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Senate

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

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray. Eternal God, who shall abide in Your tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Your holy hills? You have given us the answers. Those who walk upright and work righteousness, who speak the truth in their hearts, will abide in Your presence.

Today, prepare the men and women of this body to dwell with You. Lord, give them the integrity to be true to their duties, always striving to please You. Fix their hearts on You, O God, that everything they think, say, and do will be under Your Lordship. Send Your light and truth into this Chamber as You guide our Senators in these challenging times.

We pray in Your wonderful 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, May 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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 "STAFF ACCOUNTING BULLETIN NO. 121"

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.J. Res. 109, which the clerk will report the joint resolution.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) 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 "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121".

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, tomorrow will be 100 days since Senate

Republicans blocked the strongest border security bill we have seen in a generation.

For the last 2 weeks, I have come to the floor with my Democratic colleagues calling on both sides to set partisanship aside and work together to fix the problems on our southern border.

America is proudly a nation of immigrants. We always have been, and we always will be. Most Americans know our country is made stronger because of immigration, but they also know the current condition of border security is simply not acceptable.

It is a problem going back many years, going back many administrations. After decades of neglect, our border security needs an update. Our immigration rules need reform to provide more opportunity and fairness and humane treatment to those who seek opportunity in America. And the only way we fix the border long term is through bipartisan legislation.

Let me say it again: The only way we fix the border long term is through bipartisan legislation like the one we had in the Senate 3 months ago.

The bipartisan Border Act was precisely the kind of proposal Republicans and Democrats have been trying to produce for years. It contained the strongest border security provisions in a generation. It would have overhauled our asylum laws, hired thousands of new border agents, invested in cutting-edge technology to stop the flow of fentanyl, and given the President new authorities to close the border.

Now, of course, our bipartisan border bill wasn't perfect—not every Democrat supported this bill—but unlike other border bills, it was designed to pass both Chambers in divided government.

If our border security bill was good enough to win the support of the actual Border Patrol agents, shouldn't it have been enough to win the support of Senate Republicans?

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



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And speaking candidly, when our bill was first released, many of our Republican colleagues were surprised at how strong it was, even if only in private. I dare say, a significant percentage of the Republican caucus would have supported it.

If both Chambers would have voted on our bill without outside interference, I am confident it would have passed and reached the President's desk. But as we all know, Donald Trump swooped in and told his MAGA supporters to kill the bill.

In fact, he was proud to kill it. "Please, blame it on me," he said. Those were Trump's words after our bill went down, and I certainly don't think it is smart of him to brag about killing an issue most people want to see fixed. Donald Trump treats this like a game, but most Americans just want to see the border fixed regardless of who does it.

Democrats have not walked away from trying to get something done on the border. We want to work with our Republican colleagues on border security, just as we showed we were serious when we worked with them earlier this year.

But our Republican colleagues must show they are ready to match their border rhetoric with real action. If Republicans are going to call the border an emergency, they can't suddenly kick the can down the road and say we can deal with this later. They can't put up a partisan bill that they know has no chance of passing.

Americans don't want just talk, talk, on the border. Americans want actions. Americans want bipartisanship. Americans want to pass the border security bill like the one we released 3 months ago.

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.

INFLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, twice in the last week, President Biden has suggested that inflation was 9 percent when he took office and claimed credit for bringing it down. The Washington Post gave him a rating of four Pinocchios for that very tall tale. In reality, inflation in January of 2021 was 1.4 percent. As of this month, prices have increased 20 percent since then. By one estimate—listen to this—the average U.S. household has to spend an additional \$1,074 every month to keep up the same standard of living they had when President Biden took office.

The numbers don't lie, and neither do the American people. They know non-sense when they hear it.

A 32-year-old engineer from Nevada who voted for the President in 2020 told reporters he is frustrated with the way the White House frames the economy. Here is what he had to say:

It is concerning to me when I keep seeing press come out of the White House where they keep saying the economy is good. That is really weird because I am paying more on taxes and more on groceries and more on housing and more on fuel. So that doesn't feel good.

Small business owners in particular have been hard hit by increased prices. They have smaller margins to absorb the increased cost for materials, labor, and other operating expenses, and they risk losing customers every time they raise their prices.

One small business owner in New York, a fourth-generation roofer, reported:

We've increased more in the last four years than we had in 10. . . . We don't have a choice.

The owner of a small printing company in Washington State described painful price hikes as "death by a thousand paper cuts." He went on to say:

People are tired of price increases. . . . We are tired of price increases.

That is that. The American people are tired of price increases, they are tired of lies about it, and it is safe to say they are tired of Bidenomics.

CHINA

Mr. President, on another matter, this week, Putin is in Beijing attending what Russia and China have called a "friendship without limits," but last week, it was President Xi who took to the road, and, notably, his warmest welcome was in Budapest, Hungary.

The visit from PRC's leader came as more of our European NATO allies are waking up not only to the harsh reality of Russian aggression but also to the linked threats facing Western security and prosperity, to the urgent requirements of defense production, and to the particular challenge the PRC poses as a systemic rival.

But Hungary? Not so much. Viktor Orban's government has cultivated the PRC as its top trading partner outside the EU.

It has given Beijing sweeping law enforcement authorities to hunt dissidents on Hungarian soil.

It was the first European country to join Beijing's Belt and Road Initiative, which other European governments—for example, like Prime Minister Meloni's in Italy—have wisely decided to leave.

Hungary has doubled down on Huawei. After the previous U.S. administration went to great lengths to encourage Europe to reject it, Hungary has let the PRC communications giant bake Chinese technology into the country's 5G expansion. Even as other European nations are paying vast sums to extract Huawei from their communica-

tions infrastructure, Hungary is now home to Huawei's European regional logistics hub—a veritable gateway to the West.

Last week, Prime Minister Orban's government signed 19 more agreements with the PRC, from transportation infrastructure to potential nuclear cooperation.

A joint statement described the two countries' relationship as "an all-weather comprehensive strategic partnership" that is between Hungary and the PRC.

But the details of China's growing influence in Budapest should raise red flags for anyone seriously concerned about strategic competition with China.

From across the Atlantic, there is good reason to appreciate a European government that is willing to question EU orthodoxy on things like short-sighted climate change policy or swim upstream in defense of conservative values. But here in Washington, we are obliged to evaluate whether allies and partners share our interests, not just our values. And whatever their pluck in dealings with EU bureaucrats in Brussels, Hungary's leaders have cozied up to America's greatest strategic adversary.

Now, it is one thing that a latter-day Walter Duranty who shills for Putin on Twitter might also admire the only NATO member whose leader flies to Moscow to pay obeisance to the Russian dictator, but Hungary's willingness to serve as China's doormat to Europe—that part is tougher to square with the position of folks in Washington for whom singular focus on China has recently become an article of faith.

The Democratic Party's increasing willingness to abandon Israel cries out for frequent and heavy doses of reality and harsh criticism. Unfortunately, so does this increasingly muddled logic on the threats facing the West from Russia and China.

A NATO government that fawns over a Russian neo-Soviet imperialist, a European nation that rolls out the red carpet for greater predation, coercion, and espionage from a communist regime—this isn't where America should be taking our foreign policy cues.

How about sending a high-profile diplomat and trade missions to Tehran? Hungary's voluntary legitimization of the world's most active state sponsor of terrorism? I don't think conservatives had any time for those who suck up to Iran. Maybe aligning with autocrats is in Hungary's interest, but let's return from Budapest and discuss what is in America's interest.

America has an interest in strong allies who are willing to pull more of the weight of collective defense in the face of threats from Russia, Iran, and China. We could have welcomed two more such allies to our ranks much sooner if not for Orban's obstruction of Sweden and Finland's accession to NATO. Not only do these countries

have robust defense industries and capable militaries, they also each have companies that offer safer alternatives to Chinese 5G technology.

And while many of us in Washington were urging the EU to do more to support Ukraine, Hungary—Hungary—was blocking the greater EU burden-sharing. Frankly, Hungary stands at the crossroads of three powers bent on undermining our security and prosperity. And the Orban government is modeling what not to do in the face of these challenges.

My message to America's European allies has been the same, no matter their politics or their culture: Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea are working together to undermine us. And we need to move faster to rebuild the hard power we need to deter and defeat aggression and hold one another accountable to share the burden of collective defense. There is plenty of work left to do on this front.

ANTI-SEMITISM

Mr. President, now, one final matter, earlier this week, I discussed the growing problem of BDS; that is "Bibi derangement syndrome." Of course, there is an older and similarly noxious form of BDS: the "Boycott, divest, and sanction" movement. This other BDS has been incubating on college campuses for the last decade, and right now, it is making news at Harvard.

This is unfortunate, but at this point, it shouldn't surprise anyone. Remember, Cambridge, MA, was ground zero for the current wave of anti-Semitism sweeping so-called elite education.

Not to be outdone by the "restorative justice" being meted out by their rival to the south, Princeton, Harvard leaders have announced their own sort of amnesty for the Hamas-supporting radicals who have harassed and intimidated fellow students in recent months.

In exchange for dispersing from Harvard Yard, the interim president and the dean will be meeting with the Crimson Red Guards "to hear their perspectives on academic matters relating to longstanding conflicts in the Middle East."

The interim president also acknowledges "the profound grief" people feel over "the effects of the ongoing war." And the campus' Hamas sympathizers will also receive a meeting with a top official from the Harvard Corporation to address questions about the university's endowment.

"Boycott, divest, sanction"—BDS. It seems that the lesson at our country's oldest university is this: Lawless radicalism works. Perhaps it is time for the American people to boycott, divest, and sanction the Ivy League.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, this week is Police Week—a week to honor our Nation's law enforcement officers. These men and women have had a challenging few years. Unsurprisingly, calls to defund the police and attacks on the vital work that they do left a lot of officers discouraged and demoralized—even as they were asked to shoulder the same burdens with less support.

Fortunately, I think time has started to provide a corrective. As we have watched crime take a toll on American cities, I think governments and individuals are more and more remembering just how much we need the men and women who bring order and safety to America's streets.

And I hope and pray that we are coming to this week with a greater appreciation for the essential work that these men and women perform.

I said "essential," and they are. But let's remember something else as well. Police officers aren't just necessary, they are noble. They sign up for a heroic line of work, for a job that asks them to get up in the morning and go out and put themselves in danger to keep the rest of us out of it and that asks them to do that day after day, week after week, month after month, and year after year. And they do it willingly, gladly.

When they aren't doing the big things—the hard, heroic work of confronting dangerous situations and individuals—you can frequently find police officers doing the little things as well: speaking to a school class, helping out a stranded motorist, buying shoes for a child in need. Police officers don't just defend our communities; they play a vital role in building them up.

I am particularly grateful for our law enforcement officers in South Dakota who work so hard in communities across our State. They have shared challenges faced by other police departments across the country over the past few years, including dealing with deadly drugs like fentanyl coming over the border and making their way around the United States. And they face some specific South Dakota challenges.

I am also deeply grateful for the Capitol Police here in Washington, DC, who spend their days ensuring Members of Congress, their staffs, and the many visitors to the U.S. Capitol Building can go about their days in safety. And I am grateful to their families. Having a husband or a wife, a dad or a mom who is a police officer is not always an easy thing. Knowing that your parent or spouse may not come home from work one day is a difficult burden to carry.

In this Police Week, as we contemplate the service and sacrifice of our Nation's police officers, it is important to remember the service and sacrifice of their families as well.

Before I close, I want to mention the heroic service of Moody County's Chief Deputy Ken Prorok of South Dakota,

who was killed in the line of duty in February of this year. I just want to read a couple of lines from the Officer Down Memorial Page on Chief Deputy Prorok's actions:

Chief Deputy Sheriff Ken Prorok was struck and killed by the driver of a vehicle being pursued by the Madison Police Department at 4:12 p.m. Chief Deputy Prorok responded to the call for assistance and was deploying spike strips at South Dakota Highway 34 and 472nd Avenue in Colman. The driver intentionally swerved toward Chief Deputy Prorok, killing him.

The line that stands out for me the most in that memorial is this:

Chief Deputy Prorok responded to the call for assistance.

He heard a call for help, and he went to answer it, knowing full well that he could be placing himself in danger, up to and including the loss of his life, but he went anyway.

That is the heroism of Chief Deputy Prorok, and it is the heroism of all the men and women across our country who serve in our Nation's police forces and who, when they hear a call for help, go out to answer it.

May God richly bless all the men and women who serve our Nation as police officers, and may He protect them as they stand on guard for us.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

H.J. RES. 109

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, we are about to hold a vote under the Congressional Review Act.

