; spare and repair parts, components, accessories, and repair and return support; minor modifications and upgrades; subscription services; overhaul and depot level maintenance and maintenance support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (IQ-D-QCK, IQ-D-TLV).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: IQ-D-QCH.

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

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

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: April 15, 2024.

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

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Iraq—C-172 arid AC/RC-208 Aircraft Contractor Logistics Support and Training

The Government of Iraq has requested to buy Contractor Logistics Support (CLS) and training in support of its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft fleet. Included is advising, technical, and proficiency training for Iraqi maintainers and aircrews; CLS; spare and repair parts, components, accessories, and repair and return support; minor modifications and upgrades; subscription services; overhaul and depot level maintenance and maintenance support; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical, and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated total cost is \$140 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a strategic partner.

The proposed sale will improve Iraq's capability to meet current and future threats by helping to sustain its C-172 and AC/RC-208 aircraft and contribute to Iraq's self-sufficiency in maintaining its fleet. Iraq will have no difficulty absorbing these articles and services into its armed forces.

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

The principal contractor will be Northrop Grumman Corporation, of Falls Church, VA. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of any additional U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Iraq.

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was absent on Monday, April 15, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 126. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on the motion to invoke cloture on Executive Calendar No. 478 Ramona Villagomez Manglona, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be a U.S. District Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years, rollcall vote No. 126, PN1252.

RECOGNIZING THE 116TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY RESERVE

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the founding of the U.S. Army Reserve. On April 23, the Army Reserve will celebrate 116 years of service by our citizen soldiers who stand ready to answer the call to serve, bringing critical skills and capabilities to the Nation, while defending America's freedoms and liberties.

Across the United States of America, brave and dedicated men and women

with great passion for service answer the call, no matter the personal sacrifice, to come together and make up the U.S. Army Reserve. Over the course of its long and storied history, our Reserve force has utilized a diverse set of professional skills, educational backgrounds, and experiences to honor and serve our great country.

Since the activation of the modern-day Army Reserve's predecessor the Medical Reserve, the United States has mobilized more than 1.3 million soldiers, trained, equipped and prepared to perform their duties at home and abroad. On any given day, upwards of 9,000 Army Reserve soldiers are mobilized or deployed to 23 countries worldwide in support of combatant commands, while tens of thousands of others in the Reserve train for deployments or participate in joint exercises to strengthen national alliances and partnerships across the globe.

The resilience of the Army Reserve is critical to our national security in responding to constantly changing and evolving challenges our country and allies face each day. To reinforce the Army and the joint force today and into the future, the Army Reserve supports all aspects of a soldier's life—family, employment, and education goals—integrating a rewarding uniformed experience and getting our citizen soldiers back to the fundamentals in defense of our Nation's interests.

In the great State of Arkansas, 2,184 soldiers and 38 units contribute an economic impact of \$130 million to our State's economy.

As our reservists prepare for their next 116 years of service, they can take pride knowing they are a part of one of the most experienced forces in our Nation's history. I am grateful for the sacrifices each and every one of them make every day. As we look to the future, I am proud to be able to support our Army Reserve in achieving its mission of "Ready Now" and "Shaping Tomorrow!"

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING DUNLAP HATCHERY

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor the Dunlap Hatchery as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for April 2024.

The Dunlap Hatchery, which was established in 1918 by Oscar Dunlap, is one of the longest standing hatcheries, not just in Idaho but in the Nation. The Dunlaps moved the hatchery from Junction City, OR, to Caldwell, ID, early on in order to expand hatchery operations. Originally a chick hatchery and pullets operation, after more than

100 years in business, Dunlap Hatchery now hatches more than 50 varieties of chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys, and game birds.

With 106 years of expertise in the poultry business under four generations of Dunlaps, the hatchery remains committed to providing quality products and exceptional service to their customers throughout the U.S. During peak season, their efforts guide the hatching of over 1 million chicks annually while operating a retail store to ensure customers have the supplies necessary to successfully raise chickens.

Congratulations to the Dunlaps and the employees of the Dunlap Hatchery on their selection as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for April 2024. Thank you for serving Idaho as small business owners and entrepreneurs. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

130TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOKAN GOODWILL

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas, also known as MoKan Goodwill, for their 130th anniversary of being a pillar of support for the Kansas City community.

Goodwill Industries' mission has remained the same since its founding: provide services and resources for those in need wherever they may be. For the Kansas City region, the Helping Hand Institute carried out this mission starting in 1894. They provided food, shelter, and work relief programs for those who were homeless and without resources. Through the Helping Hand Institute, thousands of Kansas City citizens were able to obtain employment and become self-sufficient.

By 1925, Goodwill Industries of Greater Kansas City had grown to incorporate workforce programs focused on collected used goods and then trained and hired people with disabilities or disadvantages to repair those goods. These repaired items were then sold in stores to support the program. In the 1940s, Goodwill had expanded its focus to become a training center and added services such as employment skills training and vocational rehabilitation for persons with disabilities. In 1956, Goodwill started workforce development programs supported by contracts with the State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, providing paid employment for persons with disabilities who repaired donated furniture and clothing sold in Goodwill stores.

In 1978, it became apparent that a name better reflecting the geographical scope of Helping Hands Institute and Goodwill Industries' programs and services was needed. In 2010, the organization changed to its present name, Goodwill of Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas.

Today, I am proud to say that MoKan Goodwill continues to be a nonprofit

leader in the Kansas City region providing resources and services to individuals who face barriers to obtaining employment. No matter the barrier, MoKan Goodwill continues this 130-year mission to help provide those in need an opportunity to become self-sufficient and participate in the rich work of their local communities. I congratulate MoKan Goodwill on their service to our communities and wish them the best of luck with the next 130 years.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION 10371 OF APRIL 21, 2022, WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THE EMERGENCY AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE REGULATION OF THE ANCHORAGE AND MOVEMENT OF RUSSIAN-AFFILIATED VESSELS TO UNITED STATES PORTS—PM 48

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 Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

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 declared in Proclamation 10371 of April 21, 2022, with respect to the Russian Federation and the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of Russian-affiliated vessels to United States ports, is to continue in effect beyond April 21, 2024.

The policies and actions of the Government of the Russian Federation to continue the premeditated, unjustified, unprovoked, and brutal war against Ukraine continue to constitute a national emergency by reason of a disturbance or threatened disturbance of international relations of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Proclamation 10371.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, April 16, 2024.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:59 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5921. An act to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from authorizing certain transactions by a United States financial institution in connection with Iran, to prevent the International Monetary Fund from providing financial assistance to Iran, to codify prohibitions on Export-Import Bank financing for the Government of Iran, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5923. An act to impose restrictions on correspondent and payable-through accounts in the United States with respect to Chinese financial institutions that conduct transactions involving the purchase of petroleum or petroleum products from Iran.

H.R. 6408. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations.

At 2:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. McCumber, the Clerk of the House of Representatives, announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. RES. 995

Resolved, That Mr. Green of Tennessee, Mr. McCaul, Mr. Biggs, Mr. Higgins of Louisiana, Mr. Cline, Mr. Guest, Mr. Garbarino, Ms. Greene of Georgia, Mr. Pfluger, Ms. Hageman, and Ms. Lee of Florida, are appointed managers to conduct the impeachment trial against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, that a message be sent to the Senate to inform the Senate of these appointments, and that the managers so appointed may, in connection with the preparation and the conduct of the trial, exhibit the articles of impeachment to the Senate and take all other actions necessary, which may include the following:

(1) Employing legal, clerical, and other necessary assistants and incurring such other expenses as may be necessary, to be paid from amounts available to the Committee on Homeland Security under applicable expense resolutions or from the applicable accounts of the House of Representatives.

(2) Sending for persons and papers, and filing with the Secretary of the Senate, on the part of the House of Representatives, any pleadings, in conjunction with or subsequent to, the exhibition of the articles of impeachment that the managers consider necessary.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. RES. 863

Resolved, That Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security of the United States of America, is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors, and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate:

Articles of impeachment exhibited by the House of Representatives of the United States of America in the name of itself and of the people of the United States of America, against Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security of the United States of America, in maintenance and support of its impeachment against him for high crimes and misdemeanors.

ARTICLE I: WILLFUL AND SYSTEMIC REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives “shall have the sole Power of Impeachment” and that civil Officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Homeland Security, “shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors”. In his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, in violation of his oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic, to bear true faith and allegiance to the same, and to well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, has willfully and systemically refused to comply with Federal immigration laws, in that:

Throughout his tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has repeatedly violated laws enacted by Congress regarding immigration and border security. In large part because of his unlawful conduct, millions of aliens have illegally entered the United States on an annual basis with many unlawfully remaining in the United States. His refusal to obey the law is not only an offense against the separation of powers in the Constitution of the United States, it also threatens our national security and has had a dire impact on communities across the country. Despite clear evidence that his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law has significantly contributed to unprecedented levels of illegal entrants, the increased control of the Southwest border by drug cartels, and the imposition of enormous costs on States and localities affected by the influx of aliens, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has continued in his refusal to comply with the law, and thereby acted to the grave detriment of the interests of the United States.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 235(b)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, requiring that all applicants for admission who are “not clearly and beyond a doubt entitled to be admitted...shall be detained for a [removal] proceeding...”. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 235(b)(1)(B)(ii) of such Act, requiring that an alien who is placed into expedited removal proceedings and determined to have a credible fear of persecution “shall be detained for further consideration of the application for asylum”. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention set forth in section 235(b)(1)(B)(iii)(IV) of such Act, requiring that an alien who is placed into expedited removal proceedings and determined not to have a credible fear of persecution “shall be detained...until removed”. Instead of complying with this requirement,

Alejandro N. Mayorkas has implemented a catch and release scheme, whereby such aliens are unlawfully released, even without effective mechanisms to ensure appearances before the immigration courts for removal proceedings or to ensure removal in the case of aliens ordered removed.

(4) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 236(c) of such Act, requiring that a criminal alien who is inadmissible or deportable on certain criminal and terrorism-related grounds “shall [be] take[n] into custody” when the alien is released from law enforcement custody. Instead of complying with this requirement, Alejandro N. Mayorkas issued “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws”, which instructs Department of Homeland Security (hereinafter referred to as “DHS”) officials that the “fact an individual is a removable noncitizen...should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them” and that DHS “personnel should not rely on the fact of conviction...alone”, even with respect to aliens subject to mandatory arrest and detention pursuant to section 236(c) of such Act, to take them into custody. In *Texas v. United States*, 40 F.4th 205 (2022), the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit concluded that these guidelines had “every indication of being ‘a general policy that is so extreme as to amount to an abdication of...statutory responsibilities’” and that its “replacement of Congress’s statutory mandates with concerns of equity and race is extralegal...[and] plainly outside the bounds of the power conferred by the INA”.

(5) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully refused to comply with the detention mandate set forth in section 241(a)(2) of such Act, requiring that an alien ordered removed “shall [be] detain[ed]” during “the removal period”. Instead of complying with this mandate, Alejandro N. Mayorkas issued “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws”, which instructs DHS officials that the “fact an individual is a removable noncitizen...should not alone be the basis of an enforcement action against them” and that DHS “personnel should not rely on the fact of conviction...alone”, even with respect to aliens subject to mandatory detention and removal pursuant to section 241(a) of such Act.

(6) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully exceeded his parole authority set forth in section 212(d)(5)(A) of such Act that permits parole to be granted “only on a case-by-case basis”, temporarily, and “for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit”, in that:

(A) Alejandro N. Mayorkas paroled aliens *en masse* in order to release them from mandatory detention, despite the fact that, as the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit concluded in *Texas v. Biden*, 20 F.4th 928 (2021), “parol[ing] every alien [DHS] cannot detain is the opposite of the ‘case-by-case basis’ determinations required by law” and “DHS’s pretended power to parole aliens while ignoring the limitations Congress imposed on the parole power [is] not nonenforcement; it’s misenforcement, suspension of the INA, or both”.

(B) Alejandro N. Mayorkas created, reopened, or expanded a series of categorical parole programs never authorized by Congress for foreign nationals outside of the United States, including for certain Central American minors, Ukrainians, Venezuelans, Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans, Colombians, Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and Hondurans, which enabled hundreds of thousands of inadmissible aliens to enter the United States in violation of the laws enacted by Congress.