The CRA was passed in 1994 to give Congress a 6-month window of 60 legislative days to review an Agency rule and, if Congress doesn't like that rule, 60 days to overturn it. However, our vote today is not a vote on a notice and comment rule. In fact, our vote today is on something that doesn't even have the force of law. Our vote today is on a Staff Accounting Bulletin issued by the SEC back in the spring of 2022.

Now, the SEC has issued these bulletins—they are called SABs—for nearly 50 years without anyone ever suggesting that they were subject to the CRA. The CRA has a time limit for a reason—so that settled law is settled law, something that everyone can count on—and the CRA is limited to Agency rules so that a single Member of Congress can't tie up Agencies and Congress with expedited procedures under the CRA by raking over the details of every Agency action.

Today's vote—coming more than 2 years after the SEC wrote the bulletin and applying to a staff bulletin rather than a rule—is far outside the scope of the CRA. We should not be holding this vote. All by itself, that is a good

enough reason to vote no, but let's talk about the substance of this SAB for just a minute.

The fairness of our markets depends on transparency. Investors in pension funds and 401(k)s and workers who are trying to save for retirement all have a right to know what they are investing in. The Securities and Exchange Commission is the guardian of those financial disclosures that give investors information about a company's business plan, about its leadership, and about the risks that it faces in the market.

So to help public companies disclose information about their businesses in a consistent way, from one business to another to another so that investors can make comparisons, the SEC issues Staff Accounting Bulletins—these SABs—to clarify guidance about emerging issues in the accounting industry: how to tell people about this business. SAB No. 121 was published to provide accounting guidance to companies that hold customers' digital assets. It says that, because of some of the unique technological and legal risks associated with digital assets, public companies that safeguard cryptoassets for their customers should make the risks associated with holding those assets visible to investors.

One way that this risk shows up is that if a company safeguards property for someone—if just an ordinary company is holding property for someone, like stocks or bonds or jewelry—the company bears the risk that the property could be stolen. That is why companies that hold property for others carry insurance, and it is why they have really big safes.

But if the company safeguards crypto, there is a special risk that is not there with other kinds of property. Crypto can get hacked. In fact, there have been some pretty major crypto hacks in which assets just vanish. The risk isn't theoretical; it is real—FTX, \$600 million—poof; Binance, \$586 million—poof; Ronin Network, \$625 million—poof; and Poly Network, \$611 million—poof—all in just the last 3 years. We have seen multiple hacks of crypto platforms. The unique risks of crypto can create liabilities that seriously impact a company's financial condition. SAB 121 simply clarifies how companies should account for those risks in their financial disclosures. That is all it is doing.

Now, there is a second kind of problem with crypto, and that is, if a company safeguards property for someone—stocks, bonds, jewelry, like we talked about earlier—if the company doing the safeguarding goes bankrupt, the true owner of the stocks or the bonds or the jewelry can get their property back, but if the company that goes bankrupt is holding crypto, the peculiarities of crypto ownership and possession mean that the creditors of the bankrupt company could keep the crypto. The true owner may just be out of luck. Once again, SAB 121 simply clarifies how companies should make clear those risks in their disclosures.

So let's talk for just a minute about what SAB 121 doesn't do. It doesn't bring customers' cryptoassets onto a crypto platform's balance sheet or make the platform the owner of a customer's digital assets. Instead, SAB 121 requires the disclosure of what other substantive laws, including bankruptcy laws, are already doing.

This effort to reverse the SEC's accounting guidance would deprive investors of accurate information on the risks of holding cryptoassets and corrode public trust in our financial system and our institutions.

The vote today is about ensuring that the SEC is able to issue guidance that will help companies of all sizes produce strong, consistent, timely, and meaningful accounting disclosures. It is about protecting critical informational tools that investors and companies have relied on for half a century, and it is about maintaining the integrity of our markets, which rely on a clear, consistent accounting rule book.

Democrats should stand with President Biden against this effort to attack the SEC's authority. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

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

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

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes prior to the scheduled rollcall vote.

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

H.J. RES. 109

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in favor of my Congressional Review Act resolution, S.J. Res. 59, and its House companion, H.J. Res. 109, a joint 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 "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121."

Staff Accounting Bulletin 121, or SAB 121, is a rule under the Administrative Procedure Act disguised as an accounting guidance. It was published by the SEC staff without the approval of the majority of the Commission.

Accounting guidance is not something that normally would catch the attention of Congress, but, in this case, a bipartisan group in the Senate and House has uncovered serious concerns with SAB 121 and the actions of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Nearly 2 years ago, I started this process by sending a request for a legal opinion on SAB 121 to the Government Accountability Office. That office found that SAB 121 is, in fact, a rule

and subject to the Congressional Review Office.

Shortly after this finding, I introduced the Senate resolution to overturn this guidance in the Senate, and Congressmen MIKE FLOOD and WILEY NICKEL introduced the House companion. I congratulate them and House Financial Services Chair PATRICK MCHEENRY on the strong bipartisan passage of this resolution in the House.

Staff Accounting Bulletin 121 puts consumers at risk. By requiring a covered institution to place consumer assets on its balance sheet, it gives creditors a way to claim those assets in the event of a bankruptcy.

We have seen how this plays out for consumers. Their assets are frozen for months or even years while the bankruptcy plays out. In some cases, they lose their assets entirely. They have entrusted these assets to the custodian. It is the custodian that is in bankruptcy, and yet their assets are the assets that are at risk. So this does not protect consumers at all.

Under SAB 121, the ownership of more than \$100 trillion in assets placed for safekeeping with America's custodians are in jeopardy. The safest place for digital assets is in a self-hosted wallet, but not everyone can custody their own digital assets, including institutional investors that the SEC requires to use a qualified custodian.

Regardless of what each Senator thinks about digital assets, they should want consumers and institutional investors to have the option of placing their assets in the safekeeping of prudentially regulated institutions.

Unfortunately, Staff Accounting Bulletin 121 prevents this. By placing customer assets on the balance sheet of the custodian, SAB 121 also means that capital requirements apply. Banks would have to hold as much as \$1 of capital for every dollar of customer assets.

As much as the SEC would have you believe otherwise, the bank regulators have no discretion on this point. Banks must follow U.S. generally accepted accounting principles when calculating capital requirements.

Finally, SAB 121 demonstrates how the SEC will push forward its regulatory agenda at the cost of transparency and the stakeholder input that is required by law.

The Senate could have avoided this if SEC Chair Gary Gensler was willing to direct staff to revise Accounting Bulletin 121 to keep customer digital assets off the balance sheets of custodians and engage in a transparent process.

Refusing to revisit this policy after bipartisan criticism is odd. The majority of the SEC Staff Accounting Bulletins from the last 30 years have been revisions and rescissions of prior guidance. Revisiting and fixing accounting standards, especially when there is a new technology, is warranted and encouraged. Guidance is meant to be

flexible. It is not meant to set policy, which would require notice and comment by those who would be regulated pursuant to that regulatory process.

But, apparently, Chairman Gensler would rather politicize accounting standards to achieve policy goals in the banking industry—an industry, I would like to remind him, he does not regulate—rather than conduct a transparent policymaking process.

Maybe it is because Chairman Gensler knows that putting customer assets on the balance sheet is bad policy that would not garner enough support to finalize a rule. Maybe it is because he is committed to an ill-informed and unworkable fight against the digital asset industry at any cost.

Unfortunately, SAB 121 does nothing to protect consumers—nothing to protect consumers. It hurts them.

I hope that all of my colleagues will recognize this and join me in voting in support of H.J. Res. 109.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the joint resolution is considered read a third time.

The joint resolution was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

VOTE ON H.J. RES. 109

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Ms. LUMMIS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey, (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY).

The result was announced—yeas 60, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 169 Leg.]

YEAS—60

Barrasso	Graham	Ricketts
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Booker	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Britt	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Budd	Johnson	Schmitt
Capito	Kelly	Schumer
Casey	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lee	Sinema
Cornyn	Lujan	Sullivan
Cotton	Lummis	Tester
Cramer	Marshall	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	Moran	Tuberville
Daines	Mullin	Vance
Ernst	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	Young

NAYS—38

Baldwin	Butler	Coons
Bennet	Cantwell	Cortez Masto
Blumenthal	Cardin	Duckworth
Brown	Carper	Durbin

Fetterman	Merkley	Smith
Hassan	Murphy	Stabenow
Heinrich	Murray	Van Hollen
Hirono	Ossoff	Warner
Kaine	Padilla	Warnock
King	Reed	Warren
Klobuchar	Sanders	Welch
Manchin	Schatz	Whitehouse
Markey	Shaheen	

NOT VOTING—2

Hawley	Menendez
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The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 109) was passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). 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 **Camela C. Theeler**, of South Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Dakota.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate, equally divided.

NOMINATION OF CAMELA C. THEELER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Judge Camela Theeler to the U.S. District Court for District of South Dakota.

Judge Theeler's deep ties to South Dakota and her experience in the courtroom—as a litigator and on the bench—have prepared her to serve as a U.S. District Judge. After receiving her B.A. and J.D. from the University of South Dakota, Judge Theeler began her legal career in private practice before clerking for the judges of the First Judicial Circuit of the South Dakota Unified Judicial System. Thereafter, Judge Theeler returned to private practice, working on a range of cases, including personal injury/worker's compensation, business litigation, employment law, and criminal defense work. From 2012 to 2018, Judge Theeler served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South Dakota, becoming deputy civil chief in 2016.

Over the course of her legal career, Judge Theeler tried eight cases to verdict, judgment, or final decision. Since 2018, she has served as a circuit court judge for the State of South Dakota, located in the Second Judicial District. Judge Theeler has presided over 57 trials that have gone to verdict or judgment.

Judge Theeler has the strong support from her home State Senators, Mr. THUNE and Mr. ROUNDS. In addition, she was unanimously rated “well qualified” by the American Bar Association.

I urge my colleagues to support Judge Theeler's nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I rise today, along with Senator ROUNDS, in support of the nomination of a distin-

guished South Dakotan, Judge Camela Theeler, who has been nominated to fill a vacancy at the U.S. District Court for the District of South Dakota.

Judge Theeler is a South Dakota native and graduate of the University of South Dakota School of Law. She has been a judge for the South Dakota Second Judicial Circuit since 2018.

Prior to her current role, she served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of South Dakota from 2012 to 2018; and before that, she spent time at two South Dakota law firms.

When she is not trying cases, she often welcomes students to the courthouse, where she gives tours and conducts mock trials to help teach them about the legal system.

I believe that Judge Theeler's experience and record will make her an excellent district judge. And, most importantly, I believe that she has the character and impartiality to serve a lifetime appointment on the Federal bench.

I am proud to support her nomination, and I encourage my colleagues to confirm her as a judge for the U.S. district court of South Dakota.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Dakota.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senator THUNE today in supporting the confirmation of Judge Cammy Theeler.

Ms. Theeler is a native of my home community, Pierre, SD, and has an impressive list of career experiences, spanning from the U.S. Attorney's Office to teaching at Dakota Wesleyan University, to her work now as a State circuit court judge.

It is because of her commitment to upholding the law, along with her commitment to public service, that she received the South Dakota Young Lawyer of the Year award in 2009.

She will undoubtedly exercise judicial restraint and apply the law as written.

I also want to congratulate Eric Schulte on his Senate confirmation yesterday for the U.S. District of South Dakota. He is a well-qualified attorney who will serve Americans well as a district judge.

I encourage my colleagues to join today in supporting Judge Cammy Theeler for U.S. district judge for the District of South Dakota.

VOTE ON THEELER NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Theeler nomination?

Mr. THUNE. 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 Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH),

the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY).

The result was announced—yeas 90, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 170 Ex.]

YEAS—90

Baldwin	Graham	Paul
Barrasso	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hagerty	Reed
Blackburn	Hassan	Ricketts
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Risch
Booker	Hickenlooper	Romney
Boozman	Hirono	Rosen
Braun	Hoeven	Rounds
Brown	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Budd	Johnson	Schatz
Butler	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	Kelly	Scott (FL)
Capito	King	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Carper	Lankford	Sinema
Casey	Lee	Smith
Cassidy	Lujan	Stabenow
Collins	Lummis	Tester
Coons	Manchin	Thune
Cornyn	Markey	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Marshall	Van Hollen
Cotton	McConnell	Vance
Cramer	Merkley	Warner
Cruz	Moran	Warnock
Daines	Mullin	Warren
Durbin	Murkowski	Welch
Ernst	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fetterman	Murray	Wicker
Fischer	Ossoff	Wyden
Gillibrand	Padilla	Young

NAYS—4

Britt	Sullivan
Schmitt	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—6

Crapo	Hawley	Menendez
Duckworth	Kennedy	Sanders

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PETERS). 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.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for Senator SCHATZ and I to conclude our remarks prior to the vote.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 7109

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, last week, the House of Representatives passed the Equal Representation Act. This commonsense bill would require that only U.S. citizens are counted for the purposes of allotting congressional

districts and electoral votes. This makes sense. In order for every American's vote to have equal weight, only legal voters should be counted in apportioning voting power.