(7) Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully exceeded his release authority set forth in section 236(a) of such Act that permits, in certain circumstances, the release of aliens arrested on an administrative warrant, in that Alejandro N. Mayorkas released aliens arrested without a warrant despite their being subject to a separate applicable mandatory detention requirement set forth in section 235(b)(2) of such Act. Alejandro N. Mayorkas released such aliens by retroactively issuing administrative warrants in an attempt to circumvent section 235(b)(2) of such Act. In *Florida v. United States*, No. 3:21-cv-1066-TKW-ZCB (N.D. Fla. Mar. 8, 2023), the United States District Court of the Northern District of Florida noted that “[t]his sleight of hand – using an ‘arrest’ warrant as a *de facto* ‘release’ warrant – is administrative sophistry at its worst”. In addition, the court concluded that “what makes DHS’s application of [236(a)] in this manner unlawful...is that [235(b)(2)], not [236(a)], governs the detention of applicants for admission whom DHS places in...removal proceedings after inspection”.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law has had calamitous consequences for the Nation and the people of the United States, including:

(1) During fiscal years 2017 through 2020, an average of about 590,000 aliens each fiscal year were encountered as inadmissible aliens at ports of entry on the Southwest border or apprehended between ports of entry. Thereafter, during Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure in office, that number skyrocketed to over 1,400,000 in fiscal year 2021, over 2,300,000 in fiscal year 2022, and over 2,400,000 in fiscal year 2023. Similarly, during fiscal years 2017 through 2020, an average of 130,000 persons who were not turned back or apprehended after making an illegal entry were observed along the border each fiscal year. During Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure in office, that number more than trebled to 400,000 in fiscal year 2021, 600,000 in fiscal year 2022, and 750,000 in fiscal year 2023.

(2) American communities both along the Southwest border and across the United States have been devastated by the dramatic growth in illegal entries, the number of aliens unlawfully present, and substantial rise in the number of aliens unlawfully granted parole, creating a fiscal and humanitarian crisis and dramatically degrading the quality of life of the residents of those communities. For instance, since 2022, more than 150,000 migrants have gone through New York City’s shelter intake system. Indeed, the Mayor of New York City has said that “we are past our breaking point” and that “[t]his issue will destroy New York City”. In fiscal year 2023, New York City spent \$1,450,000,000 addressing Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s migrant crisis, and city officials fear it will spend another \$12,000,000,000 over the following three fiscal years, causing painful budget cuts to important city services.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s unlawful mass release of apprehended aliens and unlawful mass grant of categorical parole to aliens have enticed an increasing number of aliens to make the dangerous journey to our Southwest border. Consequently, according to the United Nations’s International Organization for Migration, the number of migrants intending to illegally cross our border who have perished along the way, either en route to the United States or at the border, almost doubled during the tenure of Alejandro N. Mayorkas as Secretary of Homeland Security, from an average of about 700 a year during the fiscal years 2017 through 2020, to an average of about 1,300 a year during the fiscal years 2021 through 2023.

(4) Alien smuggling organizations have gained tremendous wealth during Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, with their estimated revenues rising from about \$500,000,000 in 2018 to approximately \$13,000,000,000 in 2022.

(5) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the immigration court backlog has more than doubled from about 1,300,000 cases to over 3,000,000 cases. The exploding backlog is destroying the courts’ ability to administer justice and provide appropriate relief in a timeframe that does not run into years or even decades. As Alejandro N. Mayorkas acknowledged, “those who have a valid claim to asylum...often wait years for a...decision; likewise, noncitizens who will ultimately be found ineligible for asylum or other protection—which occurs in the majority of cases—often have spent many years in the United States prior to being ordered removed”. He noted that of aliens placed in expedited removal proceedings and found to have a credible fear of persecution, and thus referred to immigration judges for removal proceedings, “significantly fewer than 20 percent...were ultimately granted asylum” and only “28 percent of cases decided on their merits are grants of relief”. Alejandro N. Mayorkas also admitted that “the fact that migrants can wait in the United States for years before being issued a final order denying relief, and that many such individuals are never actually removed, likely incentivizes migrants to make the journey north”.

(6) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, approximately 450,000 unaccompanied alien children have been encountered at the Southwest border, and the vast majority have been released into the United States. As a result, there has been a dramatic upsurge in migrant children being employed in dangerous and exploitative jobs in the United States.

(7) Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s failure to enforce the law, drawing millions of illegal aliens to the Southwest border, has led to the reassignment of U.S. Border Patrol agents from protecting the border from illicit drug trafficking to processing illegal aliens for release. As a result, during Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the flow of fentanyl across the border and other dangerous drugs, both at and between ports of entry, has increased dramatically. U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized approximately 4,800 pounds of fentanyl in fiscal year 2020, approximately 11,200 pounds in fiscal year 2021, approximately 14,700 pounds in fiscal year 2022, and approximately 27,000 pounds in fiscal year 2023. Over 70,000 Americans died from fentanyl poisoning in 2022, and fentanyl is now the number one killer of Americans between the ages of 18 and 45.

(8) Alejandro N. Mayorkas has degraded public safety by leaving wide swaths of the border effectively unpatrolled as U.S. Border Patrol agents are diverted from guarding the border to processing for unlawful release the heightening waves of apprehended aliens (many who now seek out agents for the purpose of surrendering with the now reasonable expectation of being released and granted work authorization), and Federal Air Marshals are diverted from protecting the flying public to assist in such processing.

(9) During Alejandro N. Mayorkas’s tenure as Secretary of Homeland Security, the U.S. Border Patrol has encountered an increasing number of aliens on the terrorist watch list. In fiscal years 2017 through 2020 combined, 11 noncitizens on the terrorist watchlist were caught attempting to cross the Southwest border between ports of entry. That number increased to 15 in fiscal year 2021, 98 in fiscal

year 2022, 169 in fiscal year 2023, and 49 so far in fiscal year 2024.

Additionally, in *United States v. Texas*, 599 U.S. 670 (2023), the United States Supreme Court heard a case involving Alejandro N. Mayorkas's refusal to comply with certain Federal immigration laws that are at issue in this impeachment. The Supreme Court held that States have no standing to seek judicial relief to compel Alejandro N. Mayorkas to comply with certain legal requirements contained in the Immigration and Nationality Act. However, the Supreme Court held that "even though the federal courts lack Article III jurisdiction over this suit, other forums remain open for examining the Executive Branch's enforcement policies. For example, Congress possesses an array of tools to analyze and influence those policies [and] those are political checks for the political process". One such critical tool for Congress to influence the Executive Branch to comply with the immigration laws of the United States is impeachment. The dissenting Justice noted, "The Court holds Texas lacks standing to challenge a federal policy that inflicts substantial harm on the State and its residents by releasing illegal aliens with criminal convictions for serious crimes. In order to reach this conclusion, the Court...holds that the only limit on the power of a President to disobey a law like the important provision at issue is Congress' power to employ the weapons of inter-branch warfare...". As the dissenting Justice explained, "Congress may wield what the Solicitor General described as 'political...tools'—which presumably means such things as...impeachment and removal". Indeed, during oral argument, the Justice who authored the majority opinion stated to the Solicitor General, "I think your position is, instead of judicial review, Congress has to resort to shutting down the government or impeachment or dramatic steps...". Here, in light of the inability of injured parties to seek judicial relief to remedy the refusal of Alejandro N. Mayorkas to comply with Federal immigration laws, impeachment is Congress's only viable option.

In all of this, Alejandro N. Mayorkas willfully and systemically refused to comply with the immigration laws, failed to control the border to the detriment of national security, compromised public safety, and violated the rule of law and separation of powers in the Constitution, to the manifest injury of the people of the United States.

Wherefore Alejandro N. Mayorkas, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national and border security, the safety of the United States people, and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

ARTICLE II: BREACH OF PUBLIC TRUST

The Constitution provides that the House of Representatives "shall have the sole Power of Impeachment" and that civil Officers of the United States, including the Secretary of Homeland Security, "shall be removed from Office on Impeachment for, and Conviction of, Treason, Bribery, or other high Crimes and Misdemeanors". In his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, in violation of his oath to well and faithfully discharge the duties of his office, has breached the public trust, in that:

Alejandro N. Mayorkas has knowingly made false statements, and knowingly ob-

structed lawful oversight of the Department of Homeland Security (hereinafter referred to as "DHS"), principally to obfuscate the results of his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas engaged in this scheme or course of conduct through the following means:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements to Congress that the border is "secure", that the border is "no less secure than it was previously", that the border is "closed", and that DHS has "operational control" of the border (as that term is defined in the Secure Fence Act of 2006).

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements to Congress regarding the scope and adequacy of the vetting of the thousands of Afghans who were airlifted to the United States and then granted parole following the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan after President Biden's precipitous withdrawal of United States forces.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements that apprehended aliens with no legal basis to remain in the United States were being quickly removed.

(4) Alejandro N. Mayorkas knowingly made false statements supporting the false narrative that U.S. Border Patrol agents maliciously whipped illegal aliens.

(5) Alejandro N. Mayorkas failed to comply with multiple subpoenas issued by congressional committees.

(6) Alejandro N. Mayorkas delayed or denied access of DHS Office of Inspector General (hereinafter referred to as "OIG") to DHS records and information, hampering OIG's ability to effectively perform its vital investigations, audits, inspections, and other reviews of agency programs and operations to satisfy the OIG's obligations under section 402(b) of title 5, United States Code, in part, to Congress.

Additionally, in his conduct while Secretary of Homeland Security, Alejandro N. Mayorkas has breached the public trust by his willful refusal to fulfill his statutory "duty to control and guard the boundaries and borders of the United States against the illegal entry of aliens" as set forth in section 103(a)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Alejandro N. Mayorkas inherited what his first Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol called, "arguably the most effective border security in our nation's history". Alejandro N. Mayorkas, however, proceeded to abandon effective border security initiatives without engaging in adequate alternative efforts that would enable DHS to maintain control of the border and guard against illegal entry, and despite clear evidence of the devastating consequences of his actions, he failed to take action to fulfill his statutory duty to control the border. According to his first Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol, Alejandro N. Mayorkas "summarily rejected" the "multiple options to reduce the illegal entries...through proven programs and consequences" provided by civil service staff at DHS. Despite clear evidence of the devastating consequences of his actions, he failed to take action to fulfill his statutory duty to control the border, in that, among other things:

(1) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated the Migrant Protection Protocols (hereinafter referred to as "MPP"). In *Texas v. Biden*, 20 F.4th 928 (2021), the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit explained that "[t]he district court...pointed to evidence that 'the termination of MPP has contributed to the current border surge'...(citing DHS's own previous determinations that MPP had curbed the rate of illegal entries)". The district court had also "pointed out that the number of 'enforcement encounters'—that is, instances where immigration officials encounter immigrants attempting to cross the southern border without docu-

mentation—had 'skyrocketed' since MPP's termination".

(2) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated contracts for border wall construction.

(3) Alejandro N. Mayorkas terminated asylum cooperative agreements that would have equitably shared the burden of complying with international asylum accords.

In all of this, Alejandro N. Mayorkas breached the public trust by knowingly making false statements to Congress and the American people and avoiding lawful oversight in order to obscure the devastating consequences of his willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law and carry out his statutory duties. He has also breached the public trust by willfully refusing to carry out his statutory duty to control the border and guard against illegal entry, notwithstanding the calamitous consequences of his abdication of that duty.

Wherefore Alejandro N. Mayorkas, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national and border security, the safety of the American people, and to the Constitution if allowed to remain in office, and has acted in a manner grossly incompatible with his duties and the rule of law. Alejandro N. Mayorkas thus warrants impeachment and trial, removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 5921. An act to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from authorizing certain transactions by a United States financial institution in connection with Iran, to prevent the International Monetary Fund from providing financial assistance to Iran, to codify prohibitions on Export-Import Bank financing for the Government of Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5923. An act to impose restrictions on correspondent and payable-through accounts in the United States with respect to Chinese financial institutions that conduct transactions involving the purchase of petroleum or petroleum products from Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6408. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the tax-exempt status of terrorist supporting organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

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-4031. A communication from the President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's FY23 Annual Performance Report (APR) and FY25 Annual Performance Plan (APP); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4032. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4033. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative

proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4034. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13694 of April 1, 2015, with respect to significant malicious cyber-enabled activities; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4035. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification of intent to exercise the authority under section 506(a) (2) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to provide assistance to Haiti; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4036. A communication from the President and CEO, Inter-American Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Foundation's FY25 Congressional Budget Justification; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4037. 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 abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Senegal in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 22-037); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4038. 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 controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Sweden in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-063); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4039. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the United Kingdom in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-070); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4040. 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 defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to various countries in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-065); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4041. 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 defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Canada and the UK in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-079); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4042. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "A report concerning amendments to paragraph (c)(5) of Category XI of the U.S. Munitions List, within the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, 22 CFR pts. 120-130, promulgated pursuant to

section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778)"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4043. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed transfer of major defense equipment, with a sales value of approximately \$1,326,000,000 (Transmittal No. RSAT-23-9887); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4044. 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 defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-062); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4045. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed transfer of major defense equipment, with a sales value of approximately \$270,000,000 (Transmittal No. RSAT-23-9987); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4046. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed amendment for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services to the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-076); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4047. 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 abroad controlled under Category I of the U.S. Munitions List to Sweden in the amount of \$1,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-084); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4048. 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 defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to the Republic of Korea in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-078); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4049. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4050. A communication from the Regulatory Policy Analyst, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Food Additives: Food Contact Substance Notification That Is No Longer Effective" (RIN0910-AI01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4051. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Institute of Museum and