On the other hand, the current method of counting illegal aliens in allocating Americans' voting power dilutes the votes of some Americans. It also serves as a perverse incentive for open borders and sanctuary cities because resettling illegal aliens increases the relative political power of the States and the voters that do so.

What was once called a conspiracy theory turned out to be an objective fact that Democrats now acknowledge. Migrants here illegally are being counted in the census, and they are counted for determining electoral college votes and congressional seats. Commerce Secretary Raimondo confirmed this yesterday when I asked her in a committee hearing.

It is impossible to dispute that this policy increases the voting power of districts and States that resettle more illegal aliens. In fact, some Democrats have taken it a step further, calling for more illegal immigration to increase their power. Just this year, video surfaced of a U.S. Representative from New York—her name is YVETTE CLARKE—who said, when asked about illegal immigration, "I need more people in my district just for redistricting purposes." Yes, that is what she said. She said it quite out loud. She represents the same district where James Madison High School is located. You may recall that last fall, last winter, James Madison High School was the school where the students were told to go home and study by Zoom so their school could be used to house illegal aliens. What Congresswoman CLARKE means is that Americans are fleeing blue cities and States en masse because of failing government—and congressional seats are allocated based on population—so if you are losing population, you either have to backfill it or lose congressional seats. That is where the illegal aliens come in.

This Congresswoman's statement helps explain why President Biden and Democrats are allowing recordbreaking illegal immigration. It is to preserve their political power. Since President Biden took office alone, over 10 million illegal aliens have entered our country. That could amount to more than a dozen congressional seats.

This bill is simple. It would simply require that the Census Bureau include a citizenship question to provide a basic understanding of the U.S. population, which is the purpose of the census, and it would allow for delineation between citizens and noncitizens for apportionment purposes. My bill would count only citizens for purposes of congressional and electoral college apportionment. In other words, it would count only citizens for determining citizens' voting power. That way, the power of each American's vote doesn't depend on how many illegal aliens are in their area.

The Equal Representation Act will ensure that the weight of every American's vote is equal, it will restore the one person, one vote principle, and it will certainly end the perverse incentive under which illegal immigration increases political power.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that as in legislative session, notwithstanding rule XX, the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 386, H.R. 7109. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, a couple of points. The first point is actually the main point, which is that we had the toughest bipartisan bill on border security in generations on this floor, and when Donald Trump found out how tough it was and how effective it was going to be, he told Senate Republicans to kill it, and that is what they did. So spare me the crocodile tears about the situation at the border. We had the opportunity to fix that, and Donald Trump explicitly said: Don't pass this. Blame me. Blame me.

No. 2, my good friend Senator HAGERTY, who feels very passionately about this—his quibble is with the Constitution. The Constitution provides that all persons in the United States are counted—all persons. It says nothing about their citizenship status. So if you have a problem with the way the census is conducted, you have to amend the Constitution of the United States—not the law, not the statutory laws of the United States, but the Constitution of the United States.

I have lost count of the number of times Republicans have tried and failed to add citizenship questions to the census. We have to see this for what it is—an attempt to reduce the count in immigrant communities.

If that sounds like sort of a rhetorical flourish, a little bit too much, let me remind you that it was only a few years ago that the Supreme Court ruled against adding this question. They ruled against it. Why? It is because the real reason they wanted to add it was from a conservative effort who thought it would "be advantageous to Republicans and non-Hispanic Whites."

"[B]e advantageous to Republicans and non-Hispanic Whites."

They wanted to ask people the citizenship question not in a longer census questionnaire, not as part of their annual data gathering, but the first question out of the gate to scare people from interacting with the Federal Government because—listen, someone knocks on your door from the Federal Government, and the first question is "Are you a citizen?" You will decline to participate if you have friends or families or cousins or neighbors who may have mixed-citizenship status.

And here is the other quote, that it “would clearly be a disadvantage for Democrats.” This was never about gathering data. This was never about enforcing the law. It has always been and continues to be a pretext to scare people, particularly immigrants, out of taking the census, out of being counted at all, to undercount people and rig the political system in favor of one political party. And don’t take this progressive Democrat from Hawaii’s word for it; take this Supreme Court’s word for it.

I am not a lawyer, but I remember this—I remember they said they had no non pretextual reason to ask that question. In other words, they were asking this question in order to gain partisan advantage.

So for those reasons, I respectfully object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, first, I would like to remark that the border security bill that my esteemed colleague references would simply increase the processing of illegal aliens into this country. If this language were incorporated in it, we would stop the incentive for illegal migration. That would be the fix. That was not in the bill. The bill that he referenced would not have addressed the border security at all.

My Democratic colleague is objecting to legislation that would actually restore the one-person, one-vote principle, and it would end the perverse incentive under which illegal immigration increases political power.

It is indisputable that Congress can direct that a citizenship question be included in the census. It was included in the census for most of our history up until Barack Obama’s administration took it out in 2010.

And the Constitution says that the census shall be conducted “in such Manner as [Congress] shall by Law direct.”

Congress does, indeed, have the authority to do this; in fact, we have had the citizenship question until 2010.

Second, on the question of what population is counted for apportioning House seats and electoral votes, the Constitution says that you count the number of persons in the United States.

It doesn’t mean literally everyone in the United States. We don’t count people here on vacation; we don’t count people here on temporary stays. Why would we count people who are here and who have broken in illegally? It means citizens who are members of the American political body—a body that votes on representation—and who have permanent allegiance to our constitutional system.

In fact, it may be unconstitutional to count illegal aliens under the 14th Amendment because that dilutes some citizens’ votes and undermines the principle of one person, one vote.

The constitutional argument is simply a dodge for the indefensible position that opposition to this bill means support for the notion that more illegal aliens should mean more political power for the States and the communities that attract.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 460, Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, Mazie Hirono, Tina Smith, Gary C. Peters, Amy Klobuchar, Raphael G. Warnock, Catherine Cortez Masto, Alex Padilla, Mark R. Warner, Tim Kaine, Sheldon Whitehouse, Martin Heinrich, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Seth Robert Aframe, of New Hampshire, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted “nay.”

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 171 Ex.]

YEAS—52

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

NAYS—43

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

NOT VOTING—5

Crapo	Kennedy	Menendez
Hawley	Marshall	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BUTLER). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that all time on the Aframe nomination be considered expired and the confirmation vote be at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, May 20.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 599.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Krissa M. Lanham, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 599, Krissa M. Lanham, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Tina Smith, Tammy Duckworth, Richard Blumenthal, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret

Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Sheldon Whitehouse, Raphael G. Warnock, Laphonza R. Butler, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 600.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Angela M. Martinez, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 600, Angela M. Martinez, of Arizona, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Amy Klobuchar, Jack Reed, Tina Smith, Tammy Duckworth, Richard Blumenthal, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Catherine Cortez Masto, Margaret Wood Hassan, Peter Welch, Sheldon Whitehouse, Raphael G. Warnock, Laphonza R. Butler, Brian Schatz, Benjamin L. Cardin.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, May 16, be waived.

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

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

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

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, each year during Police Week, we honor the law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities.

This year, we will add the names of four Ohioans to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial who laid down their lives this year and last year: Officer Timothy James Unwin, III, of the Springfield Township Police Department; Deputy Sheriff Marcus Zeigler of the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office; Deputy Sheriff Joshua Hamilton of the Preble County Sheriff's Office.

Sadly, we know already of two names that will be added to the memorial next year: Jacob Derbin of the Euclid Police Department, who was senselessly ambushed and killed in the line of duty last weekend. He leaves behind a father who was part of the department, the same Euclid Department.

I spoke at length to the chief of police in Euclid last week. The young man was engaged to be married. His grandfather had also been a policeman at a suburban police department in Cleveland.

We also add the name next year of Lieutenant Rodney Osborne of the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, who tragically died in an accident during a training exercise.

Each of these losses is a tragedy for a family, for a community, and surely for their fellow officers.

These Ohioans' lives are a reminder of the ideals we should strive for. We need officers who are true public servants in the best sense of the word, people who give themselves to the community, people like these brave men.

These Ohioans gave so much.

Officer Timothy James Unwin, III, was a Cincinnati native who dedicated more than 8 years to serving Ohio communities in both the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office and the Springfield Township Police Department.

In his free time, he enjoyed staying active and working on cars. His colleagues, friends, and family members remember his smile and remember his always positive energy. He was always helping others. He wanted to make the world a better place.

He lost his life in a tragic car crash while responding to a call for help from fellow officers.

Deputy Sheriff Marcus Zeigler began his career in the private sector working in security and defense before joining the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department. That is the Cincinnati area in Southwest Ohio.

He was proud to serve as a deputy. While he was only with the department for 9 months, he made an impression on his colleagues and his community. He always had a smile on his face. He was always happy to lend a hand. He was eager to grow in his career.

His family was the most important thing to him. Our thoughts are with his wife and his five children.

Deputy Sheriff John Hamilton was a former U.S. Navy Reservist and Army National Guard member who served in the Preble County Sheriff's team. He was known for his unwavering commitment to our country and to the Preble County community.

Deputy Hamilton is survived by his parents and his daughter.

We extend our condolences to them and all the loved ones these public servants leave behind—children who will now grow up without fathers, parents grieving children.

This year, we added the names of six officers to the memorial who died from COVID-19: Terrance Bateman, Anthony Cloyd, Mark Heintz, Billy Ihrig, Gerald Lynch, and Matthew Mitchell. We can't begin to repay the debt we owe these officers and their families, but we can work to protect more officers and the communities they swear an oath to serve.

That is why I work with colleagues of both parties on legislation to support law enforcement as they do their jobs. If we can help them do their jobs more safely, we all win.

Two years ago, I worked with my colleague Senator GRASSLEY and Congressman DAVID JOYCE, my friend from Ohio, to pass legislation that provides Customs and Border Patrol staff with fentanyl containment devices. This keeps officers safe. We know how potent even a little bit of fentanyl is, even to the touch of the skin. This keeps officers safe and keeps evidence preserved for trial.

Now we are working to get cops and sheriff's deputies access to the same protection locally. That is why we introduced the Protecting First Responders from Secondary Exposure Act. It is also why Senator COTTON and I introduced the Providing Officers Electronic Resources Act, or POWER Act, to help State and local law enforcement organizations secure high-tech, portable screening devices to detect fentanyl.

I will keep fighting to make sure that police officers can retire with dignity. My bipartisan Social Security Fairness Act will ensure that Social Security benefits will be there when officers retire from a life of dedicated service.

One of the best ways we can keep law enforcement and our communities safe is by keeping fentanyl out of the country in the first place, something I have heard from law enforcement personnel at virtually every place in Ohio.

Four hundred Ohioans every single month die from fentanyl poisoning. That is not just a number. It means that 400 individuals with 400 individual families and 400 different neighborhoods have died.

That is why we fought to pass my bipartisan FEND Off Fentanyl Act. The President just signed it into law. It is going to help us target the entire fentanyl supply chain, from the chemical suppliers in China to the cartels that manufacture and transport the drugs in Mexico.

By going after the billions of dollars these traffickers make in illicit profits, we target them where it hurts the most: their bank accounts. It is why we worked with Ohio and national law enforcement to write this bill and to build a broad bipartisan coalition to get it passed.

This Police Week, let's offer more than empty words. Let's provide the support and resources that our men and women need to keep themselves and their communities safe. Although nothing can ever be done to truly appreciate the sacrifice so many have made by laying down their lives, we honor them by supporting their fellow officers.

We must get our officers the tools and the training they need to do their jobs and to build trust with the communities where we all live, the communities that they are sworn to protect.

TRIBUTE TO THE FIGHTING IRISH

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, 100 years ago this week, a legend was born. One hundred years ago, the champions of religious freedom refused to back down in the face of intolerance and hate. One hundred years ago today, the University of Notre Dame earned the moniker the "Fighting Irish."

On May 17, 1924, thousands of members of the Indiana chapter of the Ku Klux Klan gathered in South Bend, IN, for a rally, a rally called by their infamous leader D.C. Stephenson. The target that day for their despicable and misguided message of "true Americanism" was the Catholic institution of the University of Notre Dame, the young men who attended the university, and the Holy Cross priests who taught at it.

In the years that immediately preceded that fateful day, the KKK had watched with despair as Coach Knute Rockne and his football "Ramblers" had barnstormed across the country, winning praise for their fighting spirit and the university.

We can't forget that at the time, Catholics were a major target for the KKK in the Midwest, and Notre Dame's success on and off the field was an affront—an affront—to the Klan's false message of superiority.