Library Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4052. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance and Independent, Noncoordinated Excepted Benefits Coverage" (RIN1210-AC12) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4053. A communication from the Senior Policy and Regulations Coordinator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance and Independent, Noncoordinated Excepted Benefits Coverage" (RIN0938-AU67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 2, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4054. A communication from the Supervisory Workforce Analyst, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Effectiveness in Serving Employers Performance Indicator Joint" (RIN1205-AC01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4055. A communication from the Supervisory Workforce Analyst, Employment and Training Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Title I Non-Core Program Effectiveness in Serving Employers Performance Indicator" (RIN1205-AC08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4056. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment to Prohibited Transaction Class Exemption 84-14 (the QPAM Exemption)" (RIN1210-ZA07) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4057. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Community Services Block Grant Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2019"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4058. A communication from the Board of Trustees, National Railroad Retirement Investment Trust, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual management report relative to its operations and financial condition for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4059. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Upholding Civil Service Protections and Merit System Principles" (RIN3206-AO56) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 11, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4060. A joint communication from the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary

of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Thefts, Losses, or Releases of Select Agents and Toxins for Calendar Year 2022; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4061. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4062. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting additional legislative proposals that the Department of Defense requests be enacted during the second session of the 118th Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4063. A communication from the Equal Employment Opportunity and Inclusion Director, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation's fiscal year 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4064. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Correction" (5 CFR Part 1631) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4065. A communication from the Equal Employment Opportunity Director, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Farm Credit Administration's fiscal year 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4066. A communication from the General Counsel, Government Accountability Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4067. A communication from the Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's fiscal year 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4068. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report advising Congress that the President is exercising his authority to remove from office the Inspector General for the Railroad Retirement Board; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4069. A communication from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulations Implementing the Privacy Act of 1974" (RIN3095-AC21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4070. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Retirement Thrift In-

vestment Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of 30-Calendar-Day Waiting Period Between Withdrawals" (5 CFR Part 1650) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 4, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4071. A communication from the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's fiscal year 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4072. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-427, "Restaurant Revitalization and Dram Shop Clarification Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4073. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-415, "Medical Cannabis Clarification Supplemental Temporary Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4074. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-416, "Medical Cannabis License Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4075. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-417, "Election Worker Protection Temporary Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4076. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-418, "Historic Preservation of Derelict District Properties Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4077. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 25-419, "Extended Students' Right to Home or Hospital Instruction Amendment Act of 2024"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4078. A communication from the Director of Equal Employment Opportunity, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's 2023 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (No FEAR Act) received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4079. A communication from the Chief Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Superior Court's Family Court 2023 Annual Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-101. A resolution adopted by the City Council of Hialeah, Florida expressing its unanimous and unconditional support of the state of Israel in its military campaign against Hamas, a terrorist organization that undertook an unprovoked and criminal attack on October 7, 2023, resulting in the deaths and abductions of thousands of Israeli civilians; and urging the United States to support Israel in its hour of need and supporting Israel's ability to protect itself and its people from Hamas, and similar terrorist organizations; 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 Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 4126. A bill to allow a period in which members of the clergy may revoke their exemption from Social Security coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 4127. A bill to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4128. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on abortions facilitated by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 4129. A bill to contribute funds and artifacts to the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, North Dakota; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. ERNST):

S. 4130. A bill to require the establishment of a pilot program to expand early child care options for members of the Armed Forces and their families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. Kaine (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4131. A bill to reform Federal firearms laws, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4132. A bill to establish the Chuckwalla National Monument and expand Joshua Tree

National Park in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 4133. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to require secret ballot elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4134. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 with respect to the total amount of Federal assistance for projects in States experiencing severe drought and projects in historically disadvantaged communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 4135. A bill to require broad agreement for changes to sentencing law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. Res. 642. A resolution urging all members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to oppose confirmation of a new Secretary General, if the candidate was a former leader of a member country which did not spend 2 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) on defense; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 643. A resolution recognizing the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and expressing support for the designation of April 2024 as the "Month of the Military Child"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. Res. 644. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024, as "Fair Chance Jobs Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BENNET, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. COTTON, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REED, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms.

KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 645. A resolution designating the week of April 20 through April 28, 2024, as "National Park Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MULLIN):

S. Res. 646. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 42

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 42, a bill to improve the management and performance of the capital asset programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs so as to better serve veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors, and for other purposes.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 138, a bill to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act.

S. 444

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 444, a bill to require any convention, agreement, or other international instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response reached by the World Health Assembly to be subject to Senate ratification.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act, the Labor Management Relations Act, 1947, and the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, and for other purposes.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 663, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 704

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 704, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for interest-free deferment on student loans for borrowers serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of

the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 712

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 712, a bill to identify and address barriers to coverage of remote physiologic devices under State Medicaid programs to improve maternal and child health outcomes for pregnant and postpartum women.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 815, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 1161

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1161, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to reauthorize the voluntary public access and habitat incentive program.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other ethnic groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct civilization and identity, and for other purposes.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on source of income, veteran status, or military status.

S. 1514

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1514, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 1705

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1705, a bill to amend the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program to promote career awareness in accounting as part of a well-rounded STEM educational experience.

S. 1723

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1723, a bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1885

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1885, a bill to eliminate employment-based visa caps on abused, abandoned, and neglected children eligible for humanitarian status, and for other purposes.

S. 1950

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1950, a bill to extend the temporary order for fentanyl-related substances.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2003, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 2188

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2188, a bill to increase access to pre-exposure prophylaxis to reduce the transmission of HIV.

S. 2294

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2294, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans and dependents who were stationed at military installations at which those veterans and dependents were exposed to perfluorooctanoic acid or other perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain veterans who were stationed at military installations at which those veterans were exposed to such substances, and for other purposes.

S. 2307

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2307, a bill to support and strengthen the fighter aircraft capabilities of the Air Force, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 2825

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Indiana

(Mr. YOUNG) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2825, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and lifesaving actions in Vietnam.

S. 3119

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3119, a bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from reclassifying broadband internet access service as a telecommunications service and from imposing certain regulations on providers of such service.

S. 3305

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3305, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to minimum participation standards for pension plans and qualified trusts.

S. 3356

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3356, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to modify the role and duties of United States Postal Service police officers, and for other purposes.

S. 3409

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3409, a bill to end the use of solitary confinement and other forms of restrictive housing in all Federal agencies and entities with which Federal agencies contract.

S. 3531

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3531, a bill to prohibit actions to carry out the Department of Commerce's pause in the issuance of new export licenses for certain exports under the Commerce Control List.

S. 3765

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3765, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

S. 3775

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3775, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3954

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3954, a bill to amend the Geothermal

Steam Act of 1970 to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under geothermal leases, and for other purposes.

S. 4057

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4057, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to postpone tax deadlines and reimburse paid late fees for United States nationals who are unlawfully or wrongfully detained or held hostage abroad, and for other purposes.

S. 4071

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4071, a bill to establish an Office of Colonias and Farmworker Initiatives within the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

S. 4072

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4072, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency.

S. 4084

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 4084, a bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to make grants to professional nonprofit theaters for the purposes of supporting operations, employment, and economic development.

S. 4093

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4093, a bill to review and consider terminating the designation of the State of Qatar as a major non-NATO ally, and for other purposes.

S. 4120

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4120, a bill to support the direct care professional workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 4125

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4125, a bill to establish the Jackie Robinson Ballpark National Commemorative Site in the State of Florida, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 63

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 63, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to

“Employee or Independent Contractor Classification Under the Fair Labor Standards Act”.

S. RES. 74

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 74, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of the Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 385

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 385, a resolution calling for the immediate release of Evan Gershkovich, a United States citizen and journalist, who was wrongfully detained by the Government of the Russian Federation in March 2023.

S. RES. 589

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 589, a resolution honoring Wadee Alfayoumi, a 6-year-old Palestinian-American boy, murdered as a victim of a hate crime for his Palestinian-Muslim identity, in the State of Illinois.

S. RES. 599

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 599, a resolution protecting the Iranian political refugees, including female former political prisoners, in Ashraf-3 in Albania.

S. RES. 616

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 616, a resolution condemning the treatment of Dr. Gubad Ibadoghlu by the Government of Azerbaijan and urging his immediate release, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. BUTLER):

S. 4132. A bill to establish the Chuckwalla National Monument and expand Joshua Tree National Park in the State of California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Chuckwalla National Monument Establishment and Joshua Tree National Park Expansion Act.

The Chuckwalla National Monument Establishment and Joshua Tree National Park Expansion Act would establish a new Chuckwalla National Monument to protect approximately 620,000 acres of public lands, while also expanding Joshua Tree National Park by adding approximately 17,842 acres of previously designated public lands that

were identified as suitable for inclusion in the park by the National Park Service.

The proposed Chuckwalla National Monument's vast desert landscape spanning from the area along Joshua Tree National Park's southern boundary, along Interstate 10 from the eastern Coachella Valley, and all the way to the Colorado River are worthy of permanent protection.

This area has a unique, biodiverse ecosystem; is home to habitats for species like the Chuckwalla lizard and the endangered desert tortoise; and contains critical migration corridors for desert bighorn sheep. This area is also cherished for outdoor recreation activities like hiking and rock climbing.

The lands within the proposed national monument include the homelands of the Iviatim, Nuwu, Pipa Aha Macav, Kwatsaan, and Maara'yam peoples (Cahuilla, Chemehuevi, Mojave, Quechan, and Serrano Nations). Designating the Chuckwalla National Monument would help to protect important spiritual and cultural values tied to the land such as multi-use trail systems established by indigenous peoples, sacred sites and objects, traditional cultural places, geoglyphs, petroglyphs, pictographs, and native plants and wildlife.

I am proud to work to introduce this legislation that would preserve part of California's vast desert landscape, help ensure more equitable access to nature and recreation, protect biodiversity, and preserve decades of cultural riches, particularly for the Tribal governments who have worked so hard to protect this area.

I want to thank Representative RAUL RUIZ of California for leading the House companion and Senator BUTLER for her cosponsorship in the Senate. I look forward to working with our colleagues to pass the Chuckwalla National Monument Establishment and Joshua Tree National Park Expansion Act as quickly as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 642—URGING ALL MEMBERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION TO OPPOSE CONFIRMATION OF A NEW SECRETARY GENERAL, IF THE CANDIDATE WAS A FORMER LEADER OF A MEMBER COUNTRY WHICH DID NOT SPEND 2 PERCENT OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) ON DEFENSE

Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. CASIDY, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. MULLIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 642

Whereas, in 2006, member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) first agreed to spend 2 percent of gross domestic product on defense;

Whereas, in 2014, at the NATO Summit in Wales, all member countries once again com-

mitted to maintain or move toward meeting the 2-percent defense spending minimum within 10 years;

Whereas, by 2022, only 11 member countries met the 2-percent minimum, including the United States and the United Kingdom, which were the only 2 major economies;

Whereas, throughout 2023, several countries significantly increased their defense spending, and in 2024, NATO expects 18 member countries to achieve the spending commitment despite historically not being able to fulfill the commitment;

Whereas this commitment is important to not only the defense of all NATO member nations, but also a commitment to the alliance itself; and

Whereas, through the Secretary General's role as the senior officer of the alliance, they must advocate for the fulfillment of the commitment and the continued strength of the alliance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) declares that the next Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should not be a former leader of a member country that did not spend 2 percent of its gross domestic product on defense spending;

(2) emphasizes that the demonstrated ability of countries with economies of all sizes within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to meet the 2-percent defense spending minimum proves that the failure of a member country to meet the commitment is a choice of will and not of circumstance;

(3) acknowledges that it would be hypocritical for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to be led by a Secretary General who formerly led an alliance member country that failed to fulfill the 2-percent gross defense spending minimum;

(4) declares that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will never reach its full potential as long as the Secretary General is a member of a country's leadership that did not fulfill its commitment to the Organization; and

(5) urges all member countries to prioritize defense spending and to meet their obligations to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

SENATE RESOLUTION 643—RECOGNIZING THE INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2024 AS THE “MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 643

Whereas brave men and women serve in the Armed Forces and protect the security and freedom of the United States;

Whereas over 1,300,000 active-duty members and nearly 1,000,000 ready-reserve members serve in the Armed Forces;

Whereas there are more than 1,540,000 military-connected children and youth who move, on average, 6 to 9 times during their educational career;

Whereas they encounter unique educational challenges when these children and youth move between public and Department of Defense Education Activity schools;

Whereas the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

was developed in 2007 by the Department of Defense and the Council of State Governments to ease the educational transitions of military-connected students attending public schools and Department of Defense schools worldwide;

Whereas the Compact helps military children and youth stay on grade level and facilitates on-time graduation;

Whereas, while it is not exhaustive in its coverage, the Compact addresses key issues encountered by military families: eligibility, enrollment, placement, and graduation;

Whereas the Compact uses a comprehensive approach to provide a consistent policy in every school district and member State;

Whereas the Compact Commission, which includes the 50 States and District of Columbia, works tirelessly to recognize that our military-connected children and youth serve too and to pay tribute to their commitment and service to the country; and

Whereas April is the Month of the Military Child, and a month-long salute will encourage our country to support military-connected children and youth: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate encourages—

(1) citizens to “Purple Up!” and wear purple to express our appreciation and celebrate the unsung heroes of the Armed Forces; and

(2) all citizens, communities, and business and government leaders across the United States to honor, support, and show appreciation for military-connected children and youth.

SENATE RESOLUTION 644—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 1, 2024, THROUGH APRIL 30, 2024, AS “FAIR CHANCE JOBS MONTH”

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 644

Whereas, in the United States—

(1) nearly 80,000,000 people have a record of arrest or conviction;

(2) an estimated 19,000,000 people have felony convictions;

(3) nearly 13,000,000 people are charged each year with misdemeanor offenses;

(4) 600,000 people are released each year from Federal and State prisons;

(5) Black, Indigenous, and Latino people are 5, 4.2, and 2.4 times more likely than White people to be incarcerated, respectively, and also face higher rates of arrest; and

(6) LGBTQ+ individuals are 3 times more likely to be incarcerated and also face higher rates of arrest;

Whereas people who have been convicted of a crime and served their sentence continue to face consequences after release due to systemic biases and stigmas against formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas recidivism rates in the United States are among the highest in the world, with almost 44 percent of people who are released returning to incarceration within 1 year;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly ⅓ of the formerly incarcerated population is jobless at any given time;

Whereas, in the United States, nearly 14,000 laws and regulations and 48,000 collateral consequences restrict formerly incarcerated

individuals from getting professional licenses needed to work in some jobs;

Whereas 20 States and the District of Columbia allow occupational licensing boards to categorically reject applicants with prior convictions;

Whereas obstacles to employment, such as difficulty obtaining identification needed for employment, add undue burdens on returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas formerly incarcerated individuals earn nearly \$100 less per week than the average worker;

Whereas fair-chance employers can leverage financial incentives, such as the work opportunity tax credit, to benefit from hiring formerly incarcerated individuals;

Whereas employing returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals will result in a robust, vibrant, diverse, and resilient workforce;

Whereas having jobs that pay living wages, are conducive to health, provide opportunities for skillset development, provide opportunities for promotion, and provide benefits will facilitate stable employment and reduce recidivism;

Whereas returning citizens who have received vocational training while incarcerated are 28 percent more likely to obtain employment within 1 year of reentry into society than those lacking such training; and

Whereas, in addition to employment insecurity, returning citizens and formerly incarcerated people face numerous other obstacles to reentry and societal reintegration, including—

(1) housing insecurity and homelessness rates that are 10 times higher than the general public;

(2) near total restrictions in 12 States on access to temporary assistance for needy families established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.); and

(3) greater prevalence of chronic health conditions, lower quality and coverage of health insurance, and mortality rates that are 13 times higher than the general public: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of April 1, 2024, through April 30, 2024, as “Fair Chance Jobs Month”; and

(2) supports efforts to—

(A) ensure that people directly impacted by incarceration obtain stable and high-quality employment, housing, healthcare, and nutrition;

(B) dismantle structural barriers to fair-chance hiring and employment, such as licensing restrictions, employer liability, and insurance restrictions;

(C) expand workforce development programs for returning citizens, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration, including—

(i) pre-apprenticeship programs;

(ii) registered apprenticeship programs;

(iii) career coaching, resume-building, technology literacy, and other skillset development programs; and

(iv) programs that educate employers on best practices for, and the benefits of, fair-chance hiring;

(D) match jobs providers with returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals seeking jobs;

(E) support efforts from labor unions and worker organizations to engage returning citizens and formerly incarcerated individuals who are seeking jobs;

(F) publicize work opportunities that are open to applicants with prior arrest or conviction records; and

(G) foster greater collaboration and dialogue between Federal, State, and local government agencies, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, employers, labor unions, currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, and others directly impacted by incarceration to enhance fair-chance hiring and employment and help to heal communities impacted by mass incarceration.

SENATE RESOLUTION 645—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF APRIL 20 THROUGH APRIL 28, 2024, AS “NATIONAL PARK WEEK”

Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BENNET, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. PETERS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. COTTON, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WICKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. REED, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KAINE, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 645

Whereas, on March 1, 1872, Congress established Yellowstone National Park as the first national park for the enjoyment of the people of the United States;

Whereas, on August 25, 1916, Congress established the National Park Service with the mission to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations;

Whereas the National Park Service continues to protect and manage the majestic landscapes, hallowed battlefields, and iconic cultural and historical sites of the United States;

Whereas the units of the National Park System can be found in every State and many territories of the United States, and many of those units embody the rich natural and cultural heritage of the United States, reflect a unique national story through people and places, and offer countless opportunities for recreation, volunteerism, cultural exchange, education, civic engagement, and exploration;

Whereas, in 2023, the national parks of the United States attracted nearly 325,500,000 recreational visits, an increase of 4 percent over 2022 visitation levels;

Whereas visits and visitors to the national parks of the United States are important economic drivers, responsible for contributing \$50,300,000,000 in spending to the national economy in 2022;

Whereas the dedicated employees of the National Park Service carry out their mission to protect the units of the National

Park System so that the vibrant culture, diverse wildlife, and priceless resources of these unique places will endure for perpetuity; and

Whereas the people of the United States have inherited the remarkable legacy of the National Park System and are entrusted with the preservation of the National Park System throughout its second century: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of April 20 through April 28, 2024, as “National Park Week”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States and the world to responsibly visit, experience, recreate in, and support the treasured national parks of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 646—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL THOMAS P. STAFFORD

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MULLIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 646

Whereas, on September 17, 1930, Lieutenant General Thomas Patten Stafford (referred to in this preamble as “General Stafford”) was born in Weatherford, Oklahoma, to Thomas and Mary Ellen Stafford;

Whereas, in 1952, General Stafford graduated with honors from the United States Naval Academy, after which he joined the newly formed Air Force;

Whereas, in 1958, General Stafford entered the United States Air Force Experimental Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base, California;

Whereas, in 1959, General Stafford graduated from the United States Air Force Experimental Test Pilot School, receiving the A.B. Honts Award as the outstanding graduate, and thereafter became an instructor and wrote flight performance and aerodynamics textbooks for the school;

Whereas, in 1962, General Stafford was chosen among the second group of astronauts by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (referred to in this preamble as “NASA”) to serve in projects Gemini and Apollo;

Whereas, in 1965, General Stafford developed techniques for and piloted Gemini VI, completing the first rendezvous in space;

Whereas, in 1966, General Stafford commanded Gemini IX, demonstrating 3 different types of rendezvous, including the rendezvous that would be used in future Apollo lunar missions;

Whereas, in 1969, General Stafford commanded Apollo 10, piloted the first lunar module to descend within 9 miles of the Moon, designated the first lunar landing site, performed reconnaissance of future Apollo landing sites, and completed each of the essential steps in the final preparation for the upcoming Moon landing, including the first rendezvous around the Moon;

Whereas General Stafford and his crew won the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Special Trustees Award (commonly known as an “Emmy Award”) for initiating development of and taking the first colored images from space;

Whereas, during the return of the Apollo 10 mission, General Stafford set the record for the fastest speed traveled by a human, at 24,791 miles per hour (or Mach 36), which, as of 2024, is still the record and is documented in the Guinness World Book of Records;

Whereas, in 1975, General Stafford took command of the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project for his final space mission, during which

General Stafford and Cosmonaut Alexei Leonov shook hands during docking, completing the first international space flight and helping to diminish Cold War tensions;

Whereas General Stafford was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in the Apollo-Soyuz mission;

Whereas, in 1975, General Stafford left NASA to serve as the commander of the Air Force Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base, California;

Whereas General Stafford, as Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Research, Development, and Acquisition, established requirements for, and initiated development of, the first stealth attack aircraft, the F117A, which was the only stealth attack aircraft in the world for 25 years, and initiated the Air Force roadmap for the air superiority fighter that is still in use in 2024;

Whereas General Stafford, just before his retirement in 1979, wrote the specifications for, and initiated the development of, the Advanced Technology Bomber, now known as the B-2 Stealth Bomber, the only stealth bomber force in the world as of 2024, and initiated the development of the AGM-129 Advanced Cruise Missile;

Whereas, from 1991 to 1993, General Stafford led the efforts of NASA to repair and service the Hubble Space Telescope and was presented with the NASA Public Service Award;

Whereas, in 2011, General Stafford was awarded the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy for pioneering achievements that have led the way to the Moon, to greater international cooperation in space, and to a safer United States;

Whereas General Stafford completed more than 507 hours in space flight time and flew more than 127 types of aircraft and helicopters during his career, along with 4 kinds of spacecraft and 3 types of boosters;

Whereas General Stafford advised several Presidents on space policy and served as the Chairman of the NASA Advisory Task Force on the International Space Station;

Whereas General Stafford gave a lifetime of service to the United States—

(1) as a member of the Armed Forces;

(2) as an astronaut and commander at NASA; and

(3) while serving in other positions in the executive branch;

Whereas General Stafford contributed immensely to the space race and the advancement of the United States in space policy and exploration; and

Whereas General Stafford demonstrated extraordinary dedication and service to the United States throughout his distinguished career: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and legacy of Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford for his contributions to the Armed Forces and the space mission of the United States; and

(2) extends its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford.

NOTICES OF INTENT TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I submit the following notice in writing:

In accordance with Rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend the following: (1) Rule VII, paragraph 2; (2) Rule VIII, paragraph 2 the phrase “during the first two hours of a new legislative day.”; and (3) Rule XIV, paragraph

6 for the purpose of considering on the same day as introduction an organizing resolution relating to the impeachment trial of Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, the text of which is as follows:

SECTION 1. SUMMONS.

(a) In General.—A summons shall be issued which commands Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas to file with the Secretary of the Senate (in this resolution referred to as the “Secretary”) an answer to the articles of impeachment with respect to Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas no later than 8 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, and thereafter to abide by, obey, and perform such orders, directions, and judgments as the Senate shall make in the premises, according to the Constitution and laws of the United States.

(b) Service.—The Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate is authorized to utilize the services of the Deputy Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate or another employee of the Senate in serving the summons.

(c) Notice Of Answer.—The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives of the filing of the answer and shall provide a copy of the answer to the House of Representatives.

(d) Filing Of Replication.—The Managers on the part of the House of Representatives may file with the Secretary a replication no later than 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted.

(e) Notice To Counsel.—The Secretary shall notify counsel for Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas of the filing of a replication, and shall provide counsel with a copy.

(f) Delivery And Printing Of Answer And Replication; Entry Of Plea.—The Secretary shall provide the answer and the replication, if any, to the Presiding Officer of the Senate on the first day the Senate is in session after the Secretary receives them, and the Presiding Officer shall cause the answer and replication, if any, to be printed in the Senate Journal and in the Congressional Record. If a timely answer has not been filed, the Presiding Officer shall cause a plea of not guilty to be entered.

(g) Printing As Senate Document.—The articles of impeachment, the answer, and the replication, if any, together with the provisions of the Constitution of the United States on impeachment, and the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials, shall be printed under the direction of the Secretary as a Senate document.

(h) Relation To Rules.—The provisions of this section shall govern notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials.

(i) Motion To Table.—A motion to table the articles of impeachment shall not be in order.

SEC. 2. COMMITTEE.

(a) In General.—Pursuant to rule XI of the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials (in this section referred to as “rule XI”), not later than 7 session days after the date on which the articles of impeachment are transmitted, the Presiding Officer shall appoint a committee of 12 Senators to perform the duties and to exercise the powers provided for in rule XI (in this resolution referred to as the “committee”).

(b) Recommendations.—The majority leader and minority leader, in consultation with their respective conference, shall each recommend 6 members, including a chair and

vice chair, respectively, to the Presiding Officer for appointment to the committee.

(c) Authority As A Standing Committee.—The committee shall be deemed to be a standing committee of the Senate for the purpose of reporting to the Senate resolutions for the criminal or civil enforcement of the committee's subpoenas or orders, and for the purpose of printing reports, hearings, and other documents for submission to the Senate under rule XI.

(d) Authority To Waive Requirements Relating To Questions.—During proceedings conducted under rule XI, the chair of the committee is authorized to waive the requirement under the Rules of Procedure and Practice in the Senate When Sitting on Impeachment Trials that questions by a Senator to a witness, a manager, or counsel shall be reduced to writing and put by the Presiding Officer.

(e) Report.—Not later than 90 calendar days after the date on which all members of the committee are appointed under subsection (a), the committee shall submit to the Senate a report compiling all evidence, exhibits, and witness testimony received by the committee, which—

(1) shall include a certified copy of the transcript of the proceedings had and testimony given before the committee; and

(2) may include a statement of facts that are uncontested and a summary, with appropriate references to the record, of evidence that the parties have introduced on contested issues of fact.

(f) Staffing And Expenses.—The actual and necessary expenses of the committee, including the employment of staff at an annual rate of pay, and the employment of consultants with prior approval of the Committee on Rules and Administration at a rate not to exceed the maximum daily rate for a standing committee of the Senate, shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate from the appropriation account "Miscellaneous Items" upon vouchers approved by the chair of the committee, except that no voucher shall be required to pay the salary of any employee who is compensated at an annual rate of pay.

(g) Termination.—The committee shall terminate not later than 45 calendar days after the pronouncement of judgment by the Senate on the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

SEC. 3. CONVENING AS COURT OF IMPEACHMENT.

At 1 p.m. on the first day on which the Senate is in session after the date that is 90 calendar days after the date on which all members of the committee established under section 2 are appointed, the Senate shall convene as a Court of Impeachment to consider the articles of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas.