So the KKK gathered outside the Golden Dome for what was to be a 3-day rally, complete with parades and speeches and dances and no small amount of overtly violent intimidation. You see, they weren't used to anyone standing up to them. They weren't expecting anyone to stand up to them. And little did they know that the mostly Irish Catholic student body across the street had no intention of being intimidated.

Little did they know that the students were so animated that the university president, Father Matthew Walsh—a World War I veteran—had been trying in vain to tell his students to stay safe and to shelter in the school.

Little did the KKK know that on that day, the intended aspersion that the student body had co-opted as their preferred nickname—the "Fighting Irish"—was about to reach a national audience.

As the story goes—no doubt colored with some apocryphal additions over the years—the Klansmen began arriving in South Bend and hundreds of stu-

dents marched out to meet them. At first, the students almost playfully offered to assist the Klansmen in finding lodging and food, sometimes leading them down allies, other times leading them back out of town.

However, when one KKK leader evidently became wise to the ruse and pointed a pistol at a student who had intended to pull down the unsacred cross of lights hung in a downtown third-floor window, well, as they say, all hell broke loose. Klansmen who chose to fight quickly met their match and scrambled out of town. Students grabbed produce—yes, even potatoes—from a local vegetable stand and hurled them at the cross, taking out all but the uppermost bulb.

At that very moment, legendary "Four Horsemen" quarterback Harry Stuhldreher launched an impossible shot. He threw a potato 40 feet in the air at the bulb, successfully darkening the last unholy light.

Moments later, the rest of the Klansmen were run out of town, tails between their legs. A subsequent exchange the next day led to another rout by Notre Dame running the record to 2 and 0 against the Klansmen that weekend.

That weekend, in describing the Notre Dame student body's takedown of the most vaunted KKK chapter in the country, several national papers seized on the "Fighting Irish" moniker that had previously only been applied to the football team.

If you are interested in more details about that fateful weekend, Notre Dame alum Todd Tucker has written an acclaimed book entitled, "Notre Dame vs. The Klan."

Events like the one that took place in South Bend, IN, often prove to be historical inflection points.

In early 1924, intolerance and hatred were on the rise in the country, not just in Indiana but from coast to coast. For many, it was easier to give in to the fear of an uncertain future than to work to build a better community.

But Indiana and the country were soon to turn a corner, and the timing couldn't have been more poetic. Rockne, Stuhldreher, and the rest of the "Fighting Irish" football team would pull off a perfect 10-and-0 season later that year en route to the 1924 national championship. And the Indiana chapter of the KKK would quickly fizzle after the rape and murder conviction of its leader, D.C. Stephenson, the next year.

As for the university itself and its brave and proud student body, it would be 3 more years before Father Walsh would reluctantly give in to the wave that started that May day in 1924 and officialize the nickname the "Fighting Irish."

But make no mistake, it was 100 years ago this week, in an act of defiance against religious intolerance, that the "Fighting Irish" truly came into being.

So on this day, we remember their bravery in exercising their most basic

of American freedoms as we celebrate the day they put the fight in the University of Notre Dame "Fighting Irish."

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from California.

NIH IMPROVE ACT

Ms. BUTLER. Mr. President, today, I rise on the heels of Mother's Day to bring attention to the healthcare crisis facing America's mothers—most particularly Black mothers and the Black maternal health crisis.

I begin by acknowledging the invaluable contribution mothers make each day, kissing scraped knees and chasing monsters out of the closet. Mothers are indeed our Nation's true superheroes.

All across the country, mothers are the driving force for our economy. According to the Center for American Progress, mothers are to thank for most of the economic gains enjoyed by middle-class families over the past 50 years. Their data covering 1970 to 2013 show that women's increased labor force participation and increased earnings grew the U.S. economy by 13.5 percent, which translates to an additional \$2 trillion in economic activity.

According to the Department of Labor, 40.5 percent of working mothers are equal, primary, or sole income earners for their family—a fact that is especially true for Black mothers. In the United States, Black mothers are a critical part of our labor force, and 80 percent of them are the breadwinners for their families.

But these same mothers face a healthcare system that is failing them. The United States has the highest rate of maternal mortality in the world amongst high-income nations. Thousands of women in America have lost their lives due to pregnancy-related causes in recent years and over the past decade. While the birthrate in this country has declined by roughly 20 percent, maternal mortality rates have steadily risen.

This crisis is exacerbated in communities grappling with a lack of access to essential maternal healthcare. According to a report produced by the March of Dimes, one-third of the counties in the United States are considered maternity care deserts, meaning there are no hospitals providing obstetric care, no birth centers, and no obstetric providers. Imagine your loved one preparing to give birth and bring new life into your family having no choice but to drive hours away from home to seek care.

We know from the data that this crisis has not been felt equally. Among Black and Native indigenous communities, maternal mortality rates are two to four times higher compared to those of White communities.

The good news is that champions in this Chamber have spent years laying the groundwork in our path toward rectifying this crisis. In 2018, then-Senator, now-Vice President KAMALA HARRIS introduced the initial Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act. The

Momnibus, now led by the very own Senator BOOKER from New Jersey, is a comprehensive legislative package that would make historic investments to address every dimension of the Black maternal health crisis. I am proud to serve as a cosponsor of this much needed legislation.

The good news is that, since leaving this Chamber, Vice President HARRIS has remained consistent and insistent in carrying these efforts forward into the Biden-Harris administration, spearheading the administration's blueprint to address the maternal health crisis. The blueprint has led to key actions involving innovative models to improve maternal healthcare for low-income women and a national strategy to address maternal mental health and substance use disorders. This blueprint, paired with the passage of thoughtful legislative proposals such as the Black Maternal Health Momnibus, is exactly what we need to combat this devastating crisis.

As a Member of this Chamber, it is a privilege to truly be able to contribute to those legislative solutions and be a part of this fight. That is why I introduced the NIH IMPROVE Act, alongside Senator KATIE BRITT and Representatives UNDERWOOD and in the House, to help address some of these disparities.

The NIH IMPROVE Act authorizes the funding necessary to sustain the critical activities of the National Institutes of Health's IMPROVE Initiative, which supports research on how to reduce preventable causes of maternal death and improve health for women before, during, and after pregnancy. The initiative aims to address the foremost causes of maternal mortality in the United States as well as significant pregnancy-associated and pregnancy-related health complications such as diabetes, obesity, mental health, and substance use disorders.

This bill would provide the steady funding necessary, at least for the next 7 years, to ensure that NIH can continue to pursue this research into the root causes of our maternal mortality crisis. The bill will also help to build an evidence base to further improve maternal healthcare in underserved areas and target health disparities associated with maternal mortality and morbidity.

Just one example of how the IMPROVE Initiative is already supporting critical maternal health research is the story of a young researcher named Denys Symonette Mitchell, a doctor of public health student at Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Through the support of the IMPROVE Initiative, Denys and her colleagues are actively conducting pregnancy-related research to examine and eliminate maternal health disparities and ultimately reshape communities in need. Specifically, their research examines strategies to support healthy eating and increased physical activity among low-

income postpartum women with a history of diabetes during pregnancy—one of the many conditions associated with maternal mortality and morbidity.

Denys has said that NIH-funded studies such as this have transformed her educational experience and catapulted her professional aims as a training research scientist.

In addition to serving as a doctoral research assistant, Denys is also a Black mother. Denys is a manifestation, a real-life example that Black women, Black mothers, and all mothers are so much more than just a statistic; they are vigorously working toward solutions that we need to improve maternal health outcomes in this country.

The urgent research efforts called for and outlined in the NIH IMPROVE Act and Initiative will not only help to address our Nation's maternal health crisis; they will also help to support the next generation of Black mothers, scientists, and leaders such as Denys. The lifesaving research supported through the NIH IMPROVE Act will bolster solutions that are designed to combat the crisis that all women are facing.

Mr. President, I will close with this: In the majority opinion of the Dobbs decision that essentially ripped away the reproductive freedom of women that they had fought for for nearly 50 years, Justice Alito wrote:

Women are not without electoral or political power.

While I disagree with most of what Justice Alito wrote in this opinion, on this point, with him I do agree. The political and electoral power of women in this country demands the healthcare that we need, demands the healthcare that we deserve. Advancing the NIH IMPROVE Act will serve as a key step toward accomplishing that.

While I serve in this Chamber, I will continue to push and to push us to deliver the investments required to address this crisis head-on. I am committed to seeing this through for my daughter if she decides to become a mother, for every woman who chooses to be a mother, and for the future of the Nation they will shape.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The deputy whip from Hawaii.

KIDS OFF SOCIAL MEDIA ACT

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, over the past year, I have worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle on legislation to protect kids from the harms of social media.

The role of platforms like Instagram and TikTok in turbocharging the mental health crisis among our kids is clear—the data shows it; our personal experience shows it; warnings from experts like the Surgeon General confirm it—which is why last month, after months of work with the Commerce Committee and outside stakeholders, I introduced an updated version of my bipartisan bill called the Kids Off Social Media Act with Senators Cruz, Murphy, Britt, and many others.

The bill does a few very straightforward things. First, it sets the minimum age of social media use to 13. Second, it bans platforms from targeting kids under 17 with their powerful black-box algorithms. Third, it blocks social media sites from school networks—something that almost 90 percent of all schools already do.

Over the past several weeks, my team and I have continued to work with other Member offices as well as a wide range of outside stakeholders to refine the bill in important ways, and we continue to have productive conversations on strengthening the bill in order to best protect kids online.

Colleagues may have seen the hotline run on my bill, and we continue to work toward a markup. There are also several other bills pending on this issue, which I support. It is my hope that the Senate will consider all of these bills in short order and finally give kids the help and the protection they need.

Congress has to act in this area. We now have many good proposals, most of them not in competition with each other. Let's take some action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, every year, our Nation comes together to honor and remember the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their fellow citizens. This week, National Police Week, stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication and sacrifice of law enforcement officers across our Nation, including those in my own State of Mississippi.

Every day, our law enforcement officers put on their uniforms, kiss their loved ones goodbye, and head out into the unknown, knowing that they may encounter danger at any moment. They stand as guardians of our communities, ensuring that peace, law, and order prevail, often at great personal risk.

We owe a debt of gratitude to these heroes, whose selflessness and bravery serve as an example of what it means to be a patriot. Their commitment to uphold the law, protect the innocent, and serve justice is at the foundation of what makes our Nation great.

As we honor those who have fallen, it is important that we also remember the families they have left behind. This week, we, as a nation, join the spouses, children, parents, siblings, fellow officers, and friends in mourning the loss

of these men and women. Their sacrifice is no less profound, and their resilience and strength get at the heart of what it means to be an American.

Even in the face of adversity, our officers have remained steadfast in their commitment to serve.

It is important to me that every officer in Mississippi knows that I greatly admire you for your loyalty, grit, and determination throughout such challenges. I will continue to work to ensure you have the resources you need to do your job.

My State of Mississippi is blessed with amazing law enforcement, who are not only hometown heroes, but also an integral part of our communities. Every loss of an officer is deeply felt by all.

I would like to specifically remember and honor the two fallen officers from Mississippi whose names have been added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial this year. These officers died heroes in service to their communities, and we are humbled by their service and sacrifice.

We remember: Madison County Police Department's Officer Horren Randy Tyler, 64, who was tragically shot and killed on June 1, 2023, after a man opened fire on officers during a hostage negotiation. Randy's colleagues regarded him as a leader and mentor, seeking his guidance in challenging situations, trusting his 27 years of experience. He leaves behind his wife, four children, and three grandchildren.

And we also remember: Mississippi Bureau of Investigation's Lieutenant Jeris Deon Davis, 51, who succumbed to Covid on December 29, 2020. Lt. Davis served in law enforcement for 22 years, including as an officer with the Mississippi Highway Patrol.

As we reflect on the lives lost and the sacrifices made, let us recommit ourselves to supporting those who serve and protect us. Let us stand shoulder to shoulder with our law enforcement officers, offering them the respect, appreciation, and support they deserve.

Let us honor the memory of those who have fallen, and pledge to carry forward their legacy of courage, integrity, and service. In doing so, we ensure that their sacrifices will never be forgotten, and that their spirit will continue to guide and inspire us for generations to come.

I will continue to be an advocate for law enforcement professionals and provide support where possible and do all I can to honor their sacrifice.

I am praying that their families and loved ones of our fallen officers find comfort in knowing that not only is their loss deeply felt, but it will also never be forgotten. God bless our law enforcement officers, their families, and the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO TESS KUENNING

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise today to thank Tess Kuenning, president and chief executive officer of the Bi-State Primary Care Association for her contributions to the work of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee to expand access to primary care for all Americans.