SEC. 4. NOTICE.

The Secretary shall notify the House of Representatives and counsel for Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas of this resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, I submit the following notice in writing:

In accordance with Rule V of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby give notice in writing that it is my intention to move to suspend Rule XXII, including the availability of a motion to table one or more of the Articles of Impeachment against Alejandro Mayorkas, for the purpose of allowing a full trial in which witnesses may be subpoenaed to testify about the loss of family members to the fentanyl crisis as a result of Mayorkas's actions that

have caused "the flow of fentanyl across the border and other dangerous drugs" to increase dramatically, as alleged in the first Article of Impeachment against him.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. WARNOCK. Madam President, I have 10 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in open and closed session during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 9 a.m., to receive testimony.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10:30 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 Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOUSING, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development of the Committee on Banking,

Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Meagan Ezell, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges until April 17, 2024.

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

NOTICE: REGISTRATION OF MASS MAILINGS

The filing date for the 2024 first quarter Mass Mailing report is Thursday, April 25, 2024. An electronic option is available on Webster that will allow forms to be submitted via a fillable PDF document. If your office did no mass mailings during this period, please submit a form that states "none."

Mass mailing registrations or negative reports can be submitted electronically at http://webster.senate.gov/secretary/mass_mailing_form.htm or e-mailed to OPR_MassMailings@sec.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact the Senate Office of Public Records at (202) 224-0322.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 365, H.R. 7888.

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

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate, Senators will be sworn in as jurors in the Court of Impeachment at 1 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I move that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to. Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:26 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate April 16, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR A
TERM OF TEN YEARS.

RAMONA VILLAGOMEZ MANGLONA, OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS, TO BE JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING TARA BALLANTYNE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Tara Ballantyne, who serves as the President of Lion's Club in Inverness. Tara also volunteers in her local church, Serves as Secretary of the Gulf Coast Manatees Homeschool Group Inc, and with the Business Women's Alliance, which is a part of the Citrus County Chamber. Needless to say, she is heavily involved in her community and has a big heart with a mission to serve. Tara strives for success and puts her heart into all that she does. She never takes her job lightly and is a wonderful role model. As President of the Lions Club, she makes sure the organization remains relevant and active. She is involved in making decisions and getting out in the community to share the mission of the organization. She spearheads bi-annual clean-ups. Tara also helped secure an eye vision screening grant. With this grant, the organization goes to local schools and community events to provide free vision screenings. It also helps multiple non-profit organizations, provides donations, games and vision screenings and support throughout the year. She also orchestrates toy drives and donations for families at Christmas time. When our community was hit hard by a recent hurricane, Tara organized a Disaster Relief Donation Drive.

It is clear that Ms. Ballantyne has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

RECOGNIZING VALERIE ANDERSON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Valerie Anderson, who has served as an active member of Premier Community HealthCare's Patient and Community Advisory Council since July 2021 and on the Board of Directors since January 2022. She brings a wealth of experience to the organization with her background as the former Director of Housing and Special Programs at the Pasco County Housing Authority as well as more than two decades working with the American Cancer Society. She is often the first person to step up to take a leadership role for Premier programs and events. For the past two years, Valerie has served as the Event Chair of Premier's Annual Community Impact Breakfast raising nearly \$100,000 each year to support the organization's mission to expand accessible healthcare for all.

Valerie is also a Premier patient and has family members and loved ones who have benefited from Premier's medical, dental and behavioral health services. She is a champion for advocating for the need for quality, affordable healthcare and understands the impact it makes on the overall health of our community. In addition to her volunteer work, she also financially supports the Federally-Qualified Community Health Center's events. Valerie is now the Chair of Premier's Community Engagement and Stewardship Board Committee. Under her leadership, Premier is going to continue to expand its reach to build additional resources. Valerie humbles herself and always finds time to volunteer for other local non-profit organizations who share similar visions and missions including: the African American Club, Dress for Success, and Africa's Children's Heart. She is always available to help those in need.

It is clear that Ms. Anderson has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

OBSERVING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1994 GENOCIDE AGAINST THE TUTSI IN RWANDA

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to mark the 30th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. This devastating event, recognized worldwide, saw the brutal massacre of over 1,000,000 Tutsi in a hundred days by the Hutu-led Government and their Hutu neighbors. It was a chillingly systematic act of genocide.

Tragically, even Hutu who opposed the genocidal plan were not spared during this dark period. The scale of this atrocity stands as a severe violation of human rights and the principles of justice, inflicting immeasurable pain and suffering.

The genocide against the Tutsi serves as a somber reminder of the collective responsibility we share, both in the United States and globally, to protect the vulnerable, champion human rights, and prevent such horrors from recurring.

Every April 7th, the world has come together to commemorate this genocide, honoring the memory of the men, women, and children who lost their lives and standing in solidarity with the survivors.

This annual commemoration is not merely an act of remembrance. It serves to foster understanding among diverse communities and strengthens our collective commitment to human rights, safeguarding against persecution and violence, upholding individual liberties, and advocating for a free and inclusive society for all.

Therefore, let us:

Observe the 30th anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, remembering both the victims and survivors of this tragedy.

Acknowledge and commend the ongoing efforts of the people and Government of Rwanda in promoting peace, unity, reconciliation, and development, pledging our continued support for these endeavors.

Reaffirm our unwavering commitment to Rwanda's mission of preventing genocide and other mass atrocities, and to advancing human rights and democratic values across the globe.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN AND STEPHANIE BRIJBAG

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by my constituents, Brian and Stephanie Brijbag. In honor of their daughter who has autism, the couple created the Brijbag Family Foundation which has started a project called Rachel's Room. These rooms were designed with the input of a certified behavioral analyst who helps create safe and supportive learning environments for children with special needs. It is a pro-active approach to helping all kids maximize their potential while also enabling teachers to engage learners in a more functional space. The feedback and positive results stemming from this project have been phenomenal. Schools and other organizations have requesting access to a replicated version of Rachel's Room. Brian and Stephanie have also purchased \$1.6 million worth of medical debt to help improve the lives of families in Pasco, Citrus, and Hernando who were struggling with the burden of medical debt. The Brijbag family is incredibly generous with their time, talents and treasure.

It is clear that Mr. and Mrs. Brijbag has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for their service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Ms. WEXTON. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was not able to be present to vote on April 15, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted: YES on Roll Call No. 120; YES on Roll Call No. 121; YES on Roll Call No. 122; and NO on Roll Call No. 123.

• 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.

COMMEMORATING LEADERSHIP
SOUTH BEND-MISHAWAKA'S 50TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate everyone at Leadership South Bend-Mishawaka on their upcoming 50th anniversary celebration in May, and in particular, the members of Class 50 on their commencement ceremonies.

As a proud member of Leadership SBM's Signature Leadership Class 43 back in 2017, I know firsthand what an invaluable resource and great organization Leadership SBM really is. Leadership SBM plays a vital role in getting young people better connected within our community and with their peers across a wide spectrum of professions and fields. In fact, I'm still proud to count many of my classmates from Class 43 as dear friends to this day.

Leadership SBM is instrumental in forming tomorrow's local leaders; leaders who will create the kinds of opportunities we all will benefit from. Additionally, the opportunities Leadership SBM provides for continued learning, social connection, and community service projects is a big part of what makes our region in northern Indiana so special. For all these reasons and more, I am proud to be counted as one of Leadership SBM's many alumni going back a half-century.

Congratulations to Leadership SBM on this impressive milestone and on 50 years of excellence. I hope everyone enjoys the very well-deserved 50th anniversary celebration in May, and I look forward to congratulating Leadership SBM on many more anniversaries in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING ERIN CARTER-
HARVEY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by one of my constituents, Erin Carter-Harvey, for her efforts with Steele Tryin', a non-profit that organizes events and support for those in the community who are struggling. Most recently, she organized a "drive-by honking" where droves of cars paraded past the house of a local child who was dying of cancer. The activity lifted his spirits. She has also helped single moms who are struggling financially with getting their yards mowed for free. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Carter-Harvey has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

HONORING THE ARC OF NEW
JERSEY'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to the Arc of New Jersey as they celebrate their 75th anniversary.

For the past 75 years, the Arc of New Jersey has admirably supported individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They have made a significant impact by securing quality education and healthcare, equipping disabled individuals with vital workplace skills, and advocating for this community at all levels of government. The Arc of New Jersey has certainly improved the quality of life for thousands of New Jersey residents, and the Seventh District is both proud and grateful to have such an outstanding organization operating in our communities.

I wish the Arc of New Jersey a wonderful 75th anniversary. I thank them again for their dedication and passion to making our communities safer, healthier, and more inclusive places to live and work. I have no doubt that this organization will continue to thrive in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes due to a weather delay at the airport which prevented me from getting to Washington in time. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 123; YEA on Roll Call No. 122; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; and YEA on Roll Call No. 120.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR D'AMBROSIO

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by one of my constituents, Mayor Vincent "Mike" D'Ambrosio, who volunteers at least 30 hours per week in service to the Town of St. Leo. He's been on the Commission since 2020, and has been Mayor since 2022. Under his leadership, the Town has made many advances, including:

Increasing Public Advocacy for Town needs by meeting with state and federal lawmakers, resulting in the Town's first appropriation in its 131-year history.

Hosting seven "Coffee with the Mayor" events attended by more than 250 people.

Facilitating improved communication and involvement with key stakeholders, including: Saint Leo Abbey, Holy Name Monastery, Discovery Fellowship, and Saint Leo University.

Building partnerships to expand participation in: the Saint Leo University Tree Lighting and

Christmas Village, the Greased Pig Contest at the Saint Leo University Fall Festival, and the Dade City Chamber of Commerce Access East Pasco.

Purchasing land to develop a Town Center which will serve as a local gathering spot that enriches the quality of life of the residents and the community.

Establishing the Town's first internship program.

Mayor Mike is charitable, humble, kind, and passionate. His volunteerism with the Saint Leo Sporting Clays Team and the Church Truth Seekers has also been invaluable. While there may only be 24 hours in a day, Mayor Mike dedicates almost every hour of his days to helping others.

It is clear that Mayor Vincent "Mike" D'Ambrosio has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal family matter, I was unable to be in D.C. and vote on April 15, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 123.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 120.

RECOGNIZING DAVID GONZALEZ

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by one of my constituents, David Gonzalez, who is a valued volunteer with several community organizations in Hernando County and has been a long-time employee of our community's electric cooperative, Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative. In this capacity, he has served as the face of the organization in the community, presenting millions of dollars in credit refunds to local governments and school boards. Mr. Gonzalez has also served in key leadership roles on the Board of Directors for several non-profits in Hernando with the highest levels of dedication, including: the Hernando Chamber of Commerce, Hernando Education Foundation, Hernando Economic Development Council, Oak Hill Hospital Board, and the United Way of Hernando Board. Whenever there has been a need, Mr. Gonzalez has stepped forward to address it, without concern for who gets the credit. A truly humble problem-solver, Mr.

Gonzalez embodies the concept of servant leadership and has made a lasting impact on the organizations and communities he has served. While we wish him all the best in his upcoming retirement, we know that his departure from the cooperative will leave behind a void that will not easily be replaced.

It is clear that Mr. Gonzalez has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present during Roll Call vote No. 120 through 123 on April 15, 2024 because my flight to Washington, D.C. was diverted due to weather conditions. Had I been present: on Roll Call vote No. 120, I would have voted YES; on Roll Call vote No. 121, I would have voted YES; on Roll Call vote No. 122, I would have voted YES; and on Roll Call vote No. 123, I would have voted NO.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN HERO, LETICIA FERRER

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate this week's Hometown Hero, Leticia Ferrer. During last week's solar eclipse, Leticia's lifelong fascination with the movement of the sun and the moon gave her the opportunity to lead a project in North Texas funded by NASA. Leticia's passion for things out-of-this-world started in childhood and she's dedicated her life to documenting and filming eclipses across the globe. Collecting data on the sun throughout her viewings, last week the Farmer's Branch native had the opportunity to work with the Citizen CATE project as a coordinator of scientific viewing teams of the eclipse at home in North Texas. The Citizen CATE project works with NASA and the National Science Foundation to collect data on the magnetic structure and energy of the sun's corona. Leticia helped lead four teams of North Texans through the process of properly collecting the necessary data and using telescopes to gather images to be studied for years to come. I'm inspired by Leticia's dedication to the advancement of solar science and thankful for her outreach in North Texas during the total solar eclipse.

RECOGNIZING THE IVANOVSKY FAMILY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by the Ivanovsky

Family. The Twistid Arts Initiative was born out of the desire to raise awareness of and increase access to all forms of visual and performing arts in Citrus County. Prior to the creation of this non-profit organization, youth in Citrus County had limited opportunities for exposure to successful arts-based careers. In response, this non-profit organization was developed to provide innovative programming, hands-on education, and immersive events throughout the community.

The Ivanovsky Family has jumped in to help at every Twistid Arts event that has been held to date. They are extremely dedicated to the cause and are willing to do even the most menial tasks to ensure events and programs run smoothly. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that the Ivanovsky Family is making a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for their service.

CELEBRATING THE ROBBINS AREA LIBRARY'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Robbins Area Library for thirty years of service to the people of Moore County.

Thirty years ago, this library was established to serve as a center for community and learning for the people of Robbins, North Carolina. Before it was built, folks had to travel to neighboring towns in order to visit a library. But now Robbin's library has emerged as an integral part of the town. The library houses thousands of books, provides internet access in an area where coverage is limited, and caters to the learning of people of all ages. Additionally, it serves as a central meeting spot, hosting children's events, book groups, movie groups, sports clubs, and more.

Numerous folks have been integral to the success of this storied landmark. This includes people like Theron Bell, who was the chief advocate for the establishment of the library back in the 1990's, and Clara Bernicken, a thirty-year veteran of the local library system and one of the lead story tellers at Robbins. They, and many others, have performed a tremendous service to our community in Moore County. I think I speak for everyone in Moore County in thanking them for all they have done and continue to do.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the Robbins Area Library and all those who have helped it grow and develop on the thirtieth anniversary of its establishment.

CELEBRATING THE NETWORK OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE'S 50TH YEAR OF SERVICE

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the outstanding work of the Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA), as it commemorates its 50th year of service to the residents of Bucks County. NOVA stands as a beacon of hope and support for victims of serious crimes and their families. NOVA's mission of providing support, counsel, and empowerment of victims of sexual assault and abuse in our region manifests itself through its tireless advocacy and community education.

NOVA directly assists over 3,000 victims annually, providing them with crucial support and resources during their time of need. Additionally, their team of educators conducts personal safety training for approximately 30,000 individuals each year, spanning across different age groups from children to adults. By utilizing individual and group counseling, victims of sexual assault and abuse can regain control of their lives, and through education programs, children and communities learn to be advocates for victims of abuse, as well as prevention and personal safety.

By empowering individuals with the knowledge and tools to protect themselves, NOVA plays a vital role in fostering safer communities. The organization's reputation for delivering exemplary services and programs is well-deserved and wide recognized both statewide and beyond.

In conclusion, as NOVA celebrates its 50th anniversary, let us commend and express our gratitude to all the staff, volunteers, and supporters who have contributed to its success over the years. I am thankful to work with their President, Sarah Larson, Executive Director, Penny Ettinger, and the many other NOVA staff and volunteers serving Bucks County. I am proud to support them in their mission to stand for victims in the fight to end sexual assault.

RECOGNIZING JANINE KELL

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Ms. Janine Kell. Ms. Kell is an engaged and dedicated volunteer with Warrior 321, an anti-human trafficking awareness group. Most recently, Janine was instrumental in hosting the community's second annual Light Up the Night Hernando event to bring awareness about human trafficking to the county.

Janine never sleeps and has truly dedicated her life in every way to fighting on behalf of the vulnerable. In addition to her work to prevent the horrific crime of human trafficking, Janine regularly speaks at local schools, educating students on the Monique Burr curriculum. The Monique Burr curriculum is a

comprehensive, evidence-based program for kids in grades K–5. It empowers children and relevant adults with information and strategies to prevent, recognize, and appropriately respond to bullying, cyberbullying, abuse, and digital abuse dangers. Beyond advocacy, Janine will often work directly with children who have been victims of abuse to help ensure they get the support they need to fully recover. Her compassion and empathy know no bounds.

It is clear that Ms. Kell has made a profoundly positive impact on our community and on the lives of countless people she has worked with. I am grateful for her service.

HONORING THE LANCASTER VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS FOR SEVENTY-ONE YEARS OF INVALUABLE SERVICE TO WESTERN NEW YORK

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lancaster Volunteer Ambulance Corps for its 71 years of emergency medical service to Western New York. Operating every day of every year, the volunteer first responders who comprise Lancaster Ambulance often serve as the first and most crucial contact for those suffering from profound medical distress. Lancaster Ambulance's impact on Town of Lancaster, Village of Lancaster, Town of Alden, Village of Alden, and Village of Depew is unquestionable, with its volunteers responding to an astounding 7,553 calls last year alone. These dedicated emergency responders are treating our friends and neighbors amidst their darkest hours, and I am proud to recognize their community service and high level of professionalism in the line of duty.

On behalf of Congress and the 23rd Congressional District, I commend the men and women serving as part of the Lancaster Volunteer Ambulance Corp. I include in the RECORD the names of the Lancaster Ambulance Board and Management Team into the RECORD as a sign of respect and appreciation for their service and all the members of this important organization:

Chester Popiolkowski—President
William Revelas—Vice President
Christopher Yockey—Secretary
Robert Over—Treasurer
Amy Revelas—Director of Operations
Nancy Revelas—Director
Allison Abraham—Director
John O'Donnell—Director
Jonathan Hunter—Director
Robert Sank—Chief of Compliance
Brian Fenik—Chief of Narcotics
Lynn O'Donnell—Training Coordinator

I ask that this legislative body joins me in celebrating the Lancaster Volunteer Ambulance Corps for its over seven decades of service. We thank the many generations of first responders who have protected the Town of Lancaster and its surrounding area through this exemplary organization.

CELEBRATING EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY IN HONOR OF THE REBBE

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, April 19, 2024, corresponding to the 11th of Nissan, marks the birthday of Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, known as "the Rebbe." It is celebrated worldwide and in all 50 states across our great country, including my home state of South Dakota.

This day is also observed as "Education & Sharing Day" in recognition of the Rebbe's deep commitment to bettering the education of all people. He emphasized that education should not merely be about imparting knowledge but must instill values essential for living a meaningful life, fostering moral character, and contributing to the betterment of individuals and society at large. These moral and ethical principles have served as the foundation of civilization since time immemorial.

Like two of the greatest Jewish leaders known to humanity in their times, Moses and Maimonides, whom we honor with their bas-reliefs adorning the walls of this august body, the Rebbe provided leadership, guidance, and healing in our times. This body is honored to have awarded him the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Rebbe said that from his earliest childhood days, he envisioned seeing the world come to a state of peace. Through decades of dedicated service and leadership, while guiding many of our nation's leaders, he exemplified how humanity, through moral education, charitable deeds, and acts of kindness, can bring our world to a state where "swords are turned into plowshares," with peace and prosperity for all inhabitants of God's world.

On the Rebbe's birthday, it is fitting that we honor him by striving to apply his teachings with greater diligence, embodying his vision of a world illuminated by compassion and goodwill for all.

RECOGNIZING JOE MARINA

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by one of my constituents, Joe Marina, who is a valued volunteer with several community organizations and has been a long-time employee of our community's electric cooperative, Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative. In this capacity, he has served as the face of the organization in the community, presenting millions of dollars of credit refunds to local governments and school boards. Mr. Marina embodies the heart of a true public servant, lending his expertise, passion, time and energy into all he has been involved with. He has served in key leadership roles on the Board of Directors for United Way of Pasco, the Pasco Economic Development Council, the Boys and Girls Club, the Vincent House and several other local nonprofits. Mr.

Marina doesn't just lend his name to a cause; when he commits to something, he goes "all-in"—above and beyond to make a lasting imprint on the lives of those his work touches. For more than 25 years, whenever there has been an unmet need in the community, Mr. Marina has stepped up to the plate to make sure the job is done, and done right. He has worked tirelessly on countless large-scale community projects to enrich the lives of the people of Pasco County and to create opportunities for future residents. He has helped to transform Pasco from a bedroom community to one in which people can truly live, play and work. His compassion and his desire to empower others to realize their full potential knows no bounds. As he embarks upon his well-deserved retirement, he leaves behind a legacy of selfless service, commitment to others, and humble leadership. His shoes will be big to fill.

It is clear that Mr. Marina has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

CONGRATULATING THE PICKETT COUNTY LADY BOBCATS ON CLAIMING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, for many of the folks I represent in the Upper Cumberland Region of Middle Tennessee, this year feels a lot like 1989.

That's the last time the Pickett County Lady Bobcats were named TSSAA girls basketball state champions. They reclaimed that title last month, when they defeated the Moore County Lady Raiders, 56–45, in the Class 1A final.

And this championship, Mr. Speaker, was a family affair. Lady Bobcats Guard Zoe Nicholas now joins her aunt and grandmother in having been members of a Pickett County state championship team. It doesn't stop there. Nicholas' cousin, Callie Reeder, is also on the winning team and was even named tournament MVP.

The coach that led the team to victory, Brent Smith, has a brother named Barry, who happened to coach the last winning team 35 years ago.

It's important to note that even though this is the first state championship in a while, the program does very well every season. It's also important to note that each time the Lady Bobcats have made it out of the quarterfinals and advanced to the state championship, they've won. I want to congratulate the current champions for keeping that now six-time winning streak alive.

I am proud to represent Pickett County, and many places like it, that take so much pride in their families, communities, and their home team.

I would now like to recognize everyone who carried the team to victory. Players included: Senior Allie Amonett, Senior Ella K. Keisling, Junior Emmy Lowe, Junior Callie Reeder, Junior Kaylee Tompkins, Sophomore Addison Lowe, Sophomore Zoey Nicholas, Sophomore Kylie Wood, and Freshman Emma Tompkins. Managers included: Senior Nikki Gunter, Junior Addie Keisling, and Junior Ava Keisling. I'd

also like to recognize Head Coach Brent Smith and Assistant Coach Rochelle Mason for the win.

Again, congratulations to the Pickett County Lady Bobcats, the 2024 TSSAA 1A Girls Basketball State Champions.

CONGRATULATING LARRY FOSTER

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Foster of the Navajo Nation for his induction into the North American Indigenous Athletics Hall of Fame. This honor demonstrates the outstanding leadership and athletic achievement of Mr. Foster. It is a hallmark of his commitment and dedication.

Foster was a student at Window Rock High School in Arizona where he earned All State and All Conference Honors in baseball, football, and basketball from 1966 to 1969. Upon graduating high school, he continued to play baseball at Bacone Juniors College in Muskogee, Oklahoma and later Adam State College in Alamosa, Colorado. He was named as the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference Batting Champion in 1971 with a batting average of .442.

After college, Foster played semi-pro baseball and was a nine-time All Tournament outfield and batting champion and continued to play in All Indian baseball tournaments from 1964 to 1976.

Foster now resides in Gallup, New Mexico with his wife Mattie Foster. He continues to be an active member of his community, including being a local sportswriter. Ná b hózh to

Mr. Foster. We are grateful for his contribution to sports in New Mexico.

CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF ABILENE BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Abilene Baptist Church in Georgia's 12th District.

Established near Augusta, Georgia and founded by the pioneering Baptist minister Daniel Marshall, the centuries-long history of Abilene continues to bring hope and unity of God's word to our communities.

As we reflect on 250 years of faith, fellowship, and service, we also remember the journey that has brought us to this moment—through the many challenges, countless blessings, and cherished milestones.

This anniversary is not just a marker of time, but a testament to the unwavering dedication and commitment of each member of this congregation.

One of my favorite passages in the Bible is God's instructions to Joshua in Joshua 1:8: "Do not let this book of law depart from your lips, be careful to do what it says, meditate on it day and night, and you will be prosperous and successful."

This anniversary is undoubtedly a celebration, but also a reminder that God has used this congregation in a powerful way and continues to do so.

I express my deepest gratitude to those who have contributed to the years of success of

Abilene Baptist Church. May God bless each and every one of them.

RECOGNIZING MARK McCLARTY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made in our community by one of my constituents, Mark McClarty, who has been a volunteer with the non-profit, People Helping People (PHP) since 2023. Mark stepped up to manage the organization's Weekend Blessings program which provides four meals per week-end to children facing food insecurity. The program also feeds these children throughout the summer. Careful coordination with the Hernando County School District and other organizations is required to make this initiative successful, and Mark works tirelessly to get the job done. Mark's background in finance and his people skills are so incredibly valuable. He continually finds innovative ways to lower the costs while increasing value of the food PHP purchases for the program. Under his leadership, the Weekend Blessings initiative has grown, as it now serves an additional 150 needy children each week. The efficiencies he has implemented for this initiative have also been replicated within PHP's senior feeding program. His positive attitude is infectious.

It is clear that Mr. McClarty has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2757–S2796

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4126–4135, and S. Res. 642–646. **Pages S2789–90**

Measures Passed:

National Park Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 645, designating the week of April 20 through April 28, 2024, as “National Park Week”. **Page S2781**

Honoring Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford: Senate agreed to S. Res. 646, honoring the life and legacy of Lieutenant General Thomas P. Stafford. **Page S2781**

Measures Considered:

Reforming Intelligence And Securing America Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7888, to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978. **Pages S2761–62, S2765–81**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, April 18, 2024.

Page S2762

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 128), Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Pages S2761–62**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. **Page S2795**

Senate agreed to the motion to adjourn until 11 a.m., on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. **Page S2795**

Receiving the House Managers: The Senate received the managers appointed by the House of Representatives who presented Articles of Impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security. **Pages S2762–65, S2785–87**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Proclamation 10371 of April 21, 2022, with respect to the Russian Federation and the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of Russian-affiliated vessels to United States ports; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (PM–48) **Page S2785**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 96 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 127), Ramona Villagomez Manglona, of the Northern Mariana Islands, to be Judge for the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands for a term of ten years.