Tess Kuenning, clinically trained as an advanced practice nurse, has led Bi-State Primary Care Association for nearly 30 years. During this time, she has worked tirelessly to support community health centers in Vermont, New Hampshire, and around the country as a member of various boards, committees, and panels focused on expanding access to primary care.

Primary care is the backbone of our healthcare system. Community health centers make up a major portion of that backbone, especially for low- and moderate-income Americans. Yet Congress continues to severely underfund this critical work.

Community health centers provide affordable, quality primary medical, dental, and mental health care, as well as access to low-cost prescription drugs to over 30 million people in the United States. In Vermont, nearly one out of every three people receives their primary healthcare through a community health center across 73 sites, something that I and my fellow Vermonters are very proud of and has happened in no small part due to Tess's efforts.

Over the past year, I worked very hard as chair of the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee to increase funding for community health centers. Working day and night alongside me was Tess Kuenning. Simply put, she has done more for health centers this past year than just about anyone else in the Nation. Tess uses creativity, innovation, perseverance, and her vast network of health center contacts across the country to lift up and garner support for the community health center program. She is steadfast in her efforts to build connections and demonstrate the vast needs and even greater potential of our health centers.

To my mind, Tess Kuenning's work represents the kind of effective engagement all Americans should have with their Members of Congress. Each of us should be lucky enough to have people in our home State who understand the needs of everyday people and are willing to tell us what we need to know to provide our constituents with the help they need. I am very grateful for Tess's dedication to improving our healthcare system and the health of millions and all those who believe that healthcare is a right—not a privilege—owe her our thanks and respect.●

REMEMBERING MILDRED RUSSELL

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life of Mildred Rus-

sell who passed away on May 10, 2024, at the age of 75 after a battle with cancer. Mildred Russell was a former Alachua County School Board member and Republican State committee-woman. Before that, she started Miracle Life Ministers and churches in Georgia and England with her husband Rusty. Mrs. Russell lived in Gainesville for more than 40 years, where she was active in different areas of the community. She will be terribly missed by her family, friends, and all who felt the positive impact of her work in the church and Alachua County schools.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:17 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1797. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard with respect to rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micro-mobility devices, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3950. An act to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4310. An act to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrite to individuals, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4510. An act to reauthorize to reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to update the mission and functions of the agency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4581. An act to amend title V of the Social Security Act to support stillbirth prevention and research, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6571. An act to establish a critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program in the Department of Commerce, and to secure American leadership in deploying emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6572. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to take actions necessary and appropriate to promote the competitiveness of the United States related to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6960. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

H.R. 7343. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the detention of certain aliens who commit assault against law enforcement officers.

H.R. 7530. An act to limit youth offender status in the District of Columbia to individuals 18 years of age or younger, to direct the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to establish and operate a publicly accessible website containing updated statistics on juvenile crime in the District of Columbia, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to prohibit the Council of the District of Columbia from enacting changes to existing criminal liability sentences, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7581. An act to require the Attorney General to develop reports relating to violent attacks against law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the

Senate to the bill (H.R. 3935) to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 9, 2023, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term ending May 14, 2026: Mrs. Vicky Hartzler of Harrisonville, MO, Mrs. Maureen Ferguson of Potomac, MD, and Mr. Asif Mahmood of Bradbury, California.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1797. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard with respect to rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3950. An act to require sellers of event tickets to disclose comprehensive information to consumers about ticket prices and related fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4310. An act to ban the sale of products with a high concentration of sodium nitrite to individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4510. An act to reauthorize the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, to update the mission and functions of the agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6571. An act to establish a critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program in the Department of Commerce, and to secure American leadership in deploying emerging technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6572. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce to take actions necessary and appropriate to promote the competitiveness of the United States related to the deployment, use, application, and competitiveness of blockchain technology or other distributed ledger technology, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6960. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 7343. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the detention of certain aliens who commit assault against law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 7530. An act to limit youth offender status in the District of Columbia to individuals 18 years of age or younger, to direct the Attorney General of the District of Columbia to establish and operate a publicly accessible website containing updated statistics on juvenile crime in the District of Columbia, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule

Act to prohibit the Council of the District of Columbia from enacting changes to existing criminal liability sentences, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 7581. An act to require the Attorney General to develop reports relating to violent attacks against law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 4361. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for border security and combatting fentanyl for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4543. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Various Fragrance Components in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 11719-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 2, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4544. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "1,4-Bis[[3-(2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy)propyl]amino]-9,10-anthracenedione in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 11726-01-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 2, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4545. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "30-Day Notification of Nonpayment of Rent in Multi-Family Housing Direct Loan Programs" (RIN0575-AD25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4546. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Almonds Grown in California; Amendments to the Marketing Order" (RIN0575-AD25) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4547. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child Nutrition Programs: Meal Patterns Consistent With the 2020-2025 Dietary Guidelines for Americans" (RIN0584-AE88) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4548. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, trans-

mitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Salmonella in Not Ready-To-Eat Breaded Stuffed Chicken Products" (Docket No. FSIS-2022-0013) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4549. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Electronic Identification Eartags as Official Identification in Cattle and Bison" (RIN0579-AE64) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4550. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "User Fees for Agricultural Quarantine and Inspection Services" (RIN0579-AE71) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4551. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Farm Labor Stabilization and Protection Pilot Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO)" (USDA-FSA-OA-FLSP-G-23-0001) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4552. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Horse Protection Amendments" (RIN0579-AE70) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4553. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fiscal Year 2024 Request for Applications (RFA) for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Fraud Framework Implementation Grant" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 3, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4554. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Farm Labor Stabilization and Protection Pilot Program" (USDA-FSA-OA-FLSP-G-23-0001) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4555. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) for the Commodity Container Assistance Program" (FSA-2022-0006) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4556. A communication from the Program Analyst; Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule

entitled “Discrimination Financial Assistance Program” received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 8, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4557. A communication from the Program Analyst, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Process and Technology Improvement Grants - Fiscal Year 2024 Request for Applications (RFA)” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 5, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4558. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Swap Confirmation Requirements for Swap Execution Facilities” (RIN3038-AF34) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 4, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4559. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “BLB2 and AMR3 Proteins in Potato; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance” (FRL No. 11896-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 2, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4560. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Raisins Produced from Grapes Grown in California; Increased Assessment Rate” (Docket No. AMS-SC-23-0038) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4561. A communication from the Chief of Legislative and Regulatory Staff, Office of Budget and Program Analysis, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Conservation Reserve Program FY24 Monitoring, Assessment, and Evaluation (MAE) Opportunity” received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 23, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4562. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Flonicamid; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 11860-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 29, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4563. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “1,4-Bis[3-[2-(2-hydroxyethoxy)ethoxy]propyl]amino]-9,10-anthracenedione in Pesticide Formulations” (FRL No. 11896-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4564. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Various Fragrance Components in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 11719-01-OCSPP) re-

ceived in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4565. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “*Escherichia coli* Strain K-12 P678-54 micelles in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemption” (FRL No. 11878-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4566. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyflumetofen; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 11734-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4567. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “1-Propanaminium, 3-amino-N-(2-carboxyethyl)-N,N-dimethyl-, N-coco acyl derivatives, inner salts; and 1-Propanaminium, 3-amino-N-(carboxymethyl)-N,N-dimethyl-, N-coco acyl derivatives, hydroxides, inner salts in Pesticide Formulations; Tolerance Exemptions” (FRL No. 11898-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4568. A communication from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Cyantraniliprole; Pesticide Tolerances” (FRL No. 11941-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 9, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 594. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to prioritize the completion of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-175).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 636. A bill to establish the Dolores River National Conservation Area and the Dolores River Special Management Area in the State of Colorado, to protect private water rights in the State, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-176).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 2615. A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide that Village Corporations shall not be required to convey land in trust to the State of Alaska for the establishment of Municipal Corporations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-177).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 3045. A bill to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of California, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-178).

By Mr. MANCHIN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 3046. A bill to make permanent the authority to collect Shasta-Trinity National Forest marina fees (Rept. No. 118-179).

By Mr. DURBIN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 1979. A bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving age discrimination.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

Navy nomination of Capt. Lia M. Reynolds, to be Rear Admiral.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Jason T. Hinds, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Lisa A. Nemeth, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Peter M. Boone, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Michael S. Shanley, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Kathleen A. Clary and ending with Col. Brian D. Wisniewski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Jered P. Helwig, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Gregory K. Anderson, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Terri J. Erisman and ending with Col. Steven M. Ranieri, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

*Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Stephen D. Sklenka, to be Lieutenant General.

*Marine Corps nomination of Maj. Gen. Calvert L. Worth, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Michael J. Vernazza, to be Vice Admiral.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. John F. Wade, to be Vice Admiral.

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

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

Air Force nomination of Anthony K. Onitsuka, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Ronald J. Grimley, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Debra L. Sims, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Peter S. Joo, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Geoffrey E. Adams and ending with Erica Marie Zentner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Nicholas Alberto Aguilera and ending with Yongjun Yoon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jessica M. Abbott and ending with Troy Bettinger Yu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Mariah C. Aceves and ending with Andrew Paul Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Air Force nomination of Michael W. Struthers, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Paula M. Chavis, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Frank J. Panebianco and ending with Andrew W. Washer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Air Force nomination of James L. Schneider III, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Zhibin Jiang, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Bennet D. Krawchuk, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Dariusz P. Barna, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Sally L. Cramer and ending with Jonathan A. Monsalve, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Army nomination of Dionne L. McMillan, to be Major.

Army nomination of Todd A. Hasenstein, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Gregory J. Abide and ending with 0003682611, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Jacob P. Absalon and ending with 0002344681, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Army nomination of Gary R. Weltman, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Daniel A. Abaldo and ending with 0002650956, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Ji Y. Adams and ending with 0002978777, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 30, 2024.

Army nomination of Caroline M. Kolb, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Brady R. Clark and ending with Angelina K. Matherly, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Emily R. Bingham and ending with 0002855239, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Ahmad B. Alexander and ending with 0004136628, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Vanessa E. Bonner and ending with 0002485564, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Elizabeth A. Aguirre and ending with 0002517801, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 7, 2024.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Shawn E. Anderson and ending with Joseph J. Zwiler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 8, 2024.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Robert W. Brooks III and ending with Ramon R. Ramirez, Jr., which nominations were re-

ceived by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 10, 2024.

Marine Corps nomination of Glen R. Pond, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Matthew T. Migliori, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nomination of Stephanie K. Hayes, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Benjamin C. Waite, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Benjamin D. Fitzharris, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Claudia L. Battle, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Daniel A. Hancock, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of James L. Clark III, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of William Selde, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Edward L. Gunton, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Ty R. Christian, to be Lieutenant Commander.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 4353. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify a provision relating to quality loss adjustment coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4354. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 107 North Hoyne Avenue in Fritch, Texas, as the "Chief Zeb Smith Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 4355. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the knowing possession of a pill press mold with intent to manufacture in violation of such Act a counterfeit substance in schedule I or II in a capsule, tablet, and other form intended for distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 4356. A bill to facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 4357. A bill to improve access to oral health care for vulnerable and underserved populations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. FETTERMAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 4358. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary to establish a grant program under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Adminis-

tration to address substance use disorders among older adults, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 4359. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to reauthorize that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 4360. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Edward J. Dwight, Jr., the first African American astronaut candidate in the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4361. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for border security and combatting fentanyl for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER:

S. 4362. A bill to increase parking opportunities for persons recreating at Federal recreational lands and waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 4363. A bill to secure the rights of public employees to organize, act concertedly, and bargain collectively, which safeguard the public interest and promote the free and unobstructed flow of commerce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. VANCE):

S. 4364. A bill to modify the Alternatives to Detention program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 4365. A bill to provide public health veterinary services to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for rabies prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 4366. A bill to enhance intelligence community acquisitions, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LEE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. HOEVEN):

S.J. Res. 86. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Interagency Cooperation"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BRAUN):

S.J. Res. 87. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule

submitted by the Department of the Treasury relating to “Clean Vehicle Credits Under Sections 25E and 30D; Transfer of Credits; Critical Minerals and Battery Components; Foreign Entities of Concern”; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LEE, Mr. MULLIN, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S.J. Res. 88. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to “National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Coal- and Oil-Fired Electric Utility Steam Generating Units Review of the Residual Risk and Technology Review”; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. THUNE, Ms. ERNST, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. Res. 694. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2024 as “Renewable Fuels Month” to recognize the important role that renewable fuels play in reducing carbon impacts, lowering fuel prices for consumers, supporting rural communities, and lessening reliance on foreign adversaries; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. Res. 695. A resolution expressing support for the designation of May 2024 as “Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 696. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Carl Daniel Erskine; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. REED, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. RISCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PAUL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. VANCE, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 697. A resolution designating the week of May 12 through May 18, 2024, as “National Police Week”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. Res. 698. A resolution expressing support for the designation of June 9, 2024, as “Veterans Get Outside Day”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 699. A resolution congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education and supporting the ideals and goals of the 25th Annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 12 through May 18, 2024; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States Foreign Service and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

S. 1064

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1064, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes.