Pages S2757–61

Messages from the House:

Pages S2785–87

Measures Referred:

Page S2787

Executive Communications:

Pages S2787–89

Petitions and Memorials:

Page S2789

Additional Cosponsors:

Pages S2790–92

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S2792–94

Additional Statements:

Pages S2784–85

Notices of Intent:

Pages S2794–95

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Page S2795

Privileges of the Floor:

Page S2795

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—128) **Pages S2761–62**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:26 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S2795.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: USDA

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Agriculture, after receiving testimony from Thomas J. Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS: NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Navy and Marine Corps, after receiving testimony from Carlos Del Toro, Secretary of the Navy, Admiral Lisa Marie Franchetti, 33rd Chief of Naval Operations, and General Eric Smith, Commandant of the Marine Corps, all of the Department of Defense.

APPROPRIATIONS: HHS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Health and Human Services, after receiving testimony from Xavier Becerra, Secretary of Health and Human Services.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE POSTURE

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Frank Kendall, Secretary of the Air Force, General David W. Allvin, USAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and General B. Chance Saltzman, USSF, Chief of Space Operations, all of the Department of Defense.

PRESERVING THE U.S. HOUSING STOCK

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development concluded a hearing to examine challenges in preserving the U.S. housing stock, including S.2790, to reform rural housing programs, S.1557, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, S.3871, to establish a whole-home repairs program for eligible homeowners and eligible landlords, S.234, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of

1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, S.3793, to reauthorize the HOME Investment Partnerships Program, S.1805, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand housing investment with mortgage revenue bonds, and S.657, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for neighborhood revitalization, after receiving testimony from Jesse Ergott, NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania, Scranton; Robin Wolff, Enterprise Community Partners, Washington, D.C.; and Christopher Volzke, Wyoming Community Development Authority, Casper.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Energy, after receiving testimony from Jennifer M. Granholm, Secretary of Energy.

IRS FY 2025 BUDGET AND 2024 FILING SEASON

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2025 for the Internal Revenue Service and the Internal Revenue Service 2024 filing season, after receiving testimony from Daniel Werfel, Commissioner, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 3854, to combat transnational repression abroad, to strengthen tools to combat authoritarianism, corruption, and kleptocracy, to invest in democracy research and development, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3235, to require a strategy to counter the role of the People's Republic of China in evasion of sanctions imposed by the United States with respect to Iran, with amendments;

S. 1651, to encourage increased trade and investment between the United States and the countries in the Western Balkans, with amendments;

S. 138, to amend the Tibetan Policy Act of 2002 to modify certain provisions of that Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1829, to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in the import of petroleum from the Islamic Republic of Iran, with amendments;

S. 3874, to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for terrorist organizations in Gaza and the West Bank, with amendments;

S. 2626, to impose sanctions with respect to the Supreme Leader of Iran and the President of Iran and

their respective offices for human rights abuses and support for terrorism, with amendments;

S. 2336, to address the threat from the development of Iran's ballistic missile program and the transfer or deployment of Iranian missiles and related goods and technology, including materials and equipment, with amendments;

S. Res. 505, condemning the use of sexual violence and rape as a weapon of war by the terrorist group Hamas against the people of Israel;

S. 618, to establish the United States Foundation for International Conservation to promote long-term management of protected and conserved areas, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1881, to reauthorize and amend the Nicaraguan Investment Conditionality Act of 2018 and the Reinforcing Nicaragua's Adherence to Conditions for Electoral Reform Act of 2021, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 357, recognizing the formation of the Alliance for Development in Democracy and urging the United States to pursue deeper ties with its member countries;

S. Con. Res. 18, calling for the immediate release of Marc Fogel, a United States citizen and teacher, who was given an unjust and disproportionate criminal sentence by the Government of the Russian Federation in June 2022, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. Res. 385, calling for the immediate release of Evan Gershkovich, a United States citizen and journalist, who was wrongfully detained by the Government of the Russian Federation in March 2023; and

The nominations of Stephanie Sanders Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, with the rank and status of Ambassador, Pamela M. Tremont, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe, Elizabeth Rood, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to Turkmenistan, Richard H. Riley IV, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Somalia, David J. Kostelancik, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Kamala Shirin Lakhdhir, of Connecticut, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Stephan A. Lang, of Virginia, to be U.S. Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy, with the rank of Ambassador, Jennifer M. Adams, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cabo Verde, Courtney Diesel O'Donnell, of California, to be United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, with the rank of Ambassador, Dorothy Camille Shea, of North Carolina, to be Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Amba-

sador and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, Dafna Hochman Rand, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, Arthur W. Brown, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Ecuador, Richard Mills, Jr., of Georgia, to be Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Mark Toner, of Pennsylvania, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Liberia, Laura Stone, of Utah, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Lisa Peterson, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi, and Donna Ann Welton, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, all of the Department of State, Andrew William Plitt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, Richard L.A. Weiner, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Elizabeth Shortino, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund, and routine lists in the Foreign Service.

USPS OVERSIGHT

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the United States Postal Service, after receiving testimony from Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer, Roman Martinez IV, Chairman, Board of Governors, and Tammy Hull, Inspector General, all of the United States Postal Service; and Michael Kubayanda, Chairman, Postal Regulatory Commission.

SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine eliminating the abuse of solitary confinement, focusing on a legacy of harm, after receiving testimony from Gretta L. Goodwin, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; Roy Boyd, Goliad County Sheriff, Goliad, Texas; Nicole Davis, Talk2MeFoundation, Chicago, Illinois; and Katherine R. Peeler, Harvard Medical School, Boston, Massachusetts.

AI AND ELECTION DEEPPAKES

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law concluded an oversight hearing to examine AI, focusing on election deepfakes, after receiving testimony from David

Scanlan, New Hampshire Secretary of State, Concord; Zohaib Ahmed, Resemble AI, Santa Clara, California; Ben Colman, Reality Defender, New York, New York; and Rijul Gupta, Deep Media, Inc., Oakland, California.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

LONG-TERM CARE WORKFORCE

Special Committee on Aging: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the long-term care workforce, focusing on addressing shortages and improving the profession, after receiving testimony from Nicholas Smith, SPIN, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Brooke Vogleman, TLC Management, Huntington, Indiana; Matthew Connell, Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Indianapolis; and Jasmine L. Travers, New York University Rory Meyers College of Nursing, New York, New York.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 8014–8032; and 4 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 104; and H. Res. 1150–1152, were introduced. **Pages H2443–44**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H2445**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1149, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6323) to modify the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1143) condemning Iran's unprecedented drone and missile attack on Israel; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4691) to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5947) to provide for the rescission of certain waivers and licenses relating to Iran, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 6046) to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes; and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4639) to amend section 2702 of title 18, United States Code, to prevent law enforcement and intelligence agencies from obtaining subscriber or customer records in exchange for anything of value, to address communications and records in the possession of intermediary internet service providers, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–464).

Page H2443

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Miller (IL) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H2401**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:33 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m. **Page H2405**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Page H2405**

Recess: The House recessed at 1:12 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. **Page H2413**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, April 15:

Holding Iranian Leaders Accountable Act of 2023: H.R. 6245, amended, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to report on financial institutions' involvement with officials of the Iranian Government, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 126; and

Pages H2415–16

Iran Sanctions Accountability Act of 2023: H.R. 6015, amended, To require the President to prevent the abuse of financial sanctions exemptions by Iran, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 408 yeas to 13 nays, Roll No. 127. **Page H2416**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Strengthening Tools to Counter the Use of Human Shields Act: H.R. 5917, amended, to amend the Sanctioning the Use of Civilians as Defenseless Shields Act to modify and extend that Act, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 128;

Pages H2416–19, H2432–33

Illicit Captagon Trafficking Suppression Act of 2023:

H.R. 4681, amended, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to illicit captagon trafficking, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 410 yeas to 13 nays, Roll No. 129; **Pages H2419–21, H2433**

No Technology for Terror Act: H.R. 6603, amended, to apply foreign-direct product rules to Iran, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 19 nays, Roll No. 130; **Pages H2422–23, H2433–34**

No Paydays for Hostage-Takers Act: H.R. 5826, amended, to require a report on sanctions under the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 391 yeas to 34 nays, Roll No. 131; **Pages H2423–26, H2434–35**

Solidify Iran Sanctions Act of 2023: H.R. 3033, to repeal the sunset provision of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 407 yeas to 16 nays, Roll No. 132; **Pages H2426–28, H2435**

Encouraging the European Union to Determine that the European Union Should Sanction the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps Now As a Terrorist Entity Resolution: H. Res. 288, urging the European Union to expeditiously designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps as a terrorist organization under Common Position 931, and for other purposes, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 411 yeas to 14 nays, Roll No. 133; and **Pages H2428–30, H2435–36**

Condemning antisemitic slogans: H. Res. 883, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the slogan, “from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free” is antisemitic and its use must be condemned, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 377 yeas to 44 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 134. **Pages H2430–32, H2436–37**

Iran Counterterrorism Act of 2023: The House began consideration of H.R. 6323, to modify the availability of certain waiver authorities with respect to sanctions imposed with respect to the financial sector of Iran, and for other purposes. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, April 17th. **Pages H2406–13, H2413, H2437–41**

Pursuant to the Rule, the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill shall be considered as adopted. **Pages H2406–13**

H. Res. 1149, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 6323), (H.R. 4691), (H.R. 5947), (H.R. 6046), (H.R. 4639) and the resolution (H. Res. 1143) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 214 ayes to 208 noes, Roll No. 125, after the previous

question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 212 yeas to 208 nays, Roll No. 124.

Pages H2406–13, H2413–14, H2414–15

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President transmitting a notification stating that the national emergency declared with respect to the Russian Federation and the emergency authority relating to the regulation of the anchorage and movement of Russian-affiliated vessels to United States ports is to continue in effect beyond April 21, 2024—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 118–131). **Pages H2405, H2413**

Senate Referrals: S. 3858 was held at the desk.

Pages H2421–22

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on pages H2421–22.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Ten ye-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H2414, H2414–15, H2415, H2416, H2432–33, H2433, H2433–34, H2434–35, H2435, H2435–36, and H2436–37.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE; OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS; CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service; the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights; and the Congressional Office for International Leadership. Testimony was heard from Brian Pugh, Executive Director, John C. Stennis Center for Public Service; Martin J. Crane, Executive Director, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights; and Jane Sargus, Executive Director, Congressional Office for International Leadership.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the U.S. Forest Service. Testimony was heard from Randy Moore, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Mark Lichtenstein, National Budget Director, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies held a

budget hearing on the Department of Justice. Testimony was heard from Merrick Garland, Attorney General, Department of Justice.

APPROPRIATIONS—FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a budget hearing on the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Testimony was heard from Deanne Criswell, Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs. Testimony was heard from Denis McDonough, Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

APPROPRIATIONS—LIBRARY OF CONGRESS; ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Library of Congress and the Architect of the Capitol. Testimony was heard from Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress, Library of Congress; Joseph DiPietro, Acting Architect of the Capitol; Robert R. Newlen, Interim Director, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and Shira Perlmutter, Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

APPROPRIATIONS—TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a budget hearing on the Transportation Security Administration. Testimony was heard from David Pekoske, Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Department of the Army Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request”. Testimony was heard from General Randy George, Chief of Staff of the Army; and Christine Wormuth, Secretary of the Army.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET REQUEST FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ENERGY, INSTALLATIONS, AND ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Readiness held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request for Department of Defense Energy, Installations, and Environment Programs”. Testimony was heard from Meredith Berger, Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Energy, Installations, and Environment, Department of the Navy; Ravi Chaudhary, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Energy, Installations and Environment, Department of the Air Force; Rachel Jacobson, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy, Installations and Environment, Department of the Army; and Brendan Owens, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense.

FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR FIXED-WING TACTICAL AND TRAINING AIRCRAFT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing entitled “Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request of the Department of Defense for Fixed-Wing Tactical and Training Aircraft Programs”. Testimony was heard from Douglas C. Schmidt, Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Richard G. Moore, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs, Department of the Air Force; Lieutenant General Bradford J. Gering, Deputy Commandant for Aviation, U.S. Marine Corps; Lieutenant General Michael J. Schmidt, F-35 Program Executive Officer, Department of the Air Force; and Rear Admiral Michael Donnelly, Director, Air Warfare Division, Department of the Navy.

EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT’S 50TH ANNIVERSARY: THE PATH TO HIGHER QUALITY, LOWER COST HEALTH CARE

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled “ERISA’s 50th Anniversary: the Path to Higher Quality, Lower Cost Health Care”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING HEALTH SECTOR CYBERSECURITY IN THE WAKE OF THE CHANGE HEALTHCARE ATTACK

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled “Examining Health Sector Cybersecurity in the Wake of the Change

Healthcare Attack”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING HOW IMPROPER PAYMENTS COST TAXPAYERS BILLIONS AND WEAKEN MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining How Improper Payments Cost Taxpayers Billions and Weaken Medicare and Medicaid”. Testimony was heard from Michael Chernew, Chair, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission; Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; Christi Grimm, Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and Timothy Hill, Member, Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program Payment and Access Commission.

HELD FOR RANSOM: HOW RANSOMWARE ENDANGERS OUR FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on National Security, Illicit Finance, and International Financial Institutions held a hearing entitled “Held for Ransom: How Ransomware Endangers Our Financial System”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

AGENCY AUDIT: REVIEWING CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU FINANCIAL REPORTING AND TRANSPARENCY

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Monetary Policy held a hearing entitled “Agency Audit: Reviewing CFPB Financial Reporting and Transparency”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A REVIEW OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “A Review of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security”. Testimony was heard from Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee began a markup on H.R. 1631, the “Protecting and Enhancing Public Access to Codes Act”; H.R. 7737, the “One Agency Act”; H.R. 3591, the “Asylum Accountability Act”; H.R. 3269, the “Law Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act”; H.R. 7581, the “Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and

Wellness Through Data Act”; and H.R. 4951, the “Ensuring Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act”.

LIBERTY, TYRANNY, AND ACCOUNTABILITY: COVID-19 AND THE CONSTITUTION

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government held a hearing entitled “Liberty, Tyranny, and Accountability: Covid-19 and the Constitution”. Testimony was heard from Joseph A. Ladapo, M.D., Surgeon General, Florida; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 5015, the “Seedlings for Sustainable Habitat Restoration Act of 2023”; H.R. 6482, the “Enhancing Geothermal Production on Federal Lands Act”; H.R. 7003, the “National Landslide Preparedness Act Reauthorization Act of 2024”; H.R. 7370, the “Geothermal Energy Opportunity Act”; H.R. 7375, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to improve the assessment of expression of interest fees, and for other purposes; H.R. 7377, the “Royalty Resiliency Act”; H.R. 7408, the “America’s Wildlife Habitat Conservation Act”; H.R. 7409, the “HEATS Act”; and H.R. 7422, the “Geothermal Cost-Recovery Authority Act of 2024”. H.R. 7409 was ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 7422, H.R. 7408, H.R. 7377, H.R. 7375, H.R. 7370, H.R. 7003, H.R. 6482, and H.R. 5015 were ordered reported, as amended.

HOW THE BORDER CRISIS IMPACTS PUBLIC SAFETY

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs held a hearing entitled “How the Border Crisis Impacts Public Safety”. Testimony was heard from Bill Waybourn, Sheriff, Tarrant County, Texas; Mike Chapman, Sheriff, Loudoun County, Virginia; and public witnesses.

ACADEMIC MALPRACTICE: EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS, THE GOVERNMENT, AND PEER REVIEW

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic held a hearing entitled “Academic Malpractice: Examining the Relationship Between Scientific Journals, the Government, and Peer Review”. Testimony was heard from a public witness.

**EXPLORING SMALL BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS:
REVIEWING THE SMALL BUSINESS
INVESTMENT COMPANY AND SMALL
BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH
PROGRAMS' IMPACT ON SMALL
BUSINESSES**

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access held a hearing entitled “Exploring SBA Programs: Reviewing the SBIC and SBIR Programs’ Impact on Small Businesses”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a business meeting on updated Committee roster. The updated Committee roster was approved.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a markup on H.R. 1083, the “Caring for Survivors Act of 2023”; H.R. 2911, the “Fairness for Servicemembers and their Families Act of 2023”; H.R. 3651, the “Love Lies On Act of 2023”; H.R. 7100, the “Prioritizing Veterans’ Survivors Act”; H.R. 7150, the “Survivor Benefits Delivery Improvement Act of 2024”; H.R. 7777, the “Veterans’ Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2024”; H.R. 7793, the “Veterans Appeals Options Expansion Act of 2024”; H.R. 7816, the “Clear Communications for Veterans Claims Act”; H.R. 7883, the “Toxic Exposures Examination Improvement Act”; H.R. 7917, the “Veterans Appeals Efficiency Act of 2024”; and H.R. 7919, the “Veterans Claims Quality Improvement Act of 2024”. H.R. 2911 and H.R. 7816 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended. H.R. 1083, H.R. 3651, H.R. 7100, H.R. 7150, H.R. 7777, H.R. 7793, H.R. 7883, H.R. 7917, and H.R. 7919 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Health held a markup on H.R. 3225, the “BUILD for Veterans Act of 2023”; H.R. 3303, the “Maternal Health for Veterans Act”; H.R. 3644, the “ACT for Veterans Act”; H.R. 3649, the “Veterans National Traumatic Brain Injury Treatment Act”; H.R. 4424, the “Vietnam Veterans Liver Fluke Cancer Study Act”; H.R. 3584, the “Veterans Cannabis Analysis, Research, and Effectiveness Act”; H.R. 5530, the “VA Emergency Transportation Access Act”; H.R. 5794, the “Veterans Affairs Peer Review Neutrality Act of 2023”; H.R. 6324, the “Fiscal

Year 2024 Veterans Affairs Major Medical Facility Authorization Act”; H.R. 6373, the “Veterans STAND Act”; H.R. 7347, to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to report on whether the Secretary will include certain psychedelic drugs in the formulary of the Department of Veterans Affairs; and a Lease Resolution. H.R. 3644 was forwarded to the full Committee, as amended. H.R. 3584, H.R. 4424, H.R. 6373, H.R. 5530, H.R. 6324, H.R. 7347, H.R. 3225, H.R. 5794, H.R. 3649, and H.R. 3303 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. The Lease Resolution was forwarded to the full Committee.

**HEARING ON THE BIDEN
ADMINISTRATION’S 2024 TRADE POLICY
AGENDA WITH UNITED STATES TRADE
REPRESENTATIVE KATHERINE TAI**

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing on the Biden Administration’s 2024 Trade Policy Agenda with United States Trade Representative Katherine Tai”. Testimony was heard from Katherine Tai, U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President.

**HEARING ON THE WINDFALL
ELIMINATION PROVISION AND
GOVERNMENT PENSION OFFSET**

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing entitled “Hearing on the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

**THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY’S ROLE
IN THE FENTANYL CRISIS**

Select Committee on the Strategic Competition Between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The CCP’s Role in the Fentanyl Crisis”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

REPUBLIC OF MALTA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the Republic of Malta, focusing on leading the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe through turbulent times, after receiving testimony from Ian Borg, Republic of Malta Foreign Minister and Chairperson-in-Office, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Justice, 9:30 a.m., SD-192.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration atomic energy defense activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC-217, 9 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the FAA Organization Designation Authorization (ODA) Expert Panel Report, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Christopher T. Hanson, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, 10 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President's 2024 trade policy agenda, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine modernizing United States alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific, 10 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Colleen Duffy Kiko, of North Dakota, and Anne Marie Wagner, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and David Huitema, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine Boeing's broken safety culture, focusing on firsthand accounts, 11 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kevin Gafford Ritz, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Brian Edward Murphy, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Rebecca L. Pennell, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, and Jeannette A. Vargas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, 10 a.m., SD-226.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the U.S. House of Representatives, 9 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works) and the Bureau of Reclamation, 9:30 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of the Interior, 9:30 a.m., 2008 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing on the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Labor, 10 a.m., 2358-C Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing entitled "Member and Public Witness Day", 11 a.m., HT-2 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on National Aeronautics and Space Administration, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on U.S. Air Force and U.S. Space Force Military Construction and Family Housing, 2 p.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on Immigration and Customs Enforcement, 2:30 p.m., 2358-A Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Department of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "Department of the Navy Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces", 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Military Leadership and Personnel, hearing entitled "Military Department Personnel Chiefs: Personnel Posture", 3:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Columbia in Crisis: Columbia University's Response to Antisemitism", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce, hearing entitled "Legislative Solutions to Protect Kids Online and Ensure Americans' Data Privacy Rights", 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2025 Department of Health and Human Services Budget", 2 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5535, the "Insurance Data Protection Act"; H.R. 802, the "Respect State Housing Laws Act"; H.R. 7437, the "Fostering the Use of Technology to Uphold Regulatory Effectiveness in Supervision Act"; H.R. 7440, the "Financial Services Innovation Act of 2024"; H.R. 7428, the "Earned Wage Access Consumer Protection Act"; H.R. 4206, the "Bank Safety Act of 2023"; H.R. 4116, the "Systemic Risk Authority Transparency Act"; H.J. Res. 127, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to the "Enhancement and Standardization of Climate-Related Disclosures for Investors"; H.J. Res. 122, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau relating to "Credit Card Penalty Fees (Regulation Z)"; H.J. Res. 120, a resolution

providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) relating to “Guidance on Non-Bank Financial Company Determinations”; H.J. Res. 125, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System relating to “Principles for Climate-Related Financial Risk Management for Large Financial Institutions”; H.J. Res. 126, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation relating to “Principles for Climate-Related Financial Risk Management for Large Financial Institutions”; H.J. Res. 124, a resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency relating to “Principles for Climate-Related Financial Risk Management for Large Financial Institutions”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia; and Subcommittee on Europe, joint hearing entitled “The Despot Duo: Russo-Iranian Cooperation and Threats to U.S. Interests”, 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Oversight, hearing entitled “Three Years Later: D.C. National Guard Whistleblowers Speak Out on January 6 Delay”, 10 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, continue markup on H.R. 1631, the “Protecting and Enhancing Public Access to Codes Act”; H.R. 7737, the “One Agency Act”; H.R. 3591, the “Asylum Accountability Act”; H.R. 3269, the “Law Enforcement Innovate to De-Escalate Act”; H.R. 7581, the “Improving Law Enforcement Officer Safety and Wellness Through Data Act”; and H.R. 4951, the “Ensuring Justice for Victims of Terrorism Act”, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Federal Lands, hearing on legislation to expedite under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and improve forest management activities on National Forest System lands, on public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, and on Tribal lands to return resilience to overgrown, fire-prone forested lands, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Defending America from the Chinese Communist Party’s Political Warfare, Part I”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, markup on legislation on The Rural Small Business Resilience Act;

H.R. 5333, the “Investing in All of America Act of 2023”; legislation on The Transparency and Predictability in Small Business Opportunities Act; legislation on The Plain Language in Contracting Act; legislation on The Small Business Procurement and Utilization Reform (SPUR) Act of 2024; legislation on The Individuals with Disabilities Entrepreneurial Act of 2024; and legislation on The Think DIFFERENTLY About Disability Employment Act, 9:45 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, hearing entitled “Getting to Work: Examining Challenges and Solutions in the Commuter Rail Industry”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, markup on H.R. 6538, the “VA Correct Compensation Act of 2023”; H.R. 6874, the “VA WEB Act”; H.R. 6947, the “Veterans Affairs Centennial and Heritage Act of 2024”; H.R. 7342, the “Veterans Accessibility Advisory Committee Act of 2024”; H.R. 7765, the “VA Security Screening Pilot Program Act”; H.R. 7713, the “VA Political Performance Disclosure Act”; H.R. 6452, the “Veterans Scam and Fraud Evasion Act of 2023”; H.R. 7734, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a notation in the personal record file of certain employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs who resign from Government employment under certain circumstances; and H.R. 6531, the “TRAIN VA Employees Act”, 9:30 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, markup on H.R. 6225, the “Expanding Home Loans for Guard and Reservists Act”; H.R. 6656, the “Stuck on Hold Act”; H.R. 7323, the “Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserves Tuition Fairness Act”; H.R. 7613, the “Veterans Flight Training Responsibility Act of 2024”; H.R. 7643, the “Veterans Congressional Work Study Act of 2024”; H.R. 7653, the “VERY Act of 2024”; and H.R. 7732, the “ETS Act”, 1 p.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5179, the “Anti-BDS Labeling Act”; H.R. 7981, the “Stop China’s Exploitation of Congolese Children and Adult Forced Labor through Cobalt Mining Act”; H.R. 7979, the “End China’s De Minimis Abuse Act”; H.R. 7983, the “Stop Executive Overreach on Trade Agreements”; H.R. 7980, the “End Chinese Dominance of Electric Vehicles in America Act of 2024”; and H.R. 7986, the “Generalized System Preferences Reform Act”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Subcommittee on National Security Agency and Cyber, hearing entitled “Computer Network Operations (CNO)”, 2 p.m., HVC-304. This hearing is closed.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Wednesday, April 17

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, April 17

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 7888, Reforming Intelligence and Securing America Act.

At 1 p.m., Senators will be sworn in as jurors in the court of impeachment against Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security. Roll call votes are expected in relation to the impeachment trial.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Complete consideration of H.R. 6323—Iran Counterterrorism Act.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Allen, Rick W., Ga., E359
Bilirakis, Gus M., Fla., E355, E355, E355, E356, E356,
E356, E357, E357, E358, E359
Eshoo, Anna G., Calif., E357
Fitzpatrick, Brian K., Pa., E357

Hudson, Richard, N.C., E356, E357
Johnson, Dusty, S. Dak., E358
Kean, Thomas H., Jr., N.J., E356
Kelly, Trent, Miss., E355
Langworthy, Nicholas A., N.Y., E358
Leger Fernandez, Teresa, N.M., E359
Rose, John W., Tenn., E358

Ruiz, Raul, Calif., E356
Van Duyne, Beth, Tex., E357
Wexton, Jennifer, Va., E355
Williams, Roger, Tex., E356
Yakym, Rudy III, Ind., E356



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