S. 1110

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1110, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to rebase the calculation of payments for sole community hospitals and Medicare-dependent hospitals, and for other purposes.

S. 1245

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1245, a bill to transfer unobligated balances made available for COVID-19 emergency re-

sponse and relief to the Federal Communications Commission to enable the Commission to carry out the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program.

S. 1673

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1673, a bill to amend title XVIII to protect patient access to ground ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 1742

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1742, a bill to modify the requirements applicable to locatable minerals on public domain land, and for other purposes.

S. 1833

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1833, a bill to prohibit the issuance of an interim or final rule that amends, updates, modifies, or replaces the North Atlantic Right Whale vessel strike reduction rule until mitigation protocols are fully developed and deployed.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2119, a bill to reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018.

S. 2374

At the request of Mr. VANCE, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2374, a bill to exclude certain individuals subject to certain deferred action from eligibility for health plans offered on the Exchanges, advance payments of the premium tax credit, cost-sharing reductions, a Basic Health Program, and for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2416

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2416, a bill to amend the Black Lung Benefits Act to ease the benefits process for survivors of miners whose deaths were due to pneumoconiosis.

S. 2539

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2539, a bill to clarify that, in awarding funding under title X of the Public Health Service Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services may not discriminate against eligible States, individuals, or other entities for refusing to counsel or refer for abortions.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from

Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2647, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 3197

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 3197, a bill to establish and authorize funding for an Iranian Sanctions Enforcement Fund to enforce United States sanctions with respect to Iran and its proxies and pay off the United States public debt and to codify the Export Enforcement Coordination Center.

S. 3560

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3560, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize pre-enrollment of certain combat service members of the Armed Forces in the system of annual patient enrollment of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 3679

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 3679, a bill to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3775

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) 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. 3810

At the request of Mr. PETERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3810, a bill to prohibit conflict of interests among consulting firms that simultaneously contract with the Government of the People's Republic of China and the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 3876

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3876, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to establish a national registry of Korean American divided families, and for other purposes.

S. 3990

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3990, a bill to provide subsidized summer and year-round employment for youth who face systemic barriers to employment and viable career options and to assist local community partnerships in improving high school graduation and youth employment rates, and for other purposes.

S. 4127

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 4128

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 4225

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4225, a bill to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to require any individual who votes in a municipal election of the District of Columbia to be a United States citizen and to provide proof of citizenship.

S. 4240

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4240, a bill to establish that an individual who is convicted of any offense under any Federal or State law related to the individual's conduct at and during the course of a protest that occurs at an institution of higher education shall be ineligible for forgiveness, cancellation, waiver, or modification of certain Federal student loans.

S. 4258

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4258, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 4296

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4296, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide more opportunities for mothers to succeed, and for other purposes.

S. 4317

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4317, a bill to appropriate funds for the Federal Communications Commission's "rip and replace" program and Affordable Connectivity Program, to improve the Affordable Connectivity Program, to require a spectrum auction, and for other purposes.

S. 4321

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 4321, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit the payment of annuities and retired pay to individuals convicted of certain sex crimes.

S.J. RES. 78

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 78, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to "Fluid Mineral Leases and Leasing Process".

S.J. RES. 79

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 79, 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 "Retirement Security Rule: Definition of an Investment Advice Fiduciary".

S.J. RES. 80

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 80, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations Pertaining to Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants".

S.J. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 81, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Interagency Cooperation".

S.J. RES. 83

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 83, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to "Definition of 'Engaged in the Business' as a Dealer in Firearms".

S.J. RES. 84

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 84, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat".

S.J. RES. 85

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 85, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Marine Fisheries Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat".

S. RES. 689

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 689, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Hospital Week, to be observed from May 12 through May 18, 2024.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 694—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 2024 AS "RENEWABLE FUELS MONTH" TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT RENEWABLE FUELS PLAY IN REDUCING CARBON IMPACTS, LOWERING FUEL PRICES FOR CONSUMERS, SUPPORTING RURAL COMMUNITIES, AND LESSENING RELIANCE ON FOREIGN ADVERSARIES

Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. THUNE, Ms. ERNST, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

S. RES. 694

Whereas the United States is the largest producer of biofuels in the world, which contributes to the domestic economy, creates jobs, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions;

Whereas ethanol is a renewable fuel made of biomass from plant materials;

Whereas, in 2023, more than 72,463 jobs in the United States were directly associated with the ethanol industry, with an additional 322,000 indirect and induced jobs supported across all sectors of the economy;

Whereas the ethanol industry created \$32,500,000,000 in household income and contributed more than \$54,200,000,000 to the gross domestic product of the United States;

Whereas ethanol and feed co-product production provide a valuable market for United States corn, as a typical dry mill ethanol plant adds nearly \$2 of additional value to every bushel of corn processed;

Whereas ethanol use reduces greenhouse gas emissions by between 44 and 52 percent compared to gasoline, and, by displacing hydrocarbon substances like aromatics in gasoline, ethanol also helps reduce emissions of air toxins, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrous oxides, and exhaust hydrocarbons;

Whereas, in 2023, ethanol played a vital role in bolstering the energy independence of the United States by supplementing nearly 525,000,000 barrels of crude oil;

Whereas $\frac{1}{3}$ of every bushel processed by an ethanol plant is used to make distillers

grains, one of the most efficient animal feeds available;

Whereas biodiesel is a drop-in replacement for petroleum-based diesel fuel that is produced from renewable resources such as recycled cooking oil, soybean oil, distillers corn oil, canola oil, and animal fats;

Whereas renewable diesel is an advanced biofuel, made from the same feedstocks as biodiesel, that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, while meeting the same standard specification for diesel fuels as petroleum-based diesel;

Whereas producing a total of 6,000,000,000 gallons of biodiesel and renewable diesel would support 187,000 full-time equivalent jobs, with more than \$8,800,000,000 in wages and \$61,600,000,000 in total economic impact;

Whereas biodiesel and renewable diesel can be used in existing diesel engines without modification and are available throughout the United States;

Whereas advanced biofuels like biodiesel and renewable diesel reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent compared to petroleum-based diesel;

Whereas biodiesel emits up to 80 percent less particulate matter than petroleum-based diesel, improving air quality and health outcomes;

Whereas the production of biodiesel and renewable diesel adds to the total domestic fuel supply, reducing the price of all diesel fuel at the pump;

Whereas, without the renewable fuel standard helping to drive production of biodiesel and renewable diesel, the value of soybeans grown by farmers in the United States would decrease by 8 percent;

Whereas sustainable aviation fuel is made from renewable biomass and waste resources and can deliver the performance of petroleum-based jet fuel; and

Whereas sustainable aviation fuel can be blended with conventional jet fuel and the use of sustainable or blended aviation fuel requires no infrastructure or equipment changes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 2024 as "Renewable Fuels Month"; and

(2) recognizes—

(A) the important role renewable fuels play in reducing the carbon impact of the United States;

(B) the ability of renewable fuels to lower fuel prices for consumers;

(C) the support to rural communities that renewable fuel industries provide; and

(D) the opportunity that the production of renewable fuels provides to lessen the reliance of the United States on foreign adversaries.

SENATE RESOLUTION 695—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 2024 AS "MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH"

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. ERNST) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 695

Whereas, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council, motorcycling is a great tradition enjoyed by an estimated 30,000,000 individuals annually in the United States, representing approximately 9 percent of the population;

Whereas motorcycles are a valuable component of the transportation mix;

Whereas motorcycles are fuel-efficient and decrease congestion while having little im-

pact on the transportation infrastructure of the United States;

Whereas the motorcycling community promotes rider safety education, licensing, and motorcycle awareness;

Whereas the motorcycling community is committed to decreasing motorcycle crashes through training and safety education, personal responsibility, and increased public awareness;

Whereas, according to the Motorcycle Industry Council, approximately 87 percent of motorcycles are operated on highways in conjunction with other vehicles;

Whereas motorcyclist fatalities occur more frequently than passenger vehicle motorist fatalities;

Whereas motorcycle awareness is beneficial to all road users and will help decrease motorcycle crashes; and

Whereas the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration promotes Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month to encourage riders to be properly licensed, receive training, and wear personal protective equipment, and to remind all riders and motorists to always share the road: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of May 2024 as "Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month";

(2) recognizes the contribution of motorcycles to the transportation mix;

(3) encourages motorcycle awareness by all road users;

(4) recognizes that motorcyclists have a right to the road and that all motorists should safely share the roadways;

(5) encourages rider safety education, training, and proper gear for safe motorcycle operation; and

(6) supports the goals of Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 696—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CARL DANIEL ERSKINE

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 696

Whereas Carl Daniel Erskine was born on December 13, 1926;

Whereas Mr. Erskine first showed signs of athletic greatness at Anderson High School in Anderson, Indiana, where he was a 4-year letter winner in both baseball and basketball;

Whereas Mr. Erskine continued his baseball career at Anderson College in Anderson, Indiana, before signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1946;

Whereas Mr. Erskine joined the United States Navy in 1945;

Whereas Mr. Erskine played his entire career from 1948 to 1959 with the Brooklyn and Los Angeles Dodgers, helping the franchise win 5 National League pennants and the 1955 World Series;

Whereas, in 1953, Mr. Erskine won 20 games and set a then-World Series record with 14 strikeouts in game 3 of the 1953 Fall Classic;

Whereas, in his career, Mr. Erskine pitched 2 no-hitter games (in 1952 and 1956) and was selected as a National League All-Star in 1954;

Whereas Mr. Erskine pitched the first nationally televised no-hitter game in 1956 against the Giants;

Whereas, after he retired from Major League Baseball, Mr. Erskine became the head coach at his alma mater, Anderson University, for over 12 seasons;

Whereas, while Mr. Erskine was the head coach, the Anderson College baseball team

won 4 Hoosier Conference championships and reached the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) World Series in 1965 after a season of 20 wins and 5 losses;

Whereas, in 1979, Mr. Erskine was inducted into the inaugural class of the Indiana Baseball Hall of Fame;

Whereas Mr. Erskine also enjoyed a successful corporate career as an executive and board member of a bank and an advisor and trustee for organizations such as the Special Olympics, Babe Ruth Baseball, Anderson College, and the Baseball Assistance Team (BAT), a nonprofit organization that assists former Major League Baseball, Minor League Baseball, and Negro League Baseball players with financial and medical difficulties;

Whereas Mr. Erskine conducted numerous summer baseball camps and was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Anderson;

Whereas the Carl D. Erskine Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine Center in Anderson, Indiana, was named in his honor and has a statue of him at its facility;

Whereas, in the early 2000s, the Erskine family sold 30 acres of land at a discounted price for the construction of Anderson Community Schools;

Whereas Erskine Elementary School in Anderson, Indiana, was named in honor of Mr. Erskine and his family;

Whereas Mr. Erskine's son Jimmy competed in the Special Olympics for over 50 years, leading Mr. Erskine and his wife, Betty, to become active volunteers with the organization;

Whereas, to recognize Mr. Erskine's legacy, the Special Olympics of Indiana named its planned giving society, which helps the Special Olympics of Indiana expand its reach and promote its vision of a more inclusive world for people with intellectual disabilities, "The Carl and Betty Erskine Society";

Whereas, after more than 4 decades as a volunteer, Mr. Erskine was awarded the Special Olympics' highest honor, the Spirit of the Special Olympics Award;

Whereas the Erskine Green Training Center in Muncie, Indiana, is a postsecondary vocational training program for those with special needs, which was partially named in his honor;

Whereas Mr. Erskine was a charter member of both the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Baseball Assistance Team;

Whereas Mr. Erskine was added to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Hall of Champions in 2002;

Whereas, in 2010, Governor Mitch Daniels presented Mr. Erskine with the Sachem Award, the State of Indiana's highest honor, which recognizes a lifetime of excellence and moral virtue that has brought credit and honor to Indiana;

Whereas, in 2022, a documentary about his life, "The Best We Got: The Carl Erskine Story", by Ted Green, was released;

Whereas, known as the "Last of the Boys of Summer", Mr. Erskine received the John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 2023;

Whereas the Hall of Fame presents the John Jordan "Buck" O'Neil Lifetime Achievement Award every 3 years to an individual whose character, integrity, and dignity has had a positive impact on society; and

Whereas Carl Erskine passed away on April 16, 2024: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and legacy of Carl Daniel Erskine, including the dedication of Mr. Erskine—

(A) in particular, to the game of baseball and fans in the Hoosier State;

(B) to his work on and off the field in the State of Indiana; and

(C) to the various lives he improved through his kindness and compassion in his various philanthropic endeavors;

(2) recognizes the success of Mr. Erskine as a source of continuing pride for the entire State of Indiana;

(3) gives a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Erskine for all of the memories and will continue to remember his legacy; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Mr. Erskine.

SENATE RESOLUTION 697—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 12 THROUGH MAY 18, 2024, AS "NATIONAL POLICE WEEK"

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mr. COONS, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HAWLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. REED, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. RISCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. KING, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PAUL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. VANCE, Mr. SCHMITT, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 697

Whereas Federal, State, local, and Tribal police officers, sheriffs, and other law enforcement officers across the United States serve with valor, dignity, and integrity;

Whereas each law enforcement officer is charged with—

(1) pursuing justice for all individuals; and
(2) performing the duties of a law enforcement officer with fidelity to the constitutional and civil rights of the public the officer serves;

Whereas law enforcement officers swear an oath to uphold the public trust even though, through the performance of the duties of a law enforcement officer, the officers may become targets for senseless acts of violence;

Whereas, in 1962, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 (76 Stat. 676) (referred to in this preamble as the "Joint Resolution"), which authorizes the President to proclaim May 15 of every year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" in honor of the Federal, State, and local officers who have been killed, disabled, or otherwise injured in the line of duty;

Whereas the Joint Resolution also authorizes the President to designate the week in which Peace Officers Memorial Day falls as "National Police Week";

Whereas the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, dedicated on October 15, 1991, is the national monument to honor those law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty;

Whereas Peace Officers Memorial Day 2024 honors the 227 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty during 2023, including—

- (1) Michael S. Abbate;
- (2) Trevor A. Abney;
- (3) William Anthony;
- (4) Anthony B. Ashe;
- (5) Kolby L. Baber;
- (6) James R. Bailey;
- (7) Gerald T. Barbato;
- (8) Joseph L. Barlow;
- (9) Chanda D. Barnes;
- (10) Michael E. Barnes;
- (11) Terrance N. Bateman;
- (12) Patrick C. Bauer;
- (13) Julian G. Becerra;
- (14) Tucker C. Blakely;
- (15) David W. Bosecker;
- (16) Frederick C. Bowens;
- (17) William P. Brautigam;
- (18) Emily A. Breidenbach;
- (19) Mark N. Bressack;
- (20) Lawrence J. Bromm;
- (21) Tyee M. Browne;
- (22) Shawn A. Burnell;
- (23) Robert M. Burney;
- (24) Lorenzo Bustos;
- (25) Darnell Calhoun;
- (26) Eric Calleja;
- (27) Pedro A. Candia;
- (28) Scotty W. Canezaro;
- (29) Joseph E. Carey;
- (30) Steven A. Carnes;
- (31) Gonzalo Carrasco Duenas;
- (32) Richard Carrero Mendez;
- (33) Robert C. Castioni;
- (34) William J. Cherry;
- (35) Robert D. Clark;
- (36) Ryan M. Clinkunbroomer;
- (37) Joshua L. Clouse;
- (38) Anthony E. Cloyd;
- (39) Thomas P. Compitello;
- (40) Caleb K. Conley;
- (41) David E. Cook;
- (42) Donald E. Cossean;
- (43) Timothy E. Coyne;
- (44) Kevin M. Cram;
- (45) Garrett C. Crumby;
- (46) Christopher B. Cummings;
- (47) Stephen A. Darby;
- (48) Jeris D. Davis;
- (49) William J. DeBlock;
- (50) Francisco DeCastro;
- (51) Rodrigo Delgado;
- (52) Michael A. DeVecchis;
- (53) Charles F. Dotson;
- (54) John A. Durm;
- (55) Jessica M. Ebbighausen;
- (56) Angel F. Esquerete;
- (57) Alberto E. Felix;
- (58) Anthony D. Ferguson;
- (59) Christopher D. Fitzgerald;
- (60) George Flores;
- (61) Clifford V. Fontaine;
- (62) Pedro A. Foruria;
- (63) Anthony J. Francione;
- (64) I.B. Fugate;
- (65) Christopher J. Garrow;
- (66) Robert C. Garten;
- (67) Anthony J. Garvey;
- (68) William J. Gawron;
- (69) Francis A. Gaynor;
- (70) Nicholas A. Georgeadis;
- (71) James A. Geraghty;
- (72) Stephen L. Gibson;
- (73) Barry P. Giglio;
- (74) Maureen Gill-Donohue;
- (75) Todd C. Gillerlain;
- (76) Steven P. Gitlin;
- (77) Heather J. Glenn;
- (78) Michael S. Godawa;
- (79) Ivan Gonzalez;

(80) Thomas J. Graham;
 (81) Roland A. Gray;
 (82) Almondo Greer-Travis;
 (83) Mason E. Griffith;
 (84) Timothy J. Guyer;
 (85) Asson A. Hacker;
 (86) Joshua I. Hamilton;
 (87) Matthew L. Hare;
 (88) Emil Harnischfeger;
 (89) Brett M. Harris;
 (90) Mark U. Heinel;
 (91) Charles H. Herring;
 (92) John J. Hess;
 (93) Ronald E. Higgins;
 (94) Patrick J. Hogan;
 (95) Patrick J. Hogan;
 (96) Nicholas Holovinsky;
 (97) John G. Horan;
 (98) Victor A. Hunter;
 (99) Jeff D. Hust;
 (100) Billy J. Ihrig;
 (101) Jon A. Jensen;
 (102) Peter E.C. Jerning;
 (103) Joseph W. Johnson;
 (104) Jason S. Jones;
 (105) Russell Earl Lavarl Jones;
 (106) Daniel A. Kammerzell;
 (107) Michael J. Kearns;
 (108) William J. Keating;
 (109) Michael R. Keel;
 (110) Shawn K. Kelly;
 (111) William M. Kelly;
 (112) Edward T. Kiluk;
 (113) Carl D. Kimball;
 (114) Robert J. Kirwan;
 (115) Nevada Krinkee;
 (116) Michael P. Kunovich;
 (117) Lawrence W. Lakeman;
 (118) Shannon E. Lang;
 (119) Tuan Q. Le;
 (120) David J. Lee;
 (121) Kaitlin R. Leising;
 (122) James M. Lett;
 (123) Thomas M. Lilly;
 (124) Scott G. Lovendahl;
 (125) Gerald F. Lynch;
 (126) Christopher J. Marcello;
 (127) Paul S. Martin;
 (128) James A. Mastricovo;
 (129) Cory S. Maynard;
 (130) Marylin A. Mayo;
 (131) Scott C. McArdle;
 (132) John F. McArdle;
 (133) Jeremy D. McCain;
 (134) John J. McCauley;
 (135) James S. McCormick;
 (136) Justin C. McIntire;
 (137) Marc A. McIntyre;
 (138) Robert W. McKinney;
 (139) Darrin C. McMichael;
 (140) Kyle M. Melancon;
 (141) Jared J. Miller;
 (142) Matthew D. Mitchell;
 (143) Jacqueline M. Montanaro;
 (144) Gregorio Morales;
 (145) Michael A. Moran;
 (146) Steven C. Mosiello;
 (147) Jovian J. Motley;
 (148) Robert Mouradian;
 (149) James M. Muhlbauer;
 (150) Frank H. Murillo;
 (151) Donald M. Neiswinger;
 (152) Alberto Nieves;
 (153) Philip D. Nix;
 (154) Scott C. Norcutt;
 (155) Nicholas F. Ortiz;
 (156) Freddy Ortiz;
 (157) Jonah Oswald;
 (158) Joshua A. Owen;
 (159) Vincent A. Parks;
 (160) Anthony J. Pasquarello;
 (161) Jorge I. Pastore;
 (162) Troy D. Patterson;
 (163) Nicholas N. Pepper;
 (164) Santos Perez;
 (165) Aubrey H. Phillips;
 (166) Delberth I. Phipps;
 (167) Martin M. Podolski;

(168) David J. Poirrier;
 (169) Lawrence C. Prather;
 (170) Aréannah M. Preston;
 (171) Michael G. Prettitore;
 (172) Jason S. Pulliam;
 (173) Isam M. Qasem;
 (174) Andrew L. Quinlan;
 (175) Marcos Quinones;
 (176) Frank D. Randall;
 (177) John R. Randolph;
 (178) Geoffrey B. Redd;
 (179) Trinity L. Reinhart;
 (180) Milton G. Resendez;
 (181) Auston S. Reudelhuber;
 (182) Anthony W. Rickerson;
 (183) Scott D. Ritchey;
 (184) Kimberly D. Roberts Sickafoose;
 (185) Thomas F. Roche;
 (186) Christopher P. Rock;
 (187) Robert D. Rodgers;
 (188) Kelly B. Rolando;
 (189) Michael Romano;
 (190) Jacques F. Rougeau;
 (191) Brian G. Rousseau;
 (192) Richard L. Ruiz;
 (193) James M. Russ;
 (194) John C. Ryan;
 (195) Jacob E. Salrin;
 (196) Janelle Sanders;
 (197) Bill M. Sapolu;
 (198) Hunter T. Scheel;
 (199) Paul Schippereit;
 (200) Karl J. Sederholt;
 (201) Ralph E. Serrano;
 (202) Robert J. Shisler;
 (203) James M. Sides;
 (204) Jordan Silver;
 (205) Zachary Slavin;
 (206) Sean L. Sluganski;
 (207) Aaron N. Smith;
 (208) Jack S. Stewart;
 (209) Becky V. Strong;
 (210) Chad E. Swanson;
 (211) Carlos E.J. Taylor;
 (212) Richard E. Tesauro;
 (213) Paul J. Tracey;
 (214) Phoukham Tran;
 (215) Sammy J. Trujillo;
 (216) Horren R. Tyler;
 (217) Timothy J. Unwin;
 (218) Victor Vargas;
 (219) Andres M. Vasquez Lasso;
 (220) Mark C. Wagner;
 (221) John J. Walker;
 (222) Jake R. Wallin;
 (223) James L. Ward;
 (224) Richard Weber;
 (225) Clarence L. Williams;
 (226) Michael C. Wood, Jr.; and
 (227) Marcus L. Zeigler; and

Whereas, according to the Law Enforcement Officers Killed and Assaulted Program of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (also known as the “LEOKA Program”), since the beginning of 2024, 45 law enforcement officers were reported to have been killed in the line of duty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of May 12 through May 18, 2024, as “National Police Week”;

(2) expresses unwavering support for law enforcement officers across the United States in the pursuit of preserving safe and secure communities;

(3) recognizes the need to ensure that law enforcement officers have the equipment, training, and resources that are necessary in order to protect the health and safety of the officers while the officers protect the public;

(4) acknowledges that police officers and other law enforcement personnel, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, should be remembered and honored;

(5) expresses condolences and solemn appreciation to the loved ones of each law enforcement officer who has made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty; and

(6) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Police Week by

honoring law enforcement personnel and promoting awareness of the essential mission that law enforcement personnel undertake in service to their communities and the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 698—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 9, 2024, AS “VETERANS GET OUTSIDE DAY”

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, and Mr. CRAMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 698

Whereas, between 2000 and 2023, the Secretary of Defense found that more than 460,000 members of the Armed Forces were diagnosed with traumatic brain injuries;

Whereas studies have found that, after decades of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq, 20 percent of veterans suffer from post-traumatic stress and depression;

Whereas the Secretary of Veterans Affairs found that veterans suffer a disproportionately higher rate of suicide compared to non-veterans, and post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, depression, and anxiety are root causes of the suicide epidemic in the veteran community, with an estimated 17.5 suicides per day in 2021;

Whereas, despite a strong effort by Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reduce veterans suicides, there are still gaps in mental health care for veterans, and the United States needs to use every treatment available to support the veteran community;

Whereas studies have shown that exposure to nature and the outdoors has a positive therapeutic impact on mental health, including by resulting in lower risks of depression and improved focus and attention, and even a single day outside can improve an individual’s overall mood and lessen feelings of isolation;

Whereas studies have found that individuals with increased access to green space have a lower suicide risk;

Whereas the Forest Service sponsors a National Get Outdoors Day on the second Saturday in June to promote the health benefits of outdoor recreational activities;

Whereas the National Park Service sponsors a National Get Outdoors Month in June to promote the health benefits of outdoor recreational activities;

Whereas the United States has recognized the need to connect veterans with nature by providing free admission to national parks and forests; and

Whereas a targeted outreach effort, such as Veterans Get Outside Day, to veterans living with post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, depression, and anxiety may lead to further participation in outside events and improved mental health outcomes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of “Veterans Get Outside Day” on June 9, 2024; and

(2) encourages the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Chief of the Forest Service, and the Director of the National Park Service to coordinate and cooperate in promoting “Veterans Get Outside Day” with National Get Outdoors Day and Get Outdoors Month of June 2024.

SENATE RESOLUTION 699—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 25TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE HELD MAY 12 THROUGH MAY 18, 2024

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 699

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when the demand for enrollment is outmatched by the supply of available charter school seats;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools deliver a high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach their potential for academic success;

Whereas high-quality public charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas public charter schools throughout the United States provide millions of families with diverse and innovative educational options for the children of those families;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools and charter management organizations are increasing student achievement and attendance rates at institutions of higher education;

Whereas public charter schools are authorized by a designated entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, high-performance, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, public charter schools are held accountable by the authorizers of the public charter schools for improving student achievement and for sound financial and operational management;

Whereas public charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) in the same manner as traditional public schools;

Whereas public charter schools often set high expectations for students to ensure that the public charter schools are of high quality and truly accountable to the public;

Whereas 45 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico have public charter schools;

Whereas, as of the 2021 to 2022 school year, approximately 8,000 public charter schools served approximately 3,700,000 children in the United States;

Whereas enrollment in public charter schools grew from 660,000 students in 2002, to 3,700,000 students in 2021, a more than five-fold increase in 20 years;

Whereas in the United States—

(1) in 270 school districts, more than 10 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools; and

(2) in at least 26 school districts, at least 30 percent of public school students are enrolled in public charter schools;

Whereas high-quality public charter schools improve the achievement of students enrolled in the charter schools and collaborate with traditional public schools to improve public education for all students;

Whereas public charter schools—

(1) give parents the freedom to choose public schools;

(2) routinely measure parental satisfaction levels; and

(3) must prove the ongoing success of the charter schools to parents, policymakers, and the communities served by the charter schools or risk closure;

Whereas a 2023 report from the Center for Research on Education Outcomes at Stanford University found significant improvements for students from low-income backgrounds in public charter schools, and when compared to peers in traditional public schools, each year, those students completed the equivalent of 16 more days of learning in reading and 6 more days of learning in math; and

Whereas the 25th Annual National Charter Schools Week is scheduled to be celebrated the week of May 12 through May 18, 2024: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the students, families, teachers, leaders, and staff of public charter schools across the United States for—

(A) making ongoing contributions to public education;

(B) making impressive strides in closing the academic achievement gap in schools in the United States, particularly in schools with some of the most disadvantaged students in both rural and urban communities; and

(C) improving and strengthening the public school system throughout the United States;

(2) supports the ideals and goals of the 25th Annual National Charter Schools Week, a week-long celebration to be held May 12 through May 18, 2024, in communities throughout the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to hold appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities during National Charter Schools Week to demonstrate support for high-quality public charter schools.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHATZ. Madam President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet in open and closed session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 9:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 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 Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, May 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 Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that DeMark Schulze, a State Department Pearson fellow from my office and a 2005 graduate of the University of Notre Dame, be granted floor privileges until August 3, 2024.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 4361

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4361) making emergency supplemental appropriations for border security and combatting fentanyl for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHATZ. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 695, S. Res. 696, S. Res. 697, S. Res. 698, and S. Res. 699.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHATZ. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, MAY 20, 2024

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m., Monday, May 20; 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 proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Lanham nomination; further, that if any nominations are confirmed during Monday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHATZ. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator LANKFORD.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Oklahoma.

BORDER ACT

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, can I just recap for this body. Starting in last October, a group of us sat down to have a serious conversation about the border.

We had a Democrat Senator from Connecticut, CHRIS MURPHY; we had an Independent Senator, KYRSTEN SINEMA, from Arizona; and a conservative Senator from Oklahoma.

We all understood the problem is serious, and there are very real threats to our national security, our economy. It was spiraling out of control on the border.

October was the highest month ever in the history of our country. November was the highest number ever in the history of our country. December was the highest number ever in the history

of our country, with the largest day of illegal crossings in the history of our country, in December, of 12,000 people in a single day. Things were spiraling out of control at the border, and they continued.

So we sat down in a serious conversation and said we had differences of how to be able to resolve this, but we all want to be able to fix this. So we spent months trying to be able to hammer out a resolution.

It was a serious dialogue that we hoped to be able to get to a conclusion, but we failed to do that. We created a bill that, I felt like, was a great bill with common ground in it. It didn't have everything that I wanted in it, but it did have the essentials in it to be able to change the way we do asylum, to be able to change the processing. It literally took it from the very first person that crossed the border each day would be detained, quickly screened, and then deported—the very first person.

If we had a caravan of up to 5,000 people across the day, we can't control that; so in that situation, instead of detaining, quickly screening, and deporting, we would just detain and deport, because there was no time to do the screening. We weren't going to release people in; we were going to turn people around.

It changed the structure dramatically from what was happening on the border. I felt like this was a good bill to be able to move forward, and I moved in good faith to be able to get that done.

But it is also well-known here that I had disagreements, some within my own party—the majority within my own party—that said this is not the time to be able to resolve this. It is what it is.

It is the political nature of what is going on right now. I understand that. But the problem is still unresolved.

Yesterday, we had 5,500 people that illegally crossed the border yesterday—yesterday.

Last month, we had 174,000 people that illegally crossed our border last month. That would have been the highest month ever—in fact, it would have been the highest month in the past 20 years if it wasn't for the last 3 years under the Biden administration. It would have been higher than any month under President Obama, under President Bush, under President Trump. It would have been higher than any of those months, but it doesn't beat even the records that were even set in the previous months before under the Biden administration because of their dramatic change in policy.

That 1.5 million people now illegally cross the border this fiscal year—1.5 million people. And they continue to be able to come across our border with almost no restraint.

I have said for a long time, this is a serious issue that we need to address. My own party has said this was not the time to be able to do that.

Now I am hearing rumors that next week, the folks I was sitting down with to be able to have serious dialogue to fix it may bring bills back up again and to say: Let's do a political thing on the other side of the aisle.

Listen, if we are going to solve the border issues, it is not going to be by doing competing messaging bills. If we are going to solve this, let's sit down like adults and let's figure out how we are going to actually resolve this together.

If there is a messaging bill that comes back—even the bill that I helped negotiate—next week just to bring it up again to try to be able to poke Republicans in the eye for some sort of messaging piece, why are we doing this? All the American people see it.

Everybody sees this is political, but everyone in the country also sees: Why don't you guys and ladies fix this instead? Why don't you actually resolve it?

There are a couple of quotes that have come out lately. My Democratic colleagues have put out a memo, and this was the memo, saying:

TOM SVOZZI flipped the script on his Republican opponent, successfully painting her as unserious about border security because of her opposition to the bipartisan border bill, and turned what could have been a devastating political liability into an advantage. Democrats should learn a lesson from NY-03. Quite simply, we risk losing the 2024 election if we do not seize this opportunity to go on offense on the issue of the border and turn the tables on Republicans on a key fall voting issue.

Senator SCHUMER put out a statement or he made this statement saying:

It's a win if Republicans abandon us at the last minute, because if Democrats could put together a tough, bipartisan border bill on border, it would not take border away as an issue for the Republicans, but it would at least give us a 50-50 chance to combat it.

Listen, I understand the politics of the moment. I do. We are in a Presidential election year. Everybody in America is watching what is happening on the border and saying something needs to be fixed. And it is easy for Republicans to look at the White House and to say there are 94 executive orders that the White House has proactively done that changed how the border was enforced under President Trump and under President Obama. OK? A high number—a high number—under President Obama was 2,000 people in a day. Yesterday, we had 5,500 people.

If President Biden would just enforce the border the same way President Obama did, much less the same way President Trump did, the border would be very different. Everybody sees that.

Everybody also sees that we need a change in the way we do asylum policy. That is a change that has to be done in Congress. That is a vote that we would have to be able to take.

So instead of us pointing at each other and doing political stunts, let's solve this. Let's actually sit down and figure out how we are going to resolve

it. We can't do everything. The bill that I worked with Senator MURPHY and Senator SINEMA on, we are not going to be able to pass. So let's find the sections on it that we can pass.

The worst case scenario is doing nothing. That is what we are currently doing.

Now, the House of Representatives passed a bill yesterday saying that if someone who is not legally present here in the country attacks a law enforcement officer, whether that is State, local, county, Federal, Tribal, or whoever it may be, if they attack a law enforcement officer, they are going to be deported.

Well, it bipartisan passed over in the House yesterday. Is that coming here to the Senate? Probably not. It probably won't be taken up. But in a bipartisan way, it passed the House yesterday.

We have had two different votes of the House bill that passed called H.R. 2 that was a very comprehensive bill dealing with all areas of border security. It passed the House. It came to the Senate. It has had two votes, and it has failed both times. So Republicans can now say: Democrats didn't take our bill.

And Democrats, it looks like, are going to bring things up and say: Well, Republicans wouldn't take the bipartisan bill.

And we would point at each other, and we are still in the same spot.

Listen, the American people expect us to actually solve this, not just do politics on it.

So here is my counsel: Stop doing all the political games. Let's stop bringing up the messaging bills. This is a national emergency.

Of the 5,500 people who crossed the border yesterday illegally—I haven't seen the number yet, but I would tell you, in all likelihood, if it is tracking similar to other days—several dozen of those folks were designated by the Department of Homeland Security—this Department of Homeland Security—as special interest aliens; that is, they are coming from areas of known terrorism. They were designated at the border as a potential national security risk, and then they were released into the country awaiting a hearing. And by this afternoon, we will have no idea where they are. That happens every day now, because there is a large percentage of the people who are crossing the border every day now who are not from the Western Hemisphere.

They are from West Africa. They are from all the "stan" countries. They are from Pakistan. They are from India. They are from China. They are from Russia. They are from areas where we know there are active terrorist cells, but we just don't know this person. They are not on our list. But we do know that clan that they are from and that there are people from that clan in their particular tribe or their particular location that have been an issue. But because we don't have derogatory information, they are being released every day.

This has been the bell I have been ringing for months now. The immigration issue is not the same as what it was 2 years ago. There has been a huge shift in who is crossing the border, and we are not taking this seriously. This is a national security risk, and we need to be attentive to who is crossing our border every single day and take that seriously.

This body knows full well I am not anti-immigration. We are a nation that has welcomed people in from all over the world, and we should continue to do that. We have a million people a year who legally become citizens of our country. But in the last 6 months, we have had 1½ million people illegally—illegally—cross into our country.

That million that came in that became citizens of our country, they were vetted. They went through the process. They are being welcomed and integrated.

That million and a half other folks who crossed illegally, we have no idea. Some are coming to join family. Some are coming to be able to find a job. But some are, no doubt, also coming for nefarious purposes, and we can't tell the difference.

So my counsel to us is: Let's take this as serious as it actually is. Press conferences take one person; passing law takes 60. That means we have to sit down together to be able to talk this through. We have to be able to figure out how we are going to actually get something done and at least make some progress.

What is DHS currently doing? Well, DHS has just announced they are doing a rebranding of Homeland Security Investigations, or HSI. They are HSI-ICE. Well, they are going to rebrand them and take away the "ICE" designation. So we are going to have a new logo and a new something else, and we are expecting a whole new listing of what they are actually going to do.

At the same time, they are saying: We don't have enough money to be able to get more Border Patrol, to be able to detain more people, to be able to deport more people. We are spending millions of dollars. We haven't seen the amount yet, but we are spending millions of dollars on rebranding HSI.

We should take this moment as serious as it actually is. In the past 3 years, the price of groceries has gone up 20 percent. The price of gasoline has gone up 55 percent. But the price of fentanyl has gone down on the streets. We should take this moment as serious as it is.

We have more drugs coming across our border, based on the porous nature of what is going on. Where migrants will come in, Border Patrol will engage with them for humanitarian purposes, and then the cartels will smuggle drugs 2 miles upriver or through the desert when they know that no one is watching that area. So we have a dramatic increase in fentanyl coming into our country, directly connected to 5,500 people who illegally crossed yesterday, and 174,000 people last month, and 1.5 million in the last 6 months.

What are we going to do about that? I hope not just talk about it. I hope not just do political messaging. I hope not just saying: We will bring up this bill to fail, that we all know is going to fail.

I hope it is actually to sit down together and say: Let's do the work to actually resolve this issue.

That is what people sent us to do.

I fully understand it is hard. I have personally experienced it. But we were sent here to do hard things. So we should probably start doing them. Let's get this solved.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
MAY 20, 2024, AT 3 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 3:51 p.m., adjourned until Monday, May 20, 2024, at 3 p.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate May 16, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

CAMELA C. THEELER, OF SOUTH DAKOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH DAKOTA